

## Food Box Aggregation Site Assessment

*Pilot Program:* Food Box will be delivered 1/week to work sites- starts in June for 12 weeks-

*Aggregator:* Farm to Table- Ellen Walsh Rosmann- Thursdays

*Aggregation Site:* Des Moines Social Club

*Work Sites:* Easter Seals and Principal

*Box Size:* 16" x 12" x 14" (LxWxH)

### Program Overview:



### Local Food Box Logistics:



### Producer Logistics:



### ***Next Step Logistics:***



#### **Next Steps: Name: Local Food Box**

**Delivery:** Delivered 1/week to work sites on Tuesdays

**Produce and Dairy Aggregator:** Farm to Table- Ellen Walsh Rosmann- Thursdays

**Produce and Meat Deliveries:** Direct from Farmers

**Aggregation Site:** Iowa Food Co-op until April 2016; Des Moines Arts Building (permanent)

**Aggregation of boxes:** Tony Thompson and Easter Seals volunteers

**Aggregation to worksites:** Tony Thompson

**Work Sites:** Easter Seals, Iowa Department of Public Health, Des Moines Social Club;

Principal (starting spring 2016)

**Box Size:** 16" x 12" x 14" (LxWxH)

#### **September- April::**

Since the interim report, the Local Food Box program has continued facilitating conversations with Des Moines Social Club, Iowa Food Co-op and the Des Moines Arts building.

After the pilot program, the Local Food Box will move to the Iowa Food Co-op and expand to 80 boxes for the winter season.

**Advantages:** the Iowa Food Co-op has space that can be shared and there are multiple producers that already aggregate product to this location. This will also allow the Local Food Box to have a mid-stage development prior to moving into a permanent location.

**Needs:** rent of the adjacent space for additional cold storage

**Aggregation method:** there will be continued partnership with Easter Seals to assist in aggregating product at the Iowa Food Co-op and Tony Thompson will be the program manager and facilitator with producers, aggregators and Des Moines businesses

#### **April-**

In April, the Local Food Box will move to a permanent location at the Des Moines Arts building on Keoway and 9<sup>th</sup> street in Des Moines. The space is currently being renovated and will be built to suit for the Local Food Box, including chilled, frozen, and dry storage. Following this transition, the box deliveries will go up to 140, with a goal to reach 500.

**Advantages:** the Des Moines Arts building will be built to suit and design is underway to create a space that is energy efficient and can allow for additional storage space to be rented or leased out to potential "aggregator nodes" for regional distribution in addition to the Local Food Box program.

**Needs:** configuration of space to allow for best use of space, energy efficiency, and ease of access for producers and aggregators. Additional design work is to be completed prior to 2016.

**Aggregation method:** an existing loading dock is on the west side of the building, producer and aggregator delivery will be through the dock- with carts to bring produce into the storage room. Easter Seals client programs will continue to partner with the project for aggregation. Tony Thompson will continue managing the program and the transition to the space.