

Wisconsin Farm to School (F2S) and Farm to Early Care and Education (ECE) Statewide Information Sessions

April 25, 2024, 1:30-2:30 PM

Welcome and Introductions (10 minutes)

- In the Chat: Please share your name, email address (if comfortable), place of work, and position.
- Goals and guidelines for the calls
 - The goals for these meetings are as follows:
 - Share out projects from statewide partners
 - Be aware of overlapping work and efforts
 - Form connections and network opportunities
 - Share great work that is happening across Wisconsin
 - Meetings are scheduled for the fourth Thursday of each month from 1:30-2:30 PM.
 - To receive the recurring calendar invite, send an email to: subscribe-f2s-and-f2ece@lists.dpi.wi.gov. No message or subject is necessary.
 - The meeting agenda will be sent 1-week prior to the meeting. Access your recurring invite to join the meeting (a new invite will *not* be sent monthly).
 - In the future, there will be time for guest presenters to update the group on their work. If you would like to share updates about your work, please respond to the meeting agenda (that is sent one week prior to the meeting) to request time on the agenda. Time will be given on a first come, first serve basis.
 - No decisions will be made at these meetings; these calls are for information sharing **only**. Topics will include:
 - Open grants
 - Training opportunities
 - New resources
 - Upcoming events
 - Current projects
 - No collaborative planning should occur at these meetings; however, side workgroups may form offline.
 - No advocacy work is allowable at these meetings.
 - Promotion of products or sales may not occur during the meeting time.
 - DPI will send call invites, host the meeting platform, and post meeting notes to their webpage. DPI will not manage this network.
 - Meetings will not be recorded but a rotating notetaker (preassigned among the state agencies) will take notes and post a PDF to the DPI website, a maximum of one-week post-meeting.
 - Anyone with a vested interest in F2S/F2ECE is welcome at these meetings. We have tried to be as inclusive as possible by sharing these meetings throughout our channels. However, please share this meeting throughout your networks as well.

- Time for Q&A

Agency Updates (30 minutes)

- **Department of Public Instruction (DPI) F2S Team** - 5 minutes
 - Contact: DPIF2S@dpi.wi.gov
 - The DPI School Nutrition Team has hired three, full time F2S staff - Brittany Zerbe, Jeff Mallegni, and David Lee Schneider. These are considered project positions with funding secured until September 2026. These positions serve to help schools incorporate F2S activities including local foods into school breakfast and lunch programs, increase nutrition and agricultural education, and grow school gardens.
 - Plans for the next 3 years include:
 - Training: Produce Processing demos, school garden workshops, appear throughout the state at conferences. Feel free to request us to speak!
 - New resources: [In a Nutshell for Producers](#) with licensing requirements, [Crediting for School Nutrition Programs: A Resource for Producers](#) (information on school meal requirements and the documentation schools require for local purchasing), sample [F2S Staff Position Descriptions](#). Coming soon: template SOPs for receiving school garden produce and buying local, Hmong Toolkit, funding for F2S, sustainability for F2S, procurement, transitioning from the Local Food for Schools (LFS) program.
 - Increase local food events/celebrations: Expand [Cucumber Crunch](#), WI Local Food Day, F2S Challenge.
 - F2S promotional materials for schools
 - WI Local Food Database expansion
 - Conduct statewide F2S evaluation
 - F2S Summit - August 2025
 - F2S Podcast
- **DPI ECE Team** - 5 minutes
 - Contact: Dana Reedy (dana.reedy@dpi.wi.gov)
 - Busy conducting Administrative Reviews for the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP)
- **Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection (DATCP)** - 5 minutes
 - Contact: April Yancer, Farm to School and Institution Program Specialist: april.yancer@wisconsin.gov
 - Issued first DATCP F2S grant (currently closed)- [list of awardees](#)
 - DATCP and DPI partnership- [Marketplace Meetings](#). These meetings provide a venue where school nutrition professionals and Wisconsin food producers can build their networks and ask questions related to local food procurement. To register email April Yancer (april.yancer@wisconsin.gov).
 - [DATCP Home Farm to School & Institution Program \(wi.gov\)](#)
 - [DATCP Home Safe Wisconsin Produce](#)

- **Department of Health and Human Services (DHS) - 5 minutes**
 - Contact: Stef Bugasch Scopoline, Nutrition and Physical Activity Program Coordinator: stefanie.bugaschscopoline@dhs.wisconsin.gov.
 - DHS was awarded State Physical Activity and Nutrition (SPAN) funding. With this funding DHS will support the F2ECE workgroup- providing a backbone for meetings and will provide support to Rooted (Madison).
 - If you are interested in joining the Farm to ECE workgroup quarterly meetings, please email Stef (stefanie.bugaschscopoline@dhs.wisconsin.gov).
- **University of Wisconsin - Madison, Division of Extension - 5 minutes**
 - Contacts: Cathryn Herlihey, Farm to Institution Specialist (cherlihey@wisc.edu); Emily Latham, Health Communications Outreach Program Manager (emily.latham@wisc.edu), and Sarah Smith, Policy, Systems and Environmental Specialist for FoodWISE (sarah.smith@wisc.edu)
 - Extension staff support the [Great Apple Crunch](#) (in October) and the [WI Chili Lunch](#) (in February)
 - Working on a Specialty Crop Block Grant (Grains to Trays), a project that works on network building and resource development to increase grains and beans in the institutional environment. Will identify three specialty crops for WI Chili Lunch.
 - [FoodWise](#)- SNAP-ed funded; FoodWise educators work in schools throughout the state. Schools that qualify for FoodWise educators are schools that have at least 50% of students that qualify for free or reduced-price meals. FoodWise educators help students access healthy foods.
 - [Harvest of the Month \(HOM\)](#)- statewide campaign that encourages kids and families to eat more fruits and vegetables. Each month schools showcase one seasonal, Wisconsin-grown fruit or vegetable. Students taste, explore and learn about the importance of eating fruits and vegetables.
 - Working on a statewide outcome evaluation of HOM. An evaluation survey will be sent soon to those who have registered to access HOM materials in the past. Please complete the evaluation to share information about how you use HOM in schools.
 - HOM for the ECE setting coming soon! Waiting on the Spanish translation. Slated to become available in Fall 2024.
 - Hmong HOM coming soon! Hoping to have materials ready for 2025.
 - Harvest of the Moon 2.0 (second year)- available soon. [Harvest of the Month 1.0](#) is currently available.
 - New staff member: Marisa Dyer. Marisa is working with counties in northern Wisconsin to develop an Ojibwe version of Harvest of the Moon.
- **Kids Forward/healthTIDE: USDA School Food Transformation Grant- 5 minutes**
 - [USDA School Food Transformation Innovation grants](#) due April 30. Hoping for many Wisconsin awards!

- Round two of Spark awards available in 2025, round two of Innovation awards in 2026.
- Michigan, Illinois, and Indiana and Wisconsin all collaborating with the Lake Michigan school Food System Innovation Hub.
- This is a well-supported grant, intentional about the equity aspect. These grants focus on infrastructure- connecting kids to healthy food provided by local farmers.
- [Wisconsin Youth Conversations](#): healthTIDE and Kids Forward hosted four conversations with 30 thoughtful middle and high school Latino, Black, and Asian students from Milwaukee, Appleton, and Stevens Point during December 2023 and January 2024. The goal was to get their honest perspectives on healthy foods at home, in school, and in their neighborhoods. Summary and full report available at the link above.

Question and Answer on Agency Updates (20 minutes)

Upcoming Event: [Wisconsin School Garden Day](#)- May 16!

- Governor Evers' proclamation has been issued.
- View the website linked above for the activity guide. Any activity counts- big or small!
- [Open call about WI School Garden Day](#)- May 1. Join to share about what you are doing for WI School Garden Day.
- [Wisconsin Farm to ECE Survey](#): Due May 15 (also available in Spanish).

Next Meeting: May 23, 2024, 1:30-2:30 PM