





Webinar Agenda

- Review research approach
- Share results and findings
- Best practices
- Discuss future research needs

Approach

- Type of food system
- Identify communities
- Focus group questions related to a research based planning process
- Conduct focus groups in eight communities with 6-10 people
- Analyze data for best practices

Expected Outcomes

- Short-Knowledge of best practices for sustainability
- Medium-Sustainable local food systems
- Long-Increased community capacity



Resources and References

- Food System Profile / <http://foodsystems.wisc.edu/>
- Community Capitals
- Food Systems Wheel
- Other



Focus Groups

- Background/History
- Community Planning Process
- Sustainability
- Individual responses/comments

Background

- Organizational structure
- What was the availability of local food before this project began?
- Does this project attempt to address a specific need?
- Why did you start this initiative?

Community Planning Process

- Did you do a community needs assessment?
- Do you have a vision/mission?
- What are your goals and how were they developed?
- How do you determine your projects?
- How do you define success?
- How do you celebrate success?
- Where are you in relation to your long term goals?

Sustainability

- What do you see changing as you move forward?
- Who are the partners to this project?
- What is your funding model?
- What do you anticipate to be your biggest challenge(s) as you move forward?

Individual Comments

- Level of support within the community
- Level of sustainability under current structure
- Enhancement of community food system because of the initiative
- We are attaining the goals we have set
- Other

Allen County, Kansas



About.....

- Newest project
- Food policy council
- Lots of enthusiasm

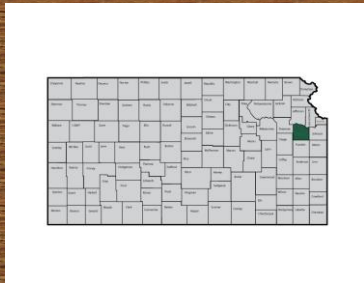
Brown County, Kansas



About.....

- Active for several years
- Very project oriented
- Partners
- Great amount of community interest

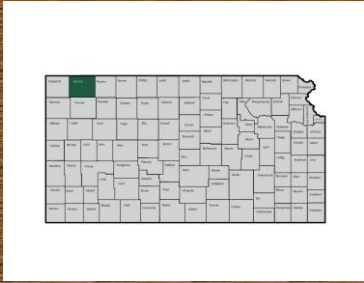
Douglas County, Kansas



About.....

- Long history back to 1970
- Food hub study
- Land use issues
- Financial support

Rawlins County, Kansas



About.....

- Producer driven
- Return of young professionals
- Local/regional/multi-state
- Increased hope

UP of Michigan



About.....

- Collaboration
- Needs assessment
- Strong community investment
- Key leaders

Recurring Themes

- Demand is greater than production
- Mutual understanding is critical
- Physical health
- Financial health



Best Practices

- All sectors of community represented
- Producers and consumers should be part of the initial conversations
- Comprehensive assessment
- Organized structure
- Celebrations
- Mixed funding base
- Engaged community



Products

- Fact sheet
- Local Food systems document
- AMS project

