



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: KayDee Gilkey, Washington State Beef Commission
509-990-6105, kgilkey@wabeef.org

Okanogan County's Beef Community Makes a Difference Through Beef Counts Fundraiser

TOPPENISH, WASH. --- The continued strain of the pandemic and the increasing food prices in grocery stores, food insecurity remains an issue for many across Washington state. With those concerns in mind, Washington's Beef Community gathered at Toppenish Livestock Commission on Tuesday, Oct. 12th to raise money for the Beef Counts Program – Washington's Beef Community United Against Hunger.

The rollover auction had 38 businesses and individuals actively participate with individual donations ranging from \$1,600 to \$50 for an amazing total of \$24,500.

“The Beef Counts program is a wonderful way for Washington’s beef farmers and ranchers to give back to our communities across the state. Our county cattlemen were pleased to participate in the rollover this year by donating a heifer calf to be auctioned off,” said Okanogan County Cattlemen’s Association President Rachel McClure. “We understand how difficult the last two years have been for so many and the money raised will go to purchase beef to be distributed to our hungry neighbors in need.”

The goal of the Beef Counts Program is to provide local food banks with a year-round supply of nutritious beef. Since 2010, the Beef Counts program has raised more than \$1 million to purchase beef for hungry families in need and provided more than 2.5 million servings of beef through our hunger relief agency partners across the state.

To learn more about the Beef Counts program or to donate go to wabeef.org/beef-counts.

###