Program Highlight:

Beginning Farmers

The Local Foods Program at Iowa State University Extension and Outreach supports Iowa’s new and beginning farmers through several programs, including:

- Northeast Iowa Food and Farm Network—a growing group of local food producers and allies in the northeast corner of the state that also draws participants from Minnesota. They meet to share ideas, skills, and challenges to help make their businesses more successful.

- Our Community Food Systems Program helped the Dominican Sisters create an incubator for disadvantaged beginning farmers at their Sinsinawa Mound Collaborative Farm near Dubuque.

- We work with the ISU College of Design on an on-going garden project at the Iowa Correctional Institute for Women in Mitchellville. Participating inmates raise food for their own meals and donate a portion to area food pantries.

- Through our partnership with Lutheran Services in Iowa, we support their Global Greens program, providing garden space, a farmers market, and an incubator farm system for refugees and immigrants in and around Des Moines.

- We provide on-going peer group facilitation, technical assistance, financial literacy workshops, program design, food hub support, and economic analysis of farm production and markets.

- Visit our website for more information and resources.

Local Foods Program

www.extension.iastate.edu/localfoods