

Emma Lindberg

Candidate Statement

Cooperatives have a deep history in agricultural and rural communities throughout the world. As the Education Director for National Farmers Union (NFU), it is my goal to advance our mission of advocating for family farmers and ranchers by educating our members and their communities about cooperatives.

At NFU, we are committed to cooperative education and cooperative business development. Through our education programs, we provide both youth and adults with the necessary tools to be good co-op members and ambassadors of the co-op model, and we encourage them to be involved in their co-op's board. We successfully use in-person and online events to connect with our members in the U.S. and to share resources with individuals around the world. NFU also promotes rural economic and cooperative development by supporting existing agricultural co-ops and helping to form new farmer co-ops and other rural businesses.

Our members have opened my eyes to the positive impact co-ops can have on rural communities. Cooperatives provide farmers with autonomy, help them feel empowered, and foster a sense of community in rural areas. These successes encourage me to increase cooperative outreach in other industries and different parts of the world. My passion for cooperative awareness is in line with NCBA CLUSA's vision "to build a better world and a more inclusive economy that empowers people to contribute to shared prosperity and well-being for themselves and future generations."

Today's family farmers face a variety of challenges, from low commodity prices and volatile export markets to unpredictable weather and social isolation. If elected to the NCBA CLUSA Board of Directors, I would be honored to represent family farmers and ranchers, highlighting their needs and helping them to advance their co-op and community enterprises.

If elected, I will be an active member of the Board of Directors by advancing NCBA CLUSA's mission of developing, advancing and protecting cooperative enterprise; assisting in recruiting more members from rural communities; and being an advocate for all NCBA CLUSA members.