

KFB's ham breakfast raises \$10 million

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nate \$5 million to causes across Kentucky. This year's Grand Champion Country Ham, weighing in at 16.5 lbs., was produced by Josh Poling of Broadbent's Country Hams in Kuttawa, Ky.

This is the second time the Crafts and Central Bank have partnered on the winning bid, with their joint donation of \$10 million in 2023 making a difference in the lives of thousands of Kentuckians.

"Each year, this breakfast brings Kentuckians together to celebrate agriculture and to give back in meaningful ways," said Eddie Melton, KFB President. "I am proud of how this event continues to grow in impact and tradition. Together, we're showing that when our rural and urban communities unite around Kentucky agriculture, we can make a difference across the Commonwealth."

The Crafts were out of town but sent their representative, Jennifer Barber of Frost Brown Todd, to bid on their behalf.

"Kelly and Joe Craft would like to thank Kentucky Farm Bureau for hosting this wonderful event again this year," said Barber. "They hope their charitable contributions will help improve the lives of Kentuckians across the Commonwealth. This year's \$5 million

donation will go to the Boys & Girls Club of Glasgow-Barren County Craft Innovation Campus, the Craft Academy at Morehead State University, and building houses in Eastern Kentucky through the Federation of Appalachian

Housing Enterprises."

Central Bank's \$5 million bid will be distributed to a variety of Kentucky charities, continuing its legacy of philanthropic giving. Beneficiaries are expected to include:

"We are honored to

once again support the Kentucky Farm Bureau Country Ham Breakfast and Charity Auction," said Luther Deaton, Chairman, President & CEO of Central Bank. "This event is about more than a winning bid — it's about making a

lasting impact. Our team is proud to give back to charities that strengthen communities and provide hope for Kentuckians across the state."

This year's ham was presented to attendees by Miss Kentucky 2025, Ariana Rodriguez, with more than 1,600 people filling the South Wing B Conference Center at the Kentucky Exposition Center. Among those addressing the sold-out crowd were Senator

Mitch McConnell, Kentucky Commissioner of Agriculture Jonathan Shell, Louisville Mayor Craig Greenberg, KFB President Eddie Melton, and other state and community leaders.

Since its inception in 1964, the Country Ham Breakfast and Charity Auction has raised nearly \$54 million for non-profit organizations and other charities across Kentucky.

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