Building a Healthy Food System through Farm to Institution
Session Objectives

- Learn how different organizations support the creation of a sustainable, local food system.
- Build connections with others around the state working on Farm to Institution initiatives.
- Brainstorm ways your organizations can work collaboratively to support others in creating a sustainable, local food system.
Karly Johnson
FoodWIse Nutrition Coordinator
Florence, Forest, Oneida and Vilas Counties
University of Wisconsin-Extension, Cooperative Extension
What we do...

EXPOSE. TEACH.

EMPOWER. SUPPORT.
Providing Support

**TALK** about the value of community gardens with community stakeholders.

**ADVOCATE** for garden space accessibility to individuals with limited income.

**DONATE** garden and farm produce to sites where SNAP-Ed participants eat, live, learn, work, play and shop.
Growing Together Wisconsin
Formerly GardenWIse
Forest County
Wasmogishek Food Pantry Garden
Forest County
Wasmogishek Food Pantry

Barriers
● Water supply
● Produce transport
● Volunteer Staff Time
Vilas County
Lac du Flambeau Youth Center

Garden-based Nutrition Education

Produce donations to Elder Meal Site and LdF Youth Center
Lac du Flambeau Wellness Garden
Ross Cohen
Farm to School Education Coordinator
rossc@reapfoodgroup.org
REAP’s **GOAL** is to grow a healthful, just, and sustainable food system—meaning good food, grown well is accessible to all.
Farm to School Program: Teaching the Next Generation of Eaters

On the farm

In the Community

In the Classrooms

In the cafeteria

Year Round Education

Serving the community to become healthier, wiser, freer, more autonomous, more likely themselves to become servant leaders.
REAP’s **Farm to School Snack Program** provides locally grown fruit or veggie snacks to over 300 classrooms at 12 Madison Elementary Schools concentrating on the schools with highest level of free or reduced lunch.

- Students learn about nutrition, food systems, sustainability and more through a series of 6 lesson plans developed and led by **AmeriCorps Nutrition Education Members**.

- **Chef in the Classroom** is a program in middle and high school level that teaches students how to cook with farm fresh ingredients along side top Madison chefs.

- Reapfoodgroup.org provides online lessons and to-go kits for any educator to use
REAP has installed **Garden Bars** into MMSD cafeterias. Garden Bars create less food waste, require less plastic packaging, and give students a variety when choosing fruits and vegetables.

REAP teaches lessons of conservation, “take only what you’ll eat” and provides assemblies at all new schools.

The **UpRoot** food truck by REAP, donated from longtime supporter Roth Cheese, will be used during Madison high school lunches.
In the community

○ REAP leads lessons at community centers, attends events and conducts taste tests.

○ REAP provides free meals and educational activities at parks during the Summer Meal Program. Attendance has improved to this because of systematic market approaching.

○ Back to School Night reminds kids and parents to start the year off well by bringing healthy food.
SFP explained
Example Area:
South of Beltline, West of Seminole Hwy
Verona Rd

*Eligible children 0-18:
TOTAL: 2,750

*Only 2 current sites;
- Allied Learning Center
  (Avg. 85 lunch/day)
- Boys & Girls Club
  (Avg. 87 lunch/day)
2017 Summer Food Program Expansion Efforts

Evaluation
- Partnership with Wisconsin Evaluation Collaborative at UW-Madison
- Needs Assessment

Communications
- Materials development, distribution
- Awareness / marketing campaign

Program implementation
- REAP programming at two community park sites, local food at all sites

Evaluation
- Process evaluation
- Outcome evaluation
ON THE FARM

- REAP purchases thousands of pounds of local fruits and vegetables from over 20 sustainable farms located within 100 miles of Madison. Growers participate in “Farmer in the Classroom” so kids can meet the people who grow their food.
Farm to School Program

When numbers speak for themselves!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>80</td>
<td>thousand pounds of local food served in Madison Public Schools annually</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>thousand students impacted by REAP’s work</td>
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<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>garden bars installed in Madison school</td>
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<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Madison Schools in the Farm to School Project</td>
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Becky Breda

Wisconsin Farm to ECE

Emerald Meadows Family Farm and Two Good Farms CSA Columbia County
Emerald Meadows Family Farm and Two Good Farms CSA

- Family farm established in 1998
- Certified organic vegetable, fruit, grain farm in Columbia County
- Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) established in 2010
- Sales
  - Wholesale (Wisconsin Food Hub Cooperative)
  - Local restaurants
  - School districts in Columbia and Dane Counties
  - Three farmers markets (Monona, Sun Prairie, Madison)
  - 165-member CSA
2013-2014 school year
- Sold to Sacred Hearts School in Sun Prairie

2016-2017 school year
- School District of Wisconsin Dells
- Sauk Prairie School District
- Columbus School District

2017-2018 school year
- School District of Wisconsin Dells
- Sauk Prairie School District
- Columbus School District
- Randolph Early Learning Center
Considerations for ECE Programs

- Pricing
- Variety
- Quantity (minimum/maximum orders?)
- Delivery/Pick up
  - Farmers Market pick up (usually weekend, once weekly)
  - On farm pick up (frequency/timing can be determined as needed)
  - Delivery to site (cost? set schedule or as needed?)
  - CSA drop off site (weekly, specific day/time)
Group work:

Break into groups by institution (K-12, food insecurity, early care, producer. Other [hospitals, workplace, restaurant])

Round Robin sharing of how each institution implements Farm to...

Brainstorm ways in which institution can offer and/or receive support from other sectors to break down barriers to purchasing locally.