Program Highlight:

Local Foods Partnerships

The Local Foods Program at Iowa State University Extension and Outreach convenes diverse partners engaged in local foods-related work statewide. Here are a few of the ways we facilitate local food systems work across Iowa:

- Iowa’s local food coordinators share best practices and help each other solve challenges as members of Iowa’s Regional Food Systems Working Group (RFSWG). Members meet quarterly in person and hold quarterly professional development webinars. Contact: Lynn Heuss, leheuss@iastate.edu.

- Food hubs aggregate and market products raised by local farmers to larger institutional buyers. Iowa’s food hub managers have formed the Food Hub Managers Working Group (FHMWG) to provide peer learning opportunities and support. Contact: Kayla Koether, koether@iastate.edu.

- A growing number of Extension and Outreach county staff are engaging in local foods work, and we support them with educational opportunities, free web-based and print resources, and one-on-one consultations. Contact: Caitlin Szymanski, szy@iastate.edu.

- Anyone interested in local food systems development is welcome to subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter called News BITES, featuring profiles, resources, and upcoming events of interest. Visit the website to sign up! Contact: Leigh Adcock, laadcock@iastate.edu.

Local Foods Program

www.extension.iastate.edu/localfoods