



Federal Grant Webinar Series

Farmers and Food System Organizations

CO Farm & Food System Response Team

Partners

Colorado Farm & Food
System Response Team



Federal Grant Webinar Series

Framing and Developing Federal Food Systems Grants

Thanks for joining us!

Stories of Past Federal Food System Grant Applicants

Hear directly from other farmers and food systems organizations that have successfully applied for USDA funding in the past. They'll share what the process was like, what they learned, what they wish they had known, and recommendations for how to develop a successful project and application.

Presenters: Katie Slota with Native Hill - VAPG, Kaibab Sauvage with Sauvage Spectrum - VAPG, Anna Schott with GoFarm - LFPP and FMPP, Nanna Meyer with CU Colo Springs - LFPP

Thursday April 15, 2021 @ 1pm MDT

Register here: <https://bit.ly/3dg9Aui>

How To Improve Colorado and Federal Grant Processes

This webinar is a community discussion about what works and what doesn't work about the current state and federal grant processes. The particular focus is how this process can be more inclusive to disadvantaged farmers and organizations and what we can all do to improve the process (i.e. give feedback, create stronger collaborations, get more farmers on review committees, etc.). Feedback will be provided to state decision-makers immediately to help guide and inform additional COVID-response grant programs. Here is your chance to give feedback on how investments could best support your farm, business, organization, and/or community to improve farm/business viability, advance new opportunities, and address food insecurity.

Wednesday April 28 @ 3pm MDT

Register here: <https://bit.ly/2R8le2T>



Crafting Winning Food System Grant Proposals

Dawn Thilmany and Becca Jablonski
Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics
Colorado State University



FOOD SYSTEMS
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY



COLLEGE OF
AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Your Presenters



Dawn Thilmany McFadden

Professor | Extension Economist

Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics



Becca Jablonski

Assistant Professor | Food Systems Extension Economist

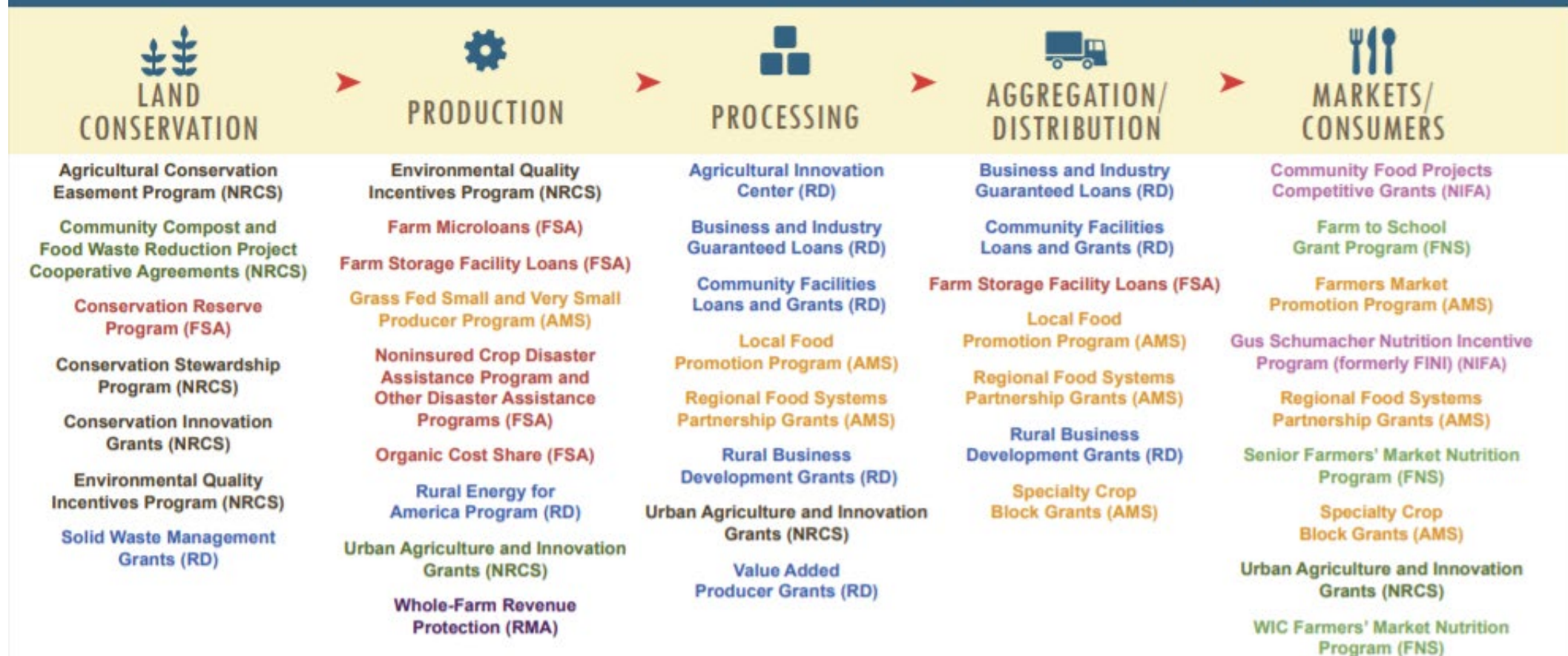
Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics

Agenda

1. Present highlights of USDA Food System Grant Programs
2. Principles of Framing a Fundable Project
3. Questions and Discussion

USDA PROGRAMS IN THE LOCAL FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN

USDA is committed to supporting robust regional food economies across the food chain through the programs noted below.



RESEARCH, EDUCATION, AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS ALONG THE SUPPLY CHAIN

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (NIFA)	Extension Risk Management (NIFA)	Rural Cooperative Development Grants (RD)
Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program (NIFA)	Federal State Marketing Improvement Program (AMS)	Small Business Innovation Research (NIFA)
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Conservation Technical Assistance (NRCS)	Organic Research & Extension Initiative (NIFA)	Specialty Crop Block Grants (AMS)
Enhancing Agricultural Opportunities for Military Veterans (AGVETS) (NIFA)	Outreach and Assistance for Socially Disadvantaged and Veteran Farmers and Ranchers Program (2501 Program) (OPPE)	Specialty Crop Research Initiative (NIFA)
		Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (NIFA)

2021 COVID Relief Bill



Photo from Maryland Farmers Markets

- The bill provides \$100 million in additional funding to support local farmers, farmers markets, and value-added production for farmers and outlets who are impacted by COVID-19 market disruptions through the farm bill's Local Agriculture Market Program (LAMP).
- The Secretary may reduce matching requirements for these additional funds.
- LAMP programs include:
 - Farmers Market Promotion Program
 - Local Food Promotion Program
 - Regional Food Partnerships
 - Value Added Producer Grant Program

Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) and the Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP)

FMPP

- Promotes direct to consumer activities
- Two sub-types:
 - Capacity building
 - Community development, training, and technical assistance
- No match requirement
- \$50k-\$500k

LFPP

- Promotes intermediary supply chain activities
- Applicants must aggregate, distribute, process or store locally or regionally produced products (within a 400 mi radius)
- Two sub-types:
 - Planning
 - Implementation
- Requires a 25% match
- \$25k-\$500k

Which grant is right for me?

Farmers Market and Local Food Promotion Program (FMLFPP)

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants>

Does the project support local/regional food efforts to increase consumption of such products and develop, improve, or expand local/regional markets?

YES

NO

Qualifies for the Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP) if project involves intermediary non-direct-to-consumer supply chain activity:

Project moves/promotes product from the origin of the product to a distributor (e.g. food hub)

OR

Project moves/promotes product from the distributor (e.g. food hub) to the retail outlet (e.g. store, CSA, farmers market, etc.)

OR

Project provides outreach, training, and technical assistance (e.g. establishing shared kitchens, food incubators, etc.)

OR

Organization is in the planning stages of establishing or expanding a local/regional food business in a community (e.g. market research, feasibility studies, business planning, and providing technical assistance)

Qualifies for the Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) if project is promoting direct-to-consumer marketing:

Marketing project directly to consumers at food outlets (e.g. farmers markets, roadside stands, CSAs, agritourist, etc.)

OR

Marketing products directly to consumers via information campaign (e.g. farmers market promotional activities, etc.)

OR

Project provides outreach, training, and technical assistance for direct-to-consumer marketing (e.g. assistance with market establishment and design, working with experts to market specific products, etc.)

Project is ineligible for both FMPP and LFPP. Check www.grants.gov for other federal opportunities.

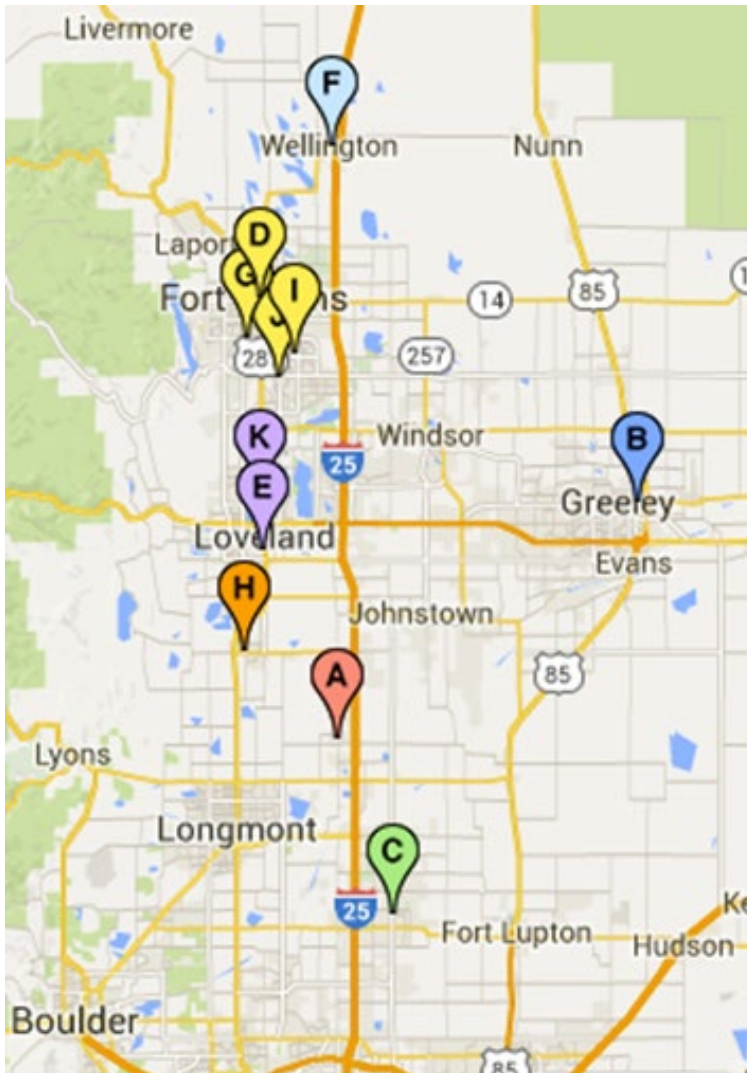
<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/fmpp>

FMPP and LFPP

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/fmpp>

- Administered by: USDA Agricultural Marketing Service
- Applications have not yet opened for 2021.
- Entities that are eligible to apply include:
 - Agricultural businesses and cooperatives
 - Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) networks and associations
 - Food Councils
 - Economic development corporations
 - Local governments
 - Nonprofit and public benefit corporations
 - Producer networks or associations
 - Regional farmers' market authorities
 - Tribal governments

FMPP Example



This project will work to improve farm and ranch sales opportunities at direct to consumer markets by:

- 1) assessing current direct-to-consumer outlets and making recommendations to improve farm sales and consumer access;
- 2) conducting outreach based on assessment results, facilitating enhanced collaboration between regional direct-to-consumer markets and targeting investment and development; and
- 3) working with regional producers to facilitate better interaction with market opportunities through education, trial relationships with markets, and supporting innovative business and marketing models.

Regional Food Partnerships (RFP)

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/rfsp>

- Administered by: USDA Agricultural Marketing Service
- Goals of the program: supports partnerships that connect public and private resources to plan and develop local or regional food systems. The program focuses on strengthening the viability and resilience of regional food economies through collaboration and coordination.
- Applications have not yet opened for 2021.
- In 2020 (first year of the program), USDA awarded 23 partnerships in 15 states:
 - \$2.5M made to 13 planning and design projects
 - \$6.8M made to 10 implementation and expansion projects.

Regional Food Partnership



WESTERN SLOPE FOOD SYSTEM
Producing, selling, and eating more local food

ABOUT OUR PLANNING GRANT

Valley Food Partnership is working with a USDA Regional Food System Partnership planning grant from now to April 2022 to grow our regional food system capacity. Throughout 2021 we will be identifying ways to: Improve Coordination between Supply and Demand, Develop Processing and Preservation Solutions, and Optimize Regional Logistics to Bring Down Commerce Costs. Then, in March 2022 we will be submitting a plan for an implementation grant to develop all we discover in the planning phase.

Regional Food Partnership



WESTERN SLOPE FOOD SYSTEM
Producing, selling, and eating more local food



PRODUCTION

Increase local supply

[Join Working Group](#)



PROCESSING

Preserve and add value

[Join Working Group](#)



LOGISTICS

Optimize coordination and efficiency

[Join Working Group](#)



CHANNELS

Buying conveniently from aggregated supply

[Join Working Group](#)



LEGITIMACY

Certifying safety and sources

[Join Working Group](#)



ECONOMY

Funding the system for impact

[Join Working Group](#)

Community Food Projects

<https://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/community-food-projects-cfp-competitive-grants-program>

- Administered by: USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture
- Goals of the program: increase food security in communities by bringing the whole food system together to assess strengths, establish linkages, and create systems that improve the self reliance of community members over their food needs.
- Applications due May 4, 2021.
- Planning (\$35k) & Community Food Projects (\$400k).

Community Food Projects

<https://nifa.usda.gov/funding-opportunity/community-food-projects-cfp-competitive-grants-program>

- Preference given to projects that:
 - Develop linkages between two or more sectors of the food system;
 - Support the development of entrepreneurial projects;
 - Develop innovative connections between the for-profit and nonprofit food sectors;
 - Encourage long-term planning activities, and multi-system, interagency approaches with collaborations from multiple stakeholders that build the long-term capacity of communities to address the food and agricultural problems of the communities, such as food policy councils and food planning associations; or
 - Develop new resources and strategies to help reduce food insecurity in the community and prevent food insecurity in the future by:
 - Developing creative food resources; Coordinating food services with park and recreation programs and other community based outlets to reduce barriers to access; or Creating nutrition education programs for at-risk populations to enhance food purchasing and food-preparation skills and to heighten awareness of the connection between diet and health.

Community Food Project Example



NOURISH (LIVEWELL) COLORADO'S COMMUNITY FOOD ADVOCATES: TO SUPPORT DOUBLE UP FOOD BUCKS COLORADO, ADVOCATES WILL WORK IN TARGET COMMUNITIES TO INCREASE SNAP PARTICIPANT ACCESS TO FRUITS AND VEGETABLES



Value Added Producer Grant (VAPG)

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/value-added-producer-grants>

- Administered by: USDA Rural Development
- Goals of the program: generate new products, create and expand marketing opportunities and increase producer income.
- Applications accepted until April 29, 2021.
- At least \$76M available.
 - First \$35M is part of the COVID relief package; these funds only require a 10% match and all can be in-kind.
 - Once those funds are gone, the remaining \$41M requires a 100% match.

Value Added Producer Grant (VAPG)

<https://www.rd.usda.gov/programs-services/value-added-producer-grants>

- Planning (\$75k) & Working Capital (\$250k)
 - Note that if you apply for working capital, you need a feasibility study completed by a 3rd party consultant.
- Eligibility: independent producers, agricultural producer groups, farmer- or rancher-cooperatives, and majority-controlled producer-based business ventures.
- Examples of working capital expenses:
 - Processing costs.
 - Marketing and advertising expenses.
 - Some inventory and salary expenses.

VAPG Resources

USDA Rural Development Western Slope Rep

PJ Howe

p.j.howe@usda.gov

USDA Rural Development Northeastern Rep

Cindy Chadwick

cindy.chadwick@usda.gov



VAPG Example





Grant writing: things to consider



Developing your idea: *before* you approach a funder

- Do you have a 'fundable' project?
 - Why is your idea important? Who will it benefit?
 - Gather background information...talk to people!
 - Do you have a business plan to back up your project?
 - *For Planning Grants, have you engaged a well-rounded set of partners (producers, buyers, community organizations)*
 - Are you the right person or the right organization with the right skills to do the project? Why?
 - Leading vs. collaborating vs. partnering



Developing your idea: *before* you approach a funder

- Network – find interested and appropriate partners
 - Funders don't just fund good ideas, they fund effective people and organizations – including those equipped to manage grants.
 - Can take years to develop relationships....you should be able to demonstrate you didn't build relationships just to submit grant application.
 - New focus on diversity, equity, inclusion and justice should be considered as you build the partners, collaborators and team for your project.

Developing your idea: *before* you approach a funder



Example:

Producers may have ideas to develop new markets, but not the Infrastructure, ability to manage grants or time to coordinate community partners.

Developing your idea: *before* you approach a funder



Opportunity for
Partnership!



Developing your idea: draw on good/successful examples from across the US



Local Food Systems Response to Covid
Building Better Beyond

[Resource Hub](#) [Consumer Food Insights](#) [Innovation Briefs](#) [Impact Assessments](#) [Webinar Series](#) [Partners](#) [About](#)

Innovation Briefs

Focusing on collecting and disseminating easily digestible ideas, best practices, and readily adoptable approaches to COVID adaptation, these 1-2 page briefs are designed to be easily shared by LRFS stakeholders to support timely innovation.



March 2021

State and Federal Policies
that Support Food Security
in the Age of the COVID-19
Pandemic



March 2021

Virtual Harvest
Celebrations

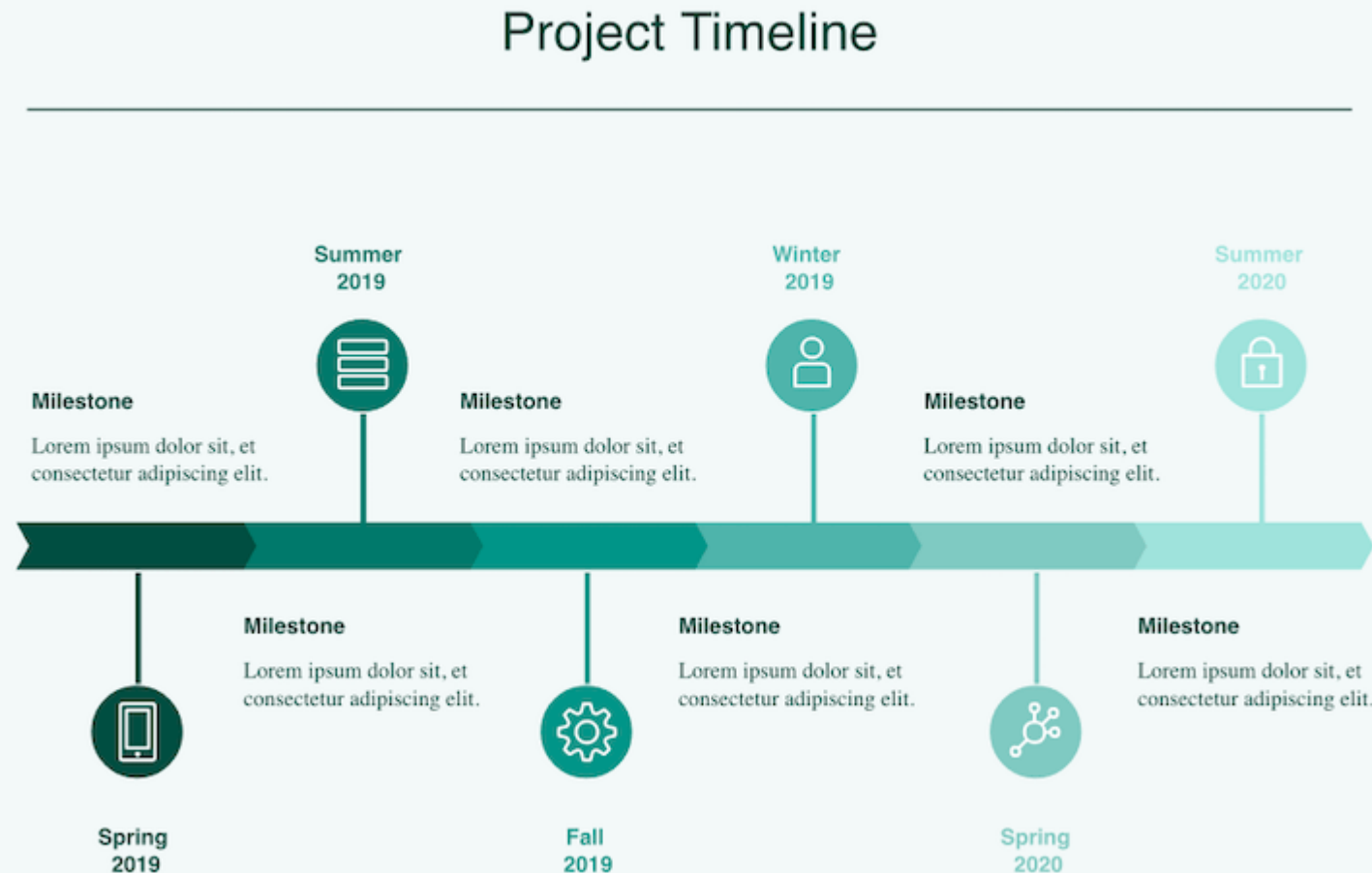


February 2021

Estimating Farmers Market
Visitors by Counting Mobile
Phone Pings

Timing Matters

- Timely Development
 - Back out
 - and
- The Narrative
 - Subcontractor compile
- Budget development
 - You may
 - Justification should be developed with care



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Finding the best opportunity for your project

- Do your research--look at how similar projects have been funded
 - Explore funder websites and read about ongoing/previously funded projects.
- Funding databases
<https://foodsystems.colostate.edu/educationa-l-impacts/grants/>
- Funder needs to be the right fit (geography, mission, funding level, etc.)
- Some grants are easier to write than others

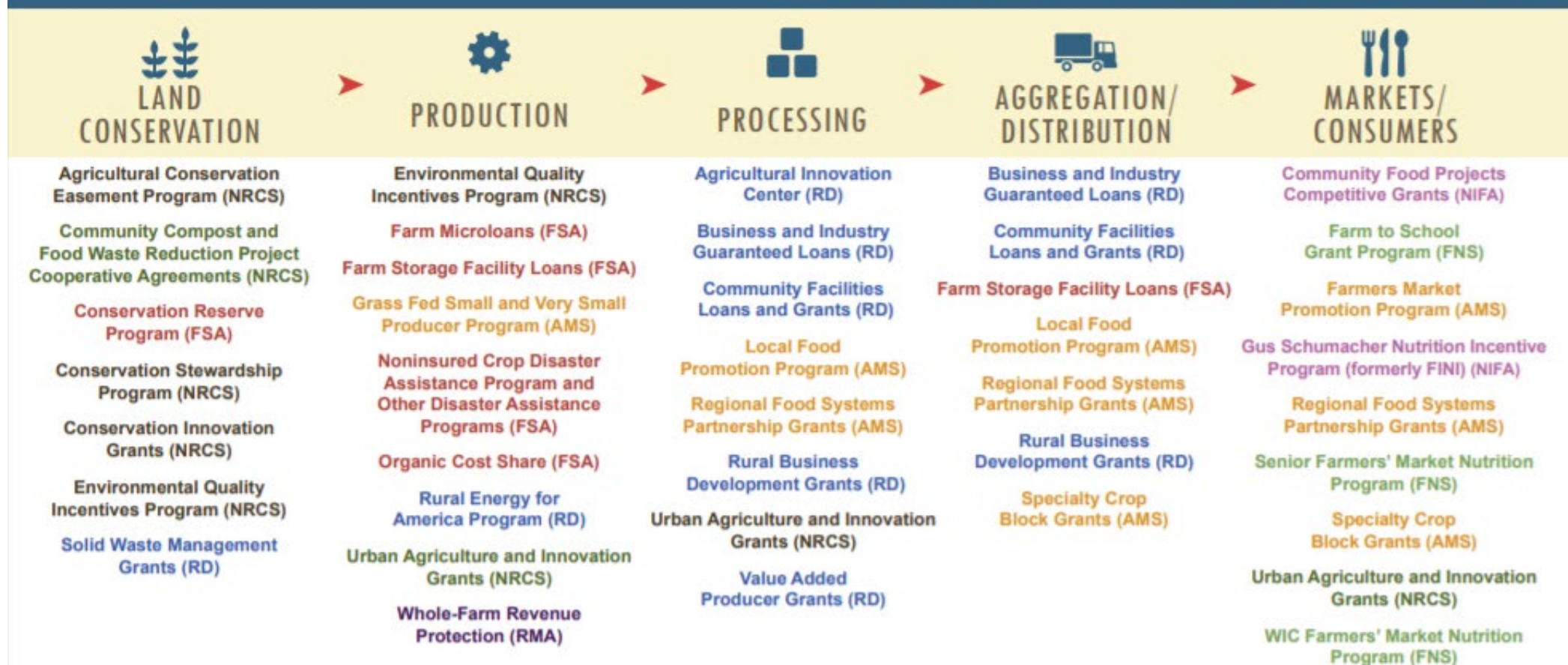




United States
Department of
Agriculture

USDA PROGRAMS IN THE LOCAL FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN

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		Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (NIFA)

Writing your proposal

- READ THE DIRECTIONS! Use the language that funders include in the call for proposals (not meant to be 'great' writing)
 - Be specific, be concise, answer EVERY question
- Components of *most* proposals:
 - Executive Summary/Abstract
 - Statement of Need/Project Justification
 - Literature Review or overview of past projects
 - Project Description
 - Goals, Objectives, Activities
 - Budget
 - Organizational Information/PI info
 - Letters of support/in-kind – if you say someone will do something or that there's a particular need, prove it!

Executive Summary/Abstract

- Introduction to project for un-initiated (know your audience)
 - Brief background
 - Summary of goals
 - Anticipated benefits – why is this important (using evidence!)
- Be sure to:
 - Be specific and concise (short sentences)
 - Read, edit, read, edit, repeat
- Avoid:
 - Broad statements or descriptions
 - Overly technical language
 - Grandiose statements (“We cannot overstate the importance of this work to...”)



Statement of Need / Justification

- Why should YOU be funded to do THIS project HERE and NOW?
 - What is the current state of knowledge?
 - Know the landscape – someone might be addressing one part of your project or have laid the groundwork
 - What has been done before?
 - What is currently being done?
 - Why is this work necessary?
 - Why is funding necessary?
- Play the “So What?” Game – who cares?
- Be specific, be concise
 - Avoid jargon
- Avoid justification that is irrelevant to what you are proposing to do

Example project summary



Evolving consumer interest in more localized and sustainable meat production is creating new market opportunities for meat producers, meat processors and other supply chain participants. ***Studies in Colorado and beyond have documented consumer willingness to pay for sustainability attributes and specialized production and handling methods***, but the skills and resources needed for producing and processing livestock, and selling meat products profitably into direct and intermediated market channels are difficult to access and adapt to different business models.

Leveraging NMPAN's work, this project will create resources and improve meat supply chain coordination in Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico by convening and supporting stakeholders and enhancing their education about market research, market channel profitability, and livestock production, handling and processing for differentiated markets. ***A portfolio of education and outreach activities will include: two regional meat conferences (modeled after the highly successful Carolina Meat Conference); an online meat school to prepare livestock producers for profitability in new markets; a benchmarking platform replicable in other areas; and consulting for meat producers and processors*** that will result in improved decision-making and sustainability for all stakeholders. Outcomes include new social capital building as validated by: ***1) social network analysis involving 400 stakeholders at two regional meat conferences; 2) producer skills acquisition documented annually through 25 rancher assessments; 3) online decision tool for financial benchmarking used by 100 producers over the project's three years; and 4) eight livestock producers (or producer-groups) and 4 meat processors who learn how to create value-added products for new markets.***

Project Description

- Structured Thinking
 - Goals
 - Desired outcome of project
 - What will change as a result of this project? (be realistic)
 - Objectives
 - Specific and measurable components of goals
 - Definitive- number and time
 - Activities
 - Components of objectives
 - Funder's \$ in action

Background Statement	Goals	Resources	Implementation and Activities	Outcomes and Impacts				Partners and marketing
				Beneficiaries	By end of grant	After the grant period	How will they be evaluated and measured	
What current problems exist - what is the project justification	What is your project going to accomplish? What are the goals and objectives?	What will be needed from other partners? Is your organization in possession of the resources and qualified individuals to complete goals?	Workplan/Scope of Work. Specific actions or programs that will be accomplished under the grant in a defined timeline, including who will participate and benefit.	This may be less defined. This may be people that you are marketing to such as general public. It may be farmers market vendors, it could be local producers.	Needs to measure specific changes and impacts such as additional jobs and sales, must be beyond meetings and marketing.	Can the project be replicated or be sustained? Can the project be extended or leveraged into bigger projects?	How and when will you measure and capture impacts of the programs and activities?	What partners might I need and how can I reach them? How will I reach participants and market my programs? Who will I communicate results to?
Lack of awareness of farmers markets by local population limits vendor sales	Increase awareness of local food outlets and increased sales by vendors.	Money for marketing campaign, design of common look, partners that can share through social media, marketing program design expertise	Marketing campaign for available sources of local produce and food products.	Outreach to general public, partners through social media. Encourage use of farmers market to increase vendor sales	Increased awareness of local food outlets, increased sales by local food vendors.	Increased longevity of work beyond grant period. Is the work or impact sustainable beyond grant period for long term food system impact.	Consider Multipliers: surveys of local food vendors to find out sales increases, how that translates into dollars into farmers pockets or increase jobs. How do cooking demos translate to sales?	Communication outreach needed to inform stakeholders, funders, other food system players.
Proven need for kitchen incubator and business resource center for farmers to get beyond CSA and farmers markets	Setup a kitchen Incubator and business resource space	Space to put the center	Get the site secured		10 farmers will have used the kitchen	More farmers use the center	evaluation of farmers/vendors	Groups that will help
		Ongoing staffing from University	Get the site renovated		2 will have developed products	Farmers expand past incubator kitchen and use co-processor		Farmers at farmers markets
Use credible sources, statistics and place-based situations when possible	Be specific, realistic and relate as closely to background and justification as possible	Internal people need to invest time? Provide resources to key partners? Materials and supplies germane to activity	Key scope of work is defined here. This should align with a timeline and set of budget items needed. Each should directly relate to a goal	Target audience could flow from background statement or goals. Be specific and use statistics on number of people if possible	Can you measure a change? Sales, jobs, income, customers, market channels, meals to food insecure, return customers, consistency of sales orders, price premia		Budget for evaluation step. What methods and data needed to evaluate progress to goals?	Be realistic. You likely cannot accomplish all work and evaluation internally. Broaden team or farm out some scope of work

Project Description



Example Objectives:

- **Meat Conference:** Establish and convene two Rocky Mountain meat conferences (2/2021 and 2/2023) that include at least 400 ranchers/producers, meat processors, and meat supply chain stakeholders to build measurable improvements in social capital, shared-values and understanding (including enhanced communication and new market opportunities for participants, and supply chain coordination).
- **Meat School:** Pilot online 'meat school' including a regional convening in three regions of Colorado with at least 25 participating ranchers/producers per year starting in fall of 2020. Conduct an evaluation showing that at least 60% of participants will make new or different market channel decisions or improve the profitability of an existing or new market channel.
- **Decision Tool:** Create an online pricing decision tool, integrating financial data from the USDA ARMS. The tool will be piloted in 2022 through a national webinar hosted by the Niche Meat Processing Network and utilized by at least 60 stakeholders by 3/2023.

Budget

- Read and follow directions (you can get disqualified if you don't!)
- Know organization's tendencies
 - Be realistic, but not bashful
 - Are you more likely to get funding if you ask for less \$?
 - Ask for what you need to accomplish the goals/objectives/activities
- Don't forget about:
 - Travel (mileage) & costs to present at conferences or share with other peers
 - Common to require stipends for advisors/mentors/producers for their time
 - Other appropriate dissemination (printing pamphlets, advertising, etc.)
 - Hiring support for database management, translation, etc.

Budget best practices

- Clearly match to goals & objectives outlined for project
- Align with project timeline & mgmt. plan
- Where possible, detailed estimates are important to show accountability

Budget outline

List activities that will be completed under your project, along with an estimated cost for each one.

Activity	Who	When in project timeline	What	How much it will cost
Ex. <i>Hold a networking meeting for farmers interested in selling to food hub.</i>	<i>Estimated 20 farmers + 4 people from project planning committee</i>	<i>Month 2 (Nov 2021)</i>	<i>1. Reception</i> <i>2. Handouts on pricing & food safety requirements</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Food (24 people at \$5/pp)</i> • <i>Building rental (\$50)</i> • <i>Copies (20 people * 10 copies each)</i>

About the Budget....

- Where you spend the money tells the review panel about your priorities
 - May also indicate how well you understand the realities of executing your project's objectives and scope of work
- Indirect costs may be allowable (& required if partnering with Universities)
 - Check policy/allowable rates in RFA

Rest of the Application

- Organizational/PI Info
 - What organization/individual should submit the proposal?
 - Bios – who will provide credibility (skills/reputation) to support project
- Letters of Support – 2 types - (drafting for those you are asking is a courtesy)
 - All partners will need to provide a letter outlining their roles/commitment
 - From community leaders/key stakeholders, but think about who will be most useful/relevant – 3-5 letters is a good goal.
- In-Kind
 - Many funders prefer not to fund 100% of project – having other support helps
- Management plan, timeline
 - Make sure these all make sense as a whole!

Timeline and management plan can make it clear that you understand how to accomplish scope. Also helps to move along process once it is funded.

PARTNERS: San Luis Valley Development Resources Group, The Trust for Public Land, Colorado Potato Administrative Committee, San Luis Valley Local Foods Coalition, Colorado Water Conservation Board, CSU Extension

Timeline and management plan can make it clear that you understand how to accomplish scope. Also helps to move along process once it is funded.

Pueblo	1.b. Provide technical assistance to continue Colorado Blueprint for Food and Ag conversation	Fall-Winter 2020	Thilmany, Hill, IRISS, Pueblo Food Task force
	1.c. Compile secondary data around topics identified in the first two focus areas with a particular focus on entrepreneurs, start-ups, and business-to-business linkages	Winter-Fall 2021	Weiler, Bauman, GRA 1, GRA 2, CSU Pueblo
	2.a.Utilize feedback from community discussions to develop community-specific entrepreneurship workshops	Winter-Summer 2021	Shrake, Sintas, Thilmany, CSU Pueblo
	2.b. Host interactive workshops (in-person or online) to develop entrepreneurial thinking and skillsets among local leaders	Spring-Fall 2021	Shrake, Sintas, Project manager, CSU Pueblo, SBDC
	2.c. Support new and existing ventures aligned with broader regional goals with targeted mentorship from business leaders	Summer-Winter 2021	Shrake, Sintas, Thilmany, recruited mentors, SBDC, Pueblo Food task force

Summary

- Define project *before* finding funder
- Read and follow directions
 - Avoid assumptions
- Be specific
- Define measurable goals, objectives, activities, timeline, and responsible individuals
- Avoid grandiose statements
- Play “so what?”

Think like a Reviewer. . .



Highlight narrative that directly connects to your RFP, priorities and objectives (these are scoring rubric categories)



Make the Scope of Work linear, directly embedded in project objectives and use budget narrative and letters to add detail that does not fit in page limits



Project Summary and first page of Narrative must be tight!

The Triple Bottom Line of Grant Writing and Project Management

People

Treating your team, students, partners and collaborators all as investments the grant is making will give you a richer set of outcomes and impacts

Publications/Programs

Outcomes are important, but read the RFP to see what variety, portfolio and quality of outcomes are expected

Acknowledge your funder!!

Professionalism

There is persistence in the grant and project world!

Funders will remember your performance..

Partners will remember your collegiality...



And Remember.....



GRANTITUDE

the state of being grateful for grants, grant makers, grant opportunities,
grant partners, grant teams, grant reviews, grant managers, and grant
professionals





FOOD SYSTEMS
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

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APPLYING FOR FOOD SYSTEMS GRANTS



Considering applying for a food system grant? Confused about which one is the best fit or what you need to be successful? CSU's food systems initiative can help! Please check out the resources we have available on this page to

FoodSystems.colostate.edu

CSU is offering support!

Educational Impacts > Grants

To get started, CSU is offering **"office hours"** to discuss your project and potential grant opportunities. Additionally, we've worked with partners to create worksheets to help you flesh out your ideas



DOWNLOAD

Grants Ideas 

Budget 

OFFICE HOURS:

April 20th @ 1pm with Becca.

April 26th from 4:30-6 pm with Dawn.

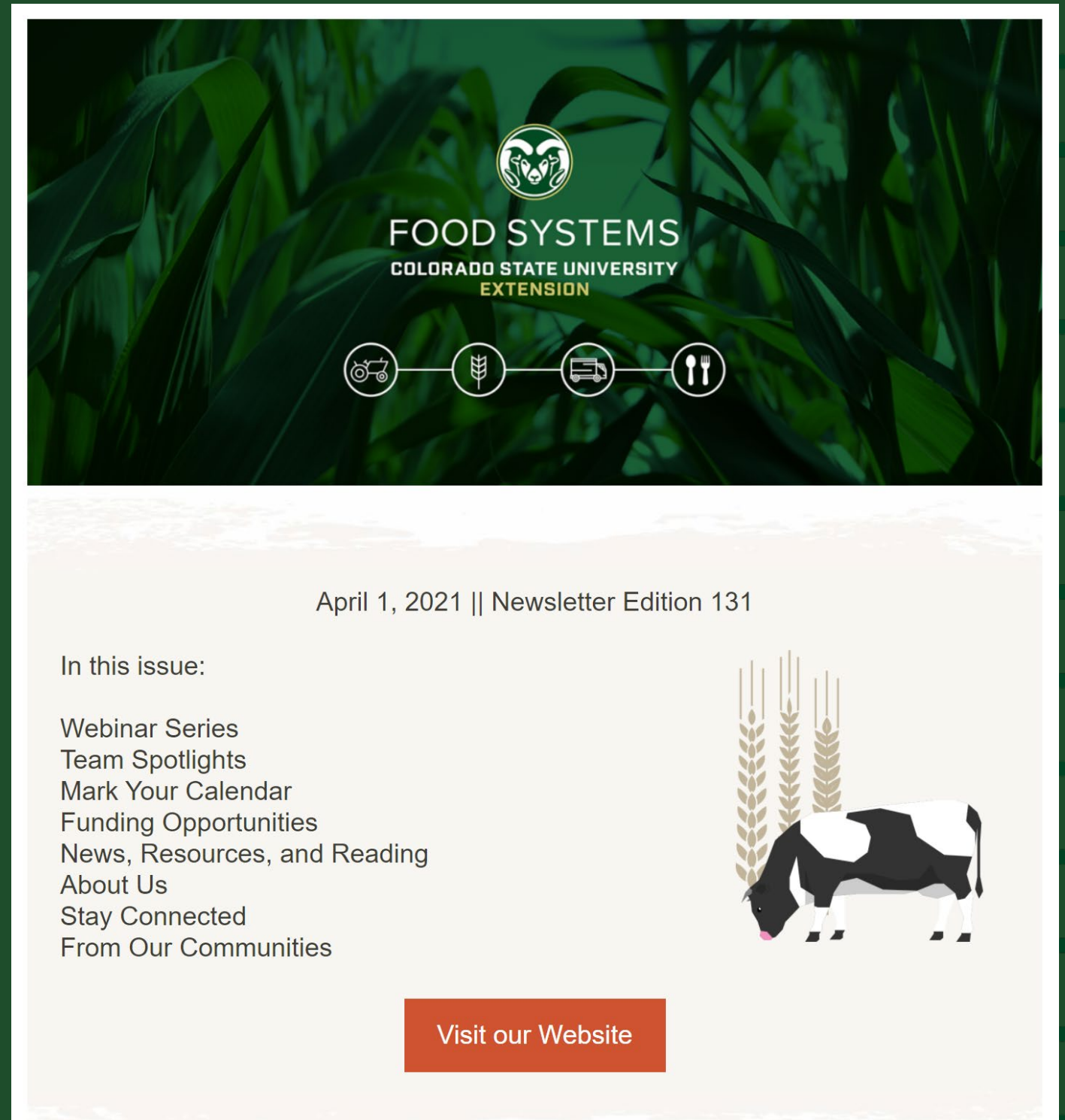
Please come with your worksheets completed.

[Sign Up For Office Hours Here !\[\]\(6a9b39b98eb945faa14c645ec99e4eaa_img.jpg\)](#)

FoodSystems.colostate.edu

And join our e-newsletter to
learn about grants when the
RFA is released!

FoodSystems.colostate.edu



Tools for Collaboration

- Give us feedback on how to support your grantwriting and inform USDA programs about how to refine their programs:
- http://colostate.az1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_5zKIbA4ROHRq1Vk
- Join the **#usdafederalgrants** Slack channel:
https://join.slack.com/share/zt-oqfv3qo2-lgdosMtE4Q_YQfaaSKEgSw
- Add your information to this Spreadsheet if you are interested in collaborating with other businesses/organizations and/or want people to know you're applying. This is a public document that will be shared with the CO food system community.
<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/11W3AX5cnBigBTuFzjqgwQP1P7dKNrT4H5zGfANgkylY/edit?usp=sharing>

Federal Grant Webinar Series

Framing and Developing Federal Food Systems Grants

Thanks for joining us!

Stories of Past Federal Food System Grant Applicants

Hear directly from other farmers and food systems organizations that have successfully applied for USDA funding in the past. They'll share what the process was like, what they learned, what they wish they had known, and recommendations for how to develop a successful project and application.

Presenters: Katie Slota with Native Hill - VAPG, Kaibab Sauvage with Sauvage Spectrum - VAPG, Anna Schott with GoFarm - LFPP and FMPP, Nanna Meyer with CU Colo Springs - LFPP

Thursday April 15, 2021 @ 1pm MDT

Register here: <https://bit.ly/3dg9Aui>

How To Improve Colorado and Federal Grant Processes

This webinar is a community discussion about what works and what doesn't work about the current state and federal grant processes. The particular focus is how this process can be more inclusive to disadvantaged farmers and organizations and what we can all do to improve the process (i.e. give feedback, create stronger collaborations, get more farmers on review committees, etc.). Feedback will be provided to state decision-makers immediately to help guide and inform additional COVID-response grant programs. Here is your chance to give feedback on how investments could best support your farm, business, organization, and/or community to improve farm/business viability, advance new opportunities, and address food insecurity.

Wednesday April 28 @ 3pm MDT

Register here: <https://bit.ly/2R8le2T>