



**Organic Crop Improvement Association**

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June 14, 2023

Congratulations!

This letter is to inform you that your chapter, OCIA Nebraska, has successfully met the terms and conditions of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with OCIA International for 2023.

As you go throughout the year growing and developing your chapter, remember the External Committee is here to help. OCIA International encourages each Chapter to be involved in their local and surrounding area(s) with activities to promote not only organics and organic agriculture but also continued organizational growth. Local advertising and marketing of your chapter and the services offered comes highly recommended to its potential can strengthen and grow your Chapter. It's also encouraged that Chapters attend Trade Shows at their own discretion and cost, however they may request staffing assistance and/or cost share from OCIA International. This information can be requested by emailing Amanda at [abrewster@ocia.org](mailto:abrewster@ocia.org) or by calling the International office at 402-477-2323.

Don't forget, per the OCIA International Bylaw 5.1.1, Chapters are still required to perform certain functions during the year such as providing an on-going program of crop improvement, educate Chapter associates on the value of the use and promotion of the OCIA name, logo and certification mark, and facilitate impartial and independent third party certification. Due to Third-Party Certification such as the National Organic Program (NOP) definition, it is important that the Chapter not imply that organic certification can be granted by the Chapter or the Chapter has control over the decision making process.

In closing, I'd like to remind you that one of the External Committees primary functions is to assist with chapter development including mentoring new chapters and existing Chapters needing assistance. If your Chapter is experiencing problems or would like to have assistance in developing Chapter related programs or activities, the External Committee is mandated by the International Board of Directors to provide this assistance. Thank you for your continued support.

Amanda Brewster

OCIA International  
Executive Director

*OCIA: The Worldwide Standard for Certified Organic Excellence*

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