

# Local Food Systems

A growing group of people are interested in getting more local foods into the hands of consumers—and providing additional marketing channels for farmers to produce sustainable, local foods. “Scaling up” local food refers to the process of building the system necessary to make local food available to a wider segment of the population than currently possible. NCR-SARE has supported research and education in some of the key challenge areas to scaling up local foods including agricultural production, storage and transportation, and marketing and sales.

## NCR-SARE Project Sampler

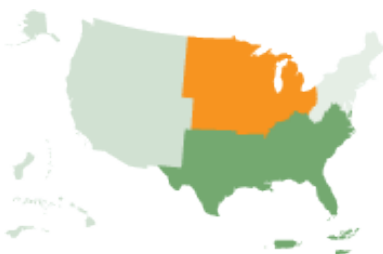
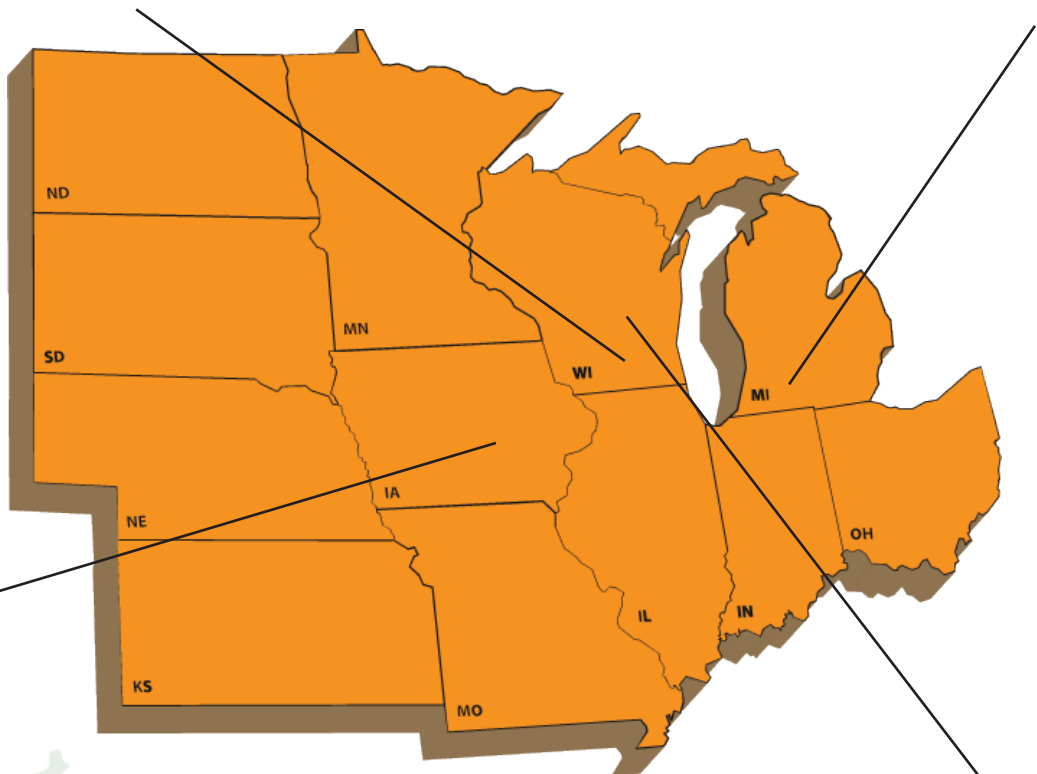
To view SARE’s entire local food systems portfolio, or just the North Central region’s, visit <https://projects.sare.org>. For selected North Central region local food systems grants, see the reverse side.

Discover a wealth of educational materials for farmers, ranchers, ag professionals, community organizers, and others who are striving to reconfigure the nation’s food system so more value stays in food-producing communities with SARE’s online Farm to Table Topic Room at [www.SARE.org/Local-Food](http://www.SARE.org/Local-Food).

University of Wisconsin researchers worked with producers to improve tomato varieties specifically for hoop house and open-field production under organic conditions. They also tested lower-cost mobile alternatives to high tunnels. See <https://projects.sare.org> and search for project number LNC17-388.

Researchers found that food hubs can develop human and social capital by facilitating communication between participants and providing continuing education opportunities. See <https://projects.sare.org> and search for project number GNC12-156.

A Michigan farmer developed a curriculum for small, food-producing farmers so they can add a teaching component to their farming business. See <https://projects.sare.org> and search for project number FNC12-896.



Fieldhands and Foodways project participants learned how to cultivate vegetables at Alice’s Garden and create menus reflecting cultural food traditions. They learned about the Great Migration and historic agricultural practices of African Americans. They also created narratives about their ancestors’ migrations to Milwaukee and the cultural traditions accompanying them. See <https://projects.sare.org> and search for project number YENC10-034.

# NCR-SARE's Local Food Systems Portfolio

## Selected Grants

### RESEARCH AND EDUCATION GRANTS

**Improving Farmer Options for Sustainable and Profitable Direct-Market Tomato Production and High Tunnel Management in the Upper Midwest**  
Julie Dawson, University of Wisconsin, Wisconsin, LNC17-388, \$199,915

**A Local Pasture-Based Production Systems for Northwest Michigan**  
Jason Rowntree, Michigan State University, Michigan, LNC12-345, \$181,342

### FARMER AND RANCHER GRANTS

**Rebel Earth Farms' Value-Added, Direct Marketing Lakota Herbal Tea High-Tunnel Productions**  
Patricia Hammond, Rebel Earth Farms, South Dakota, FNC18-1124, \$7,500

**Building the Local Food Economy in Ozark County, Missouri**  
Amelia LaMair, Flotsam Farm, Missouri, FNC17-1082, \$7,436

**Formalizing Partnerships to Scale-Up Value-Added Local Food in Rural Ohio**  
Jeanine Seabrook, Glass Rooster Cannery, Ohio, FNC16-1056, \$7,500

**Keeping Traditions Alive: Creating Food Security in Northwest Wisconsin's Tribal Communities**  
Amber Marlow, Lac Courte Oreilles Ojibwa Community College Wisconsin, FNC13-919, \$21,551

**Rural Food Network: Growing and Keeping Food in Gasconade County, Missouri**  
Jennifer Miller, River Front Produce, Missouri, FNC12-883, \$22,405

**Direct Marketing Non-Traditional Perennial Berry Varieties: Expanding Eater Preferences and Grower Connections**  
Clare Hintz, Elsewhere Farm, Wisconsin, FNC12-864, \$17,530

**An Internship Curriculum for Food Farmers in the North Central Region**  
Therese Zimmerman-Niemier, Bertrand Farm, Indiana, FNC12-896, \$22,319

### YOUTH EDUCATOR GRANTS

**Grow Healthy, Lansing! Nutrition Education in the Edible Schoolyard**  
Peggy Vaughn-Payne, Northwest Initiative, Michigan, YENC18-130, \$2,000

**Urban Farming as a Sustainable Business**  
Tommy McDoniel, Asbury Community Development Corporation, Michigan, YENC18-127, \$2,000

**Engaging Youth in Sustainable Farming and Benefits of Direct Marketing**  
Skylar Falter, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Nebraska, YENC17-116, \$2,000

**Field Hands and Foodways**  
Venice Williams, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Nebraska, YENC10-034, \$2,000

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

**Soil Health Bootcamp and Applications to Sustainable Vegetable Cropping: Professional Development for Local Agriculture Educators**  
Megan Kennelly, Kansas State University, Kansas, ENC15-146, \$64,307

### GRADUATE STUDENT GRANTS

**Needs Assessment for the Establishment of Food Hubs Using Geographic Information Systems**  
Kevin Duerfeldt, Iowa State University, Iowa, GNC12-156, \$9,902

Updated 2019

For information on many more SARE-funded local food systems projects, search the SARE project database: <https://projects.sare.org>.



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