

Scholarship Application in Memory of Jacob "Jake" Senner

In loving memory of Jacob “Jake” Senner, a fourth-generation farmer whose life was tragically cut short by suicide, we are proud to offer this scholarship to graduating high school seniors who plan to attend college in the fall. Jake was a dedicated farmer, oilfield consultant, and a deeply compassionate person. He left us on May 29, 2024, at the age of 39, in the very fields he loved. His passing has left a hole in the hearts of his family, friends, and community, but his memory and the lessons he imparted continue to inspire us.

Jake was known for his big heart, his infectious smile, and his willingness to help anyone in need. His legacy is one of hard work, kindness, and dedication to his family, friends, and the land he worked. However, Jake’s struggle with mental health—an issue that often goes unspoken, especially in rural communities—was something he faced quietly. His passing has made it clear that we need to raise awareness and provide better support for mental health, especially in farming and rural communities where these struggles are often overlooked.

This scholarship aims to support a student who understands the importance of mental health, has a passion for agriculture or rural life, and is committed to addressing the stigma surrounding mental health and suicide prevention.

The money from this scholarship was raised during a raffle in the summer of 2024 by Rob and Sherry Johnson

Scholarship Essay Prompt

As part of the application, we ask applicants to reflect on the following essay questions:

1. The Importance of Mental Health:

Mental health is a critical issue that affects people in every walk of life, including those in rural and farming communities. Discuss why mental health is important and how it impacts individuals and families in agricultural areas. What can be done to break the stigma surrounding mental health, and how can communities work together to support those who are struggling?

2. Suicide Prevention and Raising Awareness:

Suicide rates are higher in rural areas, particularly among farmers. Reflect on the challenges that individuals in farming communities face, which may contribute to mental health struggles. What steps can be taken to prevent suicide, create awareness, and support individuals in crisis? How can we create an environment where people feel safe and supported to reach out for help?

3. The Relationship Between Farming and Mental Health:

Farming can be both a source of pride and a source of stress. The financial uncertainties, long hours, and physical labor involved can take a toll on mental health. How do you think farming communities can better address these mental health challenges? What resources, support systems, or initiatives could help farmers and rural residents cope with the pressures they face?

Eligibility Criteria:

- High school senior who will be attending college in the fall

- A demonstrated commitment to mental health awareness, rural communities, or agriculture
- A desire to create positive change in the mental health landscape, especially in farming or rural areas

Application Requirements:

- Completed scholarship application form
- Personal essay addressing all three essay questions

Deadline: April 25th

Scholarship Amount: Two scholarships will be awarded for the 2024-2025 school year. \$1,000 and \$500

This scholarship honors the life of Jake Senner, who was a friend, brother, and son to many. His story is a reminder of the importance of mental health, the pressures of rural life, and the need for open conversations about suicide prevention. We hope this scholarship helps continue Jake's legacy by supporting students who are passionate about making a difference in these critical areas.

For questions or to submit your application, please contact [Insert contact information or scholarship coordinator].

Jake's memory lives on in the lives of those he touched. Through this scholarship, we hope to inspire others to advocate for mental health, support one another, and continue working to reduce the stigma around seeking help.

Jacob "Jake" Senner Memorial Scholarship Application

Application Deadline: April 25th

Please complete all sections of the application form below. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Personal Information

Full Name:

Address:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Date of Birth:

High School Information

High School Name:

High School Graduation Date:

GPA:

Academic Honors or Achievements:

College Information

College or University You Plan to Attend:

Intended Major/Area of Study:

Anticipated Start Date:

Essay Submission

Please attach a personal essay answering the following three questions:

1. The Importance of Mental Health:

Discuss why mental health is important and how it impacts individuals and families in agricultural areas. What can be done to break the stigma surrounding mental health, and how can communities work together to support those who are struggling?

2. Suicide Prevention and Raising Awareness:

Reflect on the challenges that individuals in farming communities face, which may contribute to mental health struggles. What steps can be taken to prevent suicide, create awareness, and support individuals in crisis? How can we create an environment where people feel safe and supported to reach out for help?

3. The Relationship Between Farming and Mental Health:

How do you think farming communities can better address the mental health challenges faced by farmers? What resources, support systems, or initiatives could help farmers and rural residents cope

with the pressures they face?