

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN

NATIONAL FARMERS UNION

AND

National Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources and Related Sciences
(MANRRS)

I. Purpose

The purpose of this MOU is to formalize a nonbinding agreement of enhanced cooperation between NFU and MANRRS.

II. Statement of Mutual Interest and Mutual Benefit

MANRRS is a national society that welcomes membership of people of all racial ethnic group participation in agricultural and related science careers. MANRRS members pledge to initiate and participate in activities and programs that will ensure that ethnic minorities will also be involved in and associated with the agricultural sciences and related fields. MANRRS represents 2,050 members of 65 chapters, within 38 states.

NFU represents nearly 200,000 family farmers, fishers and ranchers across the country, with formally organized divisions in 33 states. Founded in 1902, NFU has always worked to protect and enhance the economic well-being and quality of life for family farmers, fishers, ranchers and rural communities through the formation of cooperative business models, educational outreach and the advocacy of policy positions developed by the grassroots membership. NFU works towards a world in which farm families and their communities are respected, valued, and enjoy economic prosperity and social justice.

NFU and MANRRS see a great benefit in working together to enhance the agricultural experience for young adults in the industry. Both parties have an interest in preparing students for successful careers in agriculture, food, fiber and national resources systems. Working together will provide more opportunities for young adults interested in agriculture the agricultural industry.

III. NFU Intends to:

- a. Motivate and prepare young adults of all racial ethnic groups to pursue careers in agriculture, food, fiber and natural resource systems.
- b. Support MANRRS membership in food and agriculture through legislation, research and policy.
- c. Connect local NFU divisions with nearby MANRRS representatives and members.
- d. Extend invitations to MANRRS leaders and members to attend National Farmers Union events including our Fall Legislative Fly-In, NFU Convention, and National Farmers Union Foundation education programs.
- e. Work with MANRRS to incorporate federal priorities for MANRRS members to present at the NFU Fall Legislative Fly-In.

IV. MANRRS intends to:

- a. Connect local MANRRS representatives and members with nearby NFU divisions.
- b. Provide MANRRS members access to NFU cooperative materials, including curriculum.
- c. Promote NFU educational programs and opportunities available for students in the agricultural industry including NFU's internship program and College Conference on Cooperatives.
- d. Invite NFU staff and leadership to annual MANRRS events to connect with members and leadership, including the national conference and regional meetings.

V. It is mutually agreed and understood by all parties that:

- a. Designated leadership within parties will create annual plans to maintain these terms and evaluate the effectiveness of the partnership.
- b. This MOU in no way restricts parties to establish similar agreements with other agencies, organizations or individuals.
- c. This MOU does not create any right or benefit enforceable by law or equity, by persons who are not parties to this agreement, against NFU or MANRRS, their officers or employees, or any other persons. This MOU does not apply to any person outside of NFU or MANRRS. Additionally, this MOU is a voluntary agreement that expressed good-faith intentions of the Parties and is not intended to be legally binding, does not create any contractual obligations, and is not enforceable by any party.

VI. Modification/duration/termination

- a. Upon the signature of the Parties, this MOU will be effective and will remain in effect for three years. Thereafter, the agreement be extended for one-year periods unless otherwise terminated. Through the mutual written consent of the Parties, this MOU may be modified at any time. If a party chooses to terminate its participation in this MOU, they must provide a written notice to the other party at least thirty (30) days in advance of the desired termination date.

In witness whereof, the parties here to have executed this Memorandum of Understanding as of the last signature date written below.

Rob Larew
President, National Farmers Union

Ebony Webber
Chief Operating Officer, MANRRS