

WISCONSIN LOCAL FOOD PURCHASE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The purpose of the WI LFPA program is to strengthen food and agricultural supply chain resiliency, support Wisconsin farmers, and distribute fresh nutritious foods to underserved communities.

- 1 Support local producers and processors** by building and expanding economic opportunities.
- 2 Broaden and strengthen partnerships** with local producers and processors with food distribution partners and local food networks to ensure distribution of fresh and nutritious foods in underserved communities.

The goal is for 80% of products to be sourced from socially disadvantaged and historically underserved producers as defined by the USDA.

The Wisconsin Food Hub Cooperative partners to manage logistics from farm-to-food access programs.

i **Food programs interested** in receiving WI LFPA products can contact: katie.kracht@wisconsin.gov, WI LFPA Program coordinator

“ **Participating in the LFPA program has been huge.** It's been a huge benefit to us to step up and have more consistency — working with a contract and knowing that we have consistent sales and avenues for the product.”
— Ryan Sullivan, Sullivan Family Farm



IT'S EASY TO JOIN!

i Visit wilocalfood.org to sign up and get involved. Together, we can empower communities and build a brighter future with resilient and sustainable food systems!

WFU MEMBER BENEFITS

Participating farmers receive a Wisconsin Farmer Union (WFU) membership. WFU is a member-driven organization, committed to enhancing the quality of life for family farmers, rural communities, and all people through educational opportunities, cooperative endeavors, and civic engagement.

i For more information, visit wisconsinfarmersunion.com/benefits.



WISCONSIN LOCAL FOOD

Purchase Assistance Program

The Wisconsin Local Food Purchase Assistance (WI LFPA) Program is made possible by the United States Department of Agriculture's LFPA Cooperative Agreement with Wisconsin. The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) partners with the Marbledseed, the Wisconsin Farmers Union (WFU), and the Wisconsin Food Hub Cooperative (WFHC) to create and implement the WI LFPA program.



TWO WI LFPA GRANTS will be available beginning October 12, 2023.

Farmers can participate in both WI LFPA grants.

To attend an informational Webinar on October 20, 2023, at 11:00am **scan the QR code to register** ▶



DIRECT-TO-FARMERS GRANT PROGRAM: ADMINISTERED BY MARBLESEED

Grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$25,000 will be available for Wisconsin farm businesses. Contracts will include price agreements for pre-season projected products, pre-season payment schedules, product quality, as well as procurement and distribution procedures. Farmers selected to supply for the program benefit from WI LFPA educational programming will receive training and technical assistance, have access to community building and networking events, work with food system and hunger relief partners, and the opportunity to feed underserved communities. The ideal applicant has wholesale experience or is interested in expanding their business to reach farm-to-food access programs.



To be added to a mailing list to receive more information, contact: info@marbleseed.org.

OTHER WAYS TO BE INVOLVED

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS

Thanks to partnerships with local organizations in several communities, 147 farmers across Wisconsin were contracted suppliers for WI LFPA in 2023.

Marbleseed sub-contracts with organizations demonstrating relationships, representation, and connections with WI LFPA farmers, that also have the capacity and commitment to partner to accomplish educational, technical assistance, and networking program goals.



To provide farmer outreach, farmer education, community networking, interpretation services, or mentorships for scaling wholesale production and selling into farm-to-food access programs, contact: victoria.ostenso@marbleseed.org.

RESOURCE: WISCONSIN LOCAL FOOD DIRECTORY

The Wisconsin Local Food directory provides a way for farmers to connect with a growing network of food security programs and communities. Farmers can create a profile and list of their available food products. Food security programs and consumers can use the directory to find producers in their region.

Increase Food Security in Your Community: The directory works to increase farm-to-food access across the state by helping community organizations source high quality products from Wisconsin farmers.

Build Authentic Connections: Forge genuine connections with consumers who seek local, sustainable, and nutritious food. The directory showcases Wisconsin your farm's unique story, products, and values. Resilient local food systems rely on strong community connections, start building yours today!

Empower & Collaborate: Collaborate, share experiences, and learn from one another, fostering growth and resilience within the local food landscape.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS GRANT PROGRAM: ADMINISTERED BY DATCP

Projects ranging from \$30,000 to \$300,000 will be awarded through a competitive grant process. This is a one-time funding opportunity designed to implement projects that purchase Wisconsin-grown, raised, or minimally processed food and distribute it at no cost to underserved communities.



For more information, contact: katie.kracht@wisconsin.gov, WI LFPA Program coordinator

Scan the QR code to sign up to receive updates: ▶



WORK AS COMMUNITY LIAISON

The WI LFPA seeks individuals to work to network producers and partners in underserved communities. If you are a connector in your community, interested in supporting the WI LFPA, and are solution-focused, please contact Forrest Humphrey at fhumphrey@wisconsinfarmersunion.com

