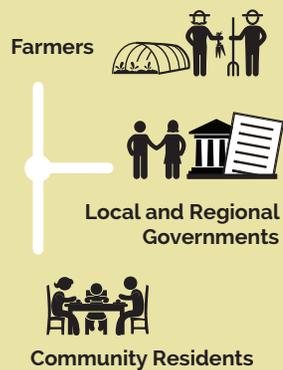


Change happens when communities have the knowledge, resources and tools to grow connections between family farmers and underserved community residents.

Growing Food Connections aims to address the concerns of struggling family farmers and underserved community residents by building capacity of local governments and their partners to create, implement and sustain food system policies and plans that both promote food access and foster a healthy agricultural sector.



Growing Food Connections is made possible with a grant from the USDA / NIFA / AFRI Food Systems Program

LOCAL KNOWLEDGE

Two-Way Flow of Ideas and Information

3 MAJOR ACTIVITIES

Researchers, educators, students, planners and community partners will work within the communities to understand the barriers and innovations to create and provide policy tools and training.

TEAM & PARTNERS

The project will be guided by a National Advisory Committee with representation from diverse disciplines, regions and research backgrounds.



COMMUNITIES of OPPORTUNITY

Identify the barriers these communities face and the capacities that exist to build towards successfully connecting family farmers to underserved community residents.



COMMUNITIES of INNOVATION

Evaluate policies, strategies, and partnerships that are working in these communities to reconnect family farmers to food insecure populations.

RESEARCH



Assess how local governments are using policy and planning tools to foster connections between family farmers and underserved community residents.

OUTCOMES

Local and regional governments adopt and enact plans/policies to connect farmers with consumers in food systems.

EDUCATION



Educate a new generation of students to continue the work of food systems planning in 10 partner universities across the U.S.

OUTCOMES

Universities train students in food systems policy and planning.

PLANNING & POLICY



Develop research-supported policy tools and training to help local governments develop and enact policies that reconnect underserved community residents with local and regional farmers.

OUTCOMES

Consumers, farmers and farm advocates participate and shape local government food policy.

An interdisciplinary and multi-institutional team of researchers and practitioners to integrate research, education and extension to grow food connections across communities.



cultivating healthy places

