

K-STATE
Research and Extension

Kansas Statewide Local Food Systems Virtual Town Hall

January 26, 2022

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Who We Are

Kansas Action for Children is a research and advocacy organization that advances lasting solutions to expand economic opportunity and well-being for every Kansan.

Access to nutritious food increases positive outcomes for Kansas kids, and this position focuses on understanding and promoting policy solutions that help families meet basic needs to support food security and nutrition.

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Agenda for today

- 5 minute presentations on current local food systems efforts by:
 - Kansas Action for Children
 - Kansas Appleseed
 - Network Kansas
 - KSU Urban Food Systems Certificate program
- Update on USDA Regional Food Systems Program grant submitted July 2021
- Brief announcements of upcoming relevant local food systems events- all partners
- Recording will be posted at: www.rrc.k-state.edu/localfoods/index.html

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Increasing Food Access in KS

Food assistance
The HOPE Act, passed in 2015 and 2016, added barriers and restrictions for people applying for and participating in SNAP (food assistance in Kansas) and administered by the Department for Children and Families (DCF). KAC and partner organizations are currently working to peel back two specific barriers:

- *Requiring that parents cooperate with child support
- *A modified ban on individuals with drug-related felony convictions

Food sales tax
KAC is working with the Governor's Office, partner organizations, and lawmakers to pass a bill to eliminate the state's sales tax on food by Kansas Day, Jan. 29. If it passes this session, it will likely be implemented in July 2022 or very early next year, giving grocers a chance to modify their systems for the change.

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Food Systems Work at KAC

Erin Melton
Food Security Policy Advisor
January 26, 2022

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Future Food Access Efforts

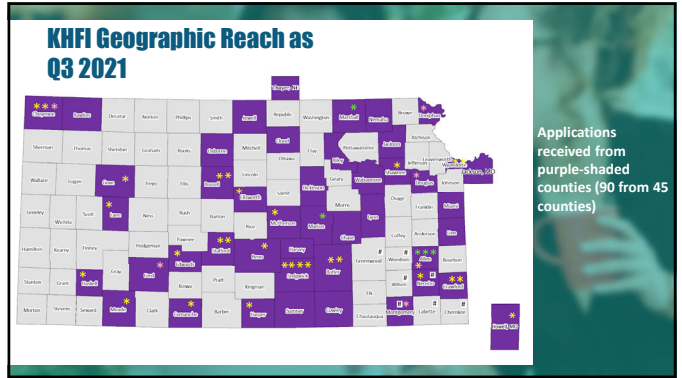
- Food deserts and rural food retail access
- Administrative advocacy to decrease burdens on food assistance applicants and participants
- Other HOPE Act restrictions
 - Broad-based categorical eligibility
 - Able-bodied without dependents (ABAWD) 3-month time limit waiver

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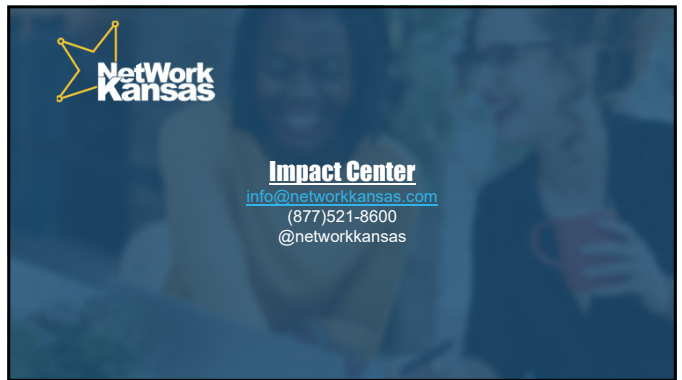
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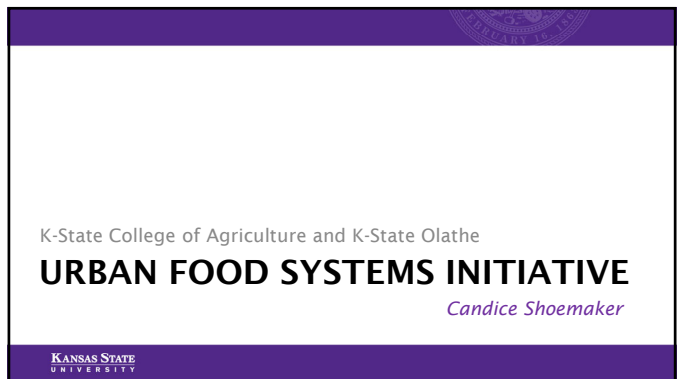
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Urban Food Systems

Background

- Started in 2011 with MS Program
- Now 6 core and 19 affiliated faculty
- Work across all 3 mission areas






GrowingGrowers
Kansas City

[Extension Food Safety](#)

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UFS Interdisciplinary Graduate Certificate


- 12 credit hours
- Current MS and PhD students
- Nondegree students
- Face-to-face and online

Elective Courses (6 credits):
Choose from

- Plant and Agricultural Sciences
 - AGRON, ENTOM, FDSCI, HORT, PLPTH
- Leadership and Management
 - AGCOM, AGE, CDPLN, DMP, ENTRP, LEAD, POLSC
- Sociology, Economics, Health
 - CDPLN, DMP, FDSCI, LAR, MPH, POLSC, SOCIO

Core Courses (6 credits):



- UFS 791 Urban Agriculture 2 cr
- UFS 794 Urban Food Systems 2 cr
- UFS 796 Professional Development in Urban Food Systems 1 cr
- UFS 798 Urban Food Systems Field Experience 1 cr





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KSRE Local Food Systems Team


- Current leadership: Londa Nwadike and Rebecca McMahon
- Sub-teams:
 - Community Engagement: Londa Nwadike
 - Economic Opportunity: Erica Blair
 - Internal Capacity Building: Rebecca McMahon
- Team website: www.rrc.k-state.edu/localfoods/index.html

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Questions?



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USDA Regional Food Systems Program grant

- Grant comments: could consider implementation funding since much ground-work has already taken place in Kansas
- Statewide scope good, but encouraged more involvement of local producers
- Desirability of full-time project leadership

- KSRE is discussing potential next steps
- ****Is anyone interested in being part of a small group to look closer at future grant opportunities to fund this type of work?**
 - Contact lnwadike@ksu.edu if interested




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Agenda for today

- 5 minute presentations on current local food systems efforts
- Update on USDA Regional Food Systems Program grant submitted July 2021
- **Brief announcements of upcoming relevant local food systems events- all partners**
- Wrap-up

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Contact Details

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Upcoming KSRE events

- KSRE/KDA Direct to Consumer Marketing webinars
 - Jan 31-Feb 4, 2022
 - www.fromthelandofkansas.com/page/farmers-market-regional-workshops
- Produce Safety-related trainings and resources available at: www.ksre.k-state.edu/foodsafety/produce/index.html
- Morel Mushroom ID certification training: March 16 or 17
- Numerous other local activities upcoming
- Farm to school survey will be coming out very soon!

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- Materials will be posted at: www.rrc.k-state.edu/localfoods/index.html
- Please fill out evaluation from today: https://kstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_0oXleIHrzm5v4

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