

The Many Faces of Know Your Farmer Know Your Food  
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# Farm to School Statewide Models of Success

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**Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems**

a sustainable agriculture research center at UW-Madison



# Overview

- National Farm to School Network
- Successful F2S State Models
- Challenges



NATIONAL  
FARM  
TO SCHOOL  
NETWORK

# National Farm to School Network

- **Mission:** The National Farm to School Network increases access to local food and nutrition education to improve children's health, strengthen family farms, and cultivate vibrant communities.



- **Vision:** The National Farm to School Network envisions a nation in which Farm to School programs are an essential component of strong and just local and regional food systems, ensuring the health of all school children, farms, environment, economy and communities.

# Scope of Farm to School

Cafeteria



Community



Classroom



...and Wellness  
Policies too...

# Statewide Collaborations

- Statewide Farm to School organizing or collaboration
- State Departments of Agriculture, Education & Public Health, non-profits, extension, foundations, producers, universities, distributors, advocates
- Logic models, strategic planning, funding collaboration, training/technical assistance, policy goals
- Joint Memorandum in support of Farm to School / Local Food Purchasing approval



MAKE  
**FARM**  
TO  
**SCHOOL**  
HAPPEN

sign up

First Name

Last Name

Home Address

City

Zip

Personal Email

Phone Number (optional)

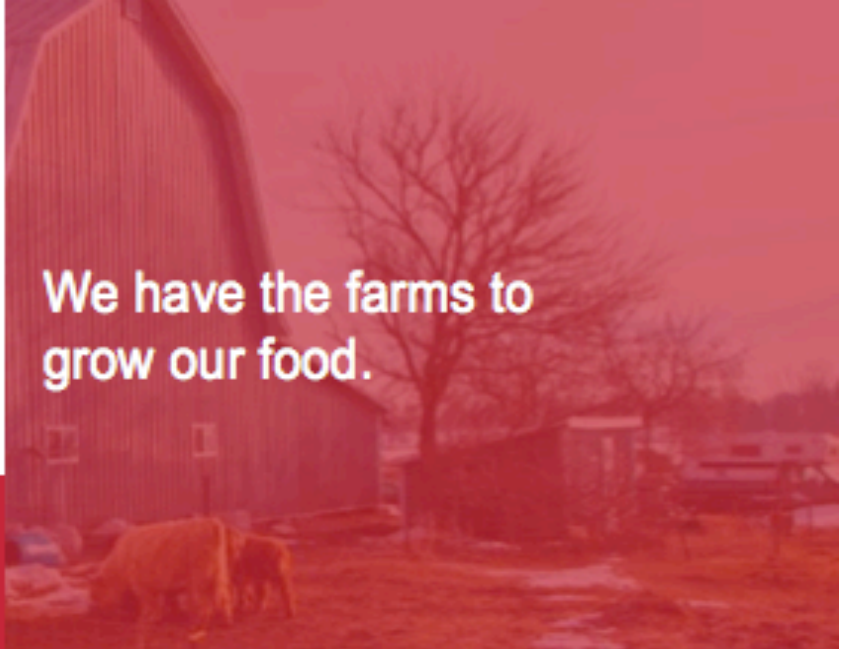
Why is this important to you? (optional)

I'd like to receive email updates from  
Make Farm to School Happen.

Sign Up!

share

take action



We have the farms to  
grow our food.

**We can fix school food.** Wisconsin farms need  
business in a tough economy. Schools need  
healthy food. Let's reconnect them.

**It won't happen without you.** Let's rally our  
friends. Wisconsin legislators need to see it's  
time to make farm to school happen.

# Statewide Surveys

- School Food Service
- Producers
- Baseline Data
- Assess:
  - Outcome data
  - Barriers
  - Awareness



# State Mini Grant Program



- Michigan F2S Mini Grant Program

*“The MI Farm to School Planning Grant helps schools plan for integrating fresh, local foods into cafeterias AND ultimately develop a Farm to School Action Plan to implement a farm to school program after the grant year.”*

- Ohio Farm to School Mini Grant Program

*“To develop sustainable and replicable models of student-family programming by offering mini-grants to schools or school districts who are interested in developing farm-to-school programming focused on specialty crops that targets the whole family.”*



# Producer/Buyer Meetings

## ***Get Farming! Keep Farming!***

### ***Creating Farm-to-School Business Opportunities***

**Who it's for:** Farmers and local food distributors who want to sell to or expand sales to schools in Leelanau and Grand Traverse Counties, including summer programs.

This program is produced by MLUI and its ***Taste the Local Difference*** program in partnership with the Leelanau Learning Circle of Food Service Directors, USDA, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, FoodCorps, and the NW Michigan Food & Farming Network.

**Monday, January 30, 2012**

**2:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

*NW Michigan Horticultural Research Center  
6686 S. Center Hwy, Leelanau County*

Meet food service directors from Leelanau County's four public schools, private schools, and Traverse City Area Public Schools.

*These schools are:*

- **Planning** menus designed around NW Michigan's growing season.
- **Willing** to order jointly if larger volumes make business sense for schools and farms.
- **Interested** in finding ways to cooperate to build the local food economy.

***Come prepared to talk, listen, strategize, and connect.***

**For info or to register for this free event:  
Contact Jim Sluyter or Diane Connors  
at 231-941-6584,  
[jimsluyter@mlui.org](mailto:jimsluyter@mlui.org), [diane@mlui.org](mailto:diane@mlui.org),  
or visit [localdifference.org/get\\_farming](http://localdifference.org/get_farming).**

**MICHIGAN  
LAND USE  
INSTITUTE**

148 East Front Street  
Suite 301  
Traverse City, MI 49684-5725

### **Farmers:**

- **Hear** firsthand from schools that are excited about buying local products.
- **Learn** specifics about what these schools want—including hydroponic tomatoes, hoop house greens, fruit, and a variety of veggies.
- **Discuss** barriers to increasing sales of local farm products in schools, and strategies for overcoming them.
- **Bring** information about your farm, and samples if you like.
- **Plan** to leave with next steps to make sales happen!

The USDA prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities. For details see [foodandfarmingnetwork.org/nondisc](http://foodandfarmingnetwork.org/nondisc)

# PROJECT SIGN POST:

Direct Farm Business Regulation Outline and Farm-to-School FAQs

## Training Materials

- Producers, food service directors, parents
- Outline state regulations
- Step-by-step process

[Extension](#) > [Family](#) > [Farm to School](#) > [Minnesota Toolkit for School Foodservice](#)

### Minnesota Toolkit for School Foodservice

#### Getting food grown by farmers in your community onto your students' lunch trays

Farm to School programs connect schools with local farms. As a result, kids eat more fresh fruits and vegetables and learn where their food comes from. There are many Farm to School programs in Minnesota and they come in all shapes and sizes. These programs use local foods in school meals, cooking classes, school gardens, and nutrition and agriculture education in their classrooms, farm field trips, fundraisers, and much more! This toolkit helps programs start, build, and sustain their Farm to School efforts.

GETTING STARTED



USING FOOD



SOURCING FOOD



PROMOTING FOOD

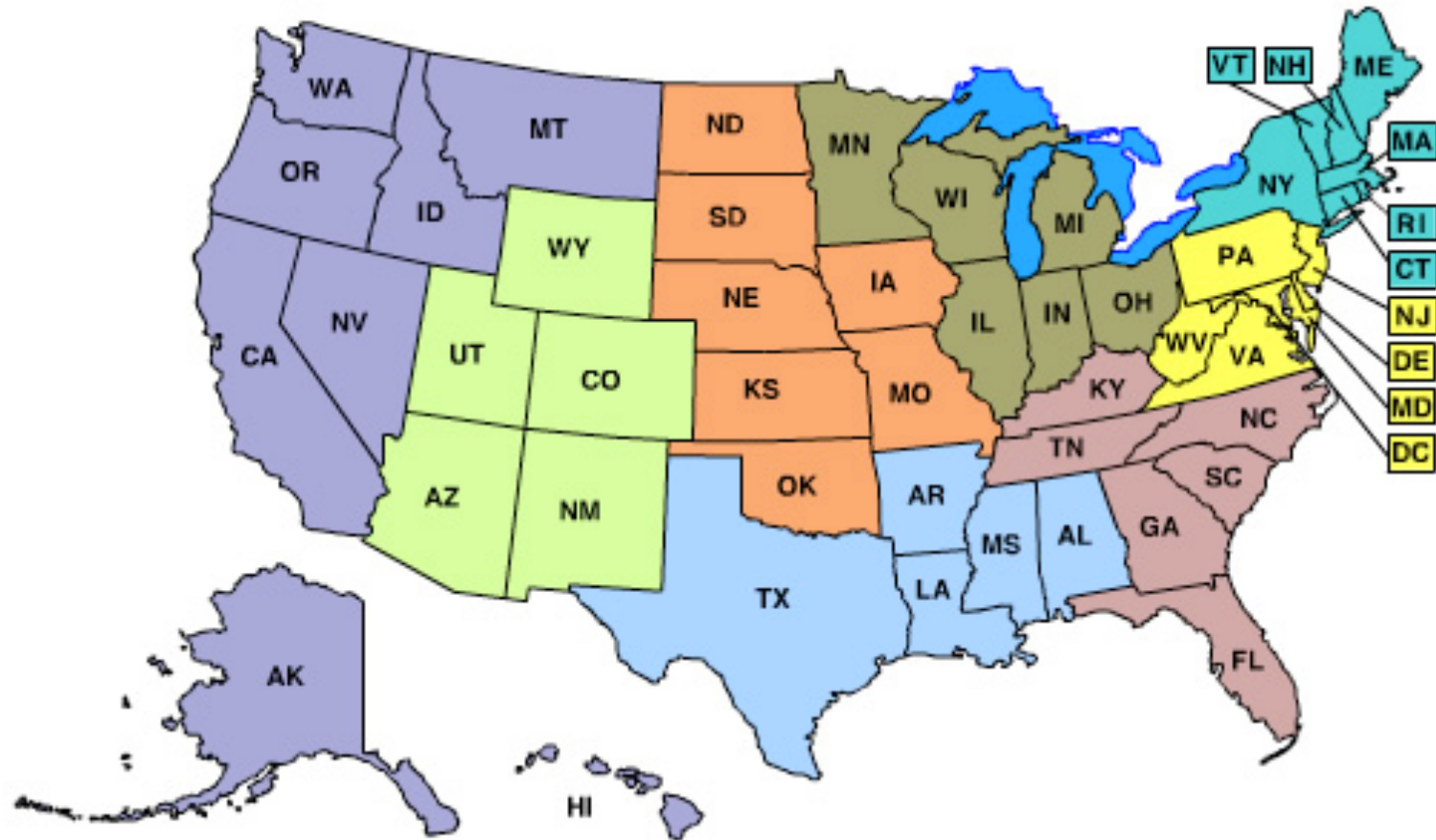


# Moving Forward

- Funding
- Food Safety
- Assess Community Economic Development



# National Farm to School Network





# Thank You

**Great Lakes Regional Lead**

**Vanessa Herald**

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