The Iowa Livestock Health Advisory Council (ILHAC) was created in 1977 to strengthen Iowa’s animal-agriculture industry as a cooperative effort between Iowa livestock industry stakeholders, the State of Iowa, and the Iowa State University College of Veterinary Medicine. ILHAC is funded through Agriculture Appropriations.

Current projects include:

- New diagnostic tests for *Tritrichomonas foetus*, a venereal diseases in cattle
- Novel vaccines against caseous lymphadenitis in sheep and goats
- Investigating causes of “False Layer Syndrome” in hens
- Understanding the immune response of pigs to Seneca Valley Virus
- Novel diagnostic assays for Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome (PRRS)

The Multiplier Effect

Every $1 of ILHAC research dollars generates approximately $10.00 in additional research funding from outside sources.
The ILHAC line-item funding in Agriculture Appropriations (Referred to as “Livestock Disease Research” in the Iowa budget) has remained at $170,390 for many years, while Iowa’s livestock production industry has grown substantially. ILHAC-funded research grants provide seed money to advance the health, well-being and profitability of Iowa’s $32.6 billion-dollar livestock production industry. Research priorities are set by producers each year based on current challenges. Modest increases in this line-item funding can lead to high-impact outcomes in animal health and welfare, food safety, and trade and economic viability.