Kansas Statewide Local Food Systems Virtual Town Hall

January 26, 2022

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.nrc.k-state.edu/localfoods/index.html

Food Systems Work at KAC

Erin Melton
Food Security Policy Advisor
January 26, 2022

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 Kansas.

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.

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 take effect in July 2022. If it is vetoed, we’ll have another chance to make this change.

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

Increasing Food Access in KS

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

Access to nutritious food improves 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.
Thank You

Feel free to send further questions and comments to erin@kac.org.

Paige Olson
SEKS Thriving Advocate
Kansas Appleseed Center for Law and Justice
polson@kansasappleseed.org
www.KansasAppleseed.org

KANSAS APPLESEED
Justice for all.

Impact Center
info@networkkansas.com
@775-621-8600
@networkkansas

K-State College of Agriculture and K-State Olathe
URBAN FOOD SYSTEMS INITIATIVE
Candice Shoemaker

Kansas Healthy Food Initiative
www.kansashsfoodinitiative.org

NetWork Kansas Partner NetWork & Funding Programs
• Entrepreneurship (E) Communities
• Statewide Loan Funds
Urban Food Systems

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

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

Elective Courses (6 credits):
Choose from:
• Plant and Agricultural Sciences – AGRON, FORST, FDSCI, HORT, PPLYN
• Leadership and Management – AGCOM, AGEC, CDPLN, DMP, ENTR, LEAD, PLASC
• Sociology, Economics, Health – CDPLN, DMP, FDSCI, LAH, MPH, POLSC, SOCID

Questions?

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

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

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
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

Contact Details

Londa Nwadike, Extension Food Safety Specialist
Kansas State University/ University of Missouri
lnwadike@ksu.edu
913 307 7391

Erin Bishop, KSRE Double Up Food Bucks program coordinator
erbish@ksu.edu

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!