



**KNOW YOUR FARMER
KNOW YOUR FOOD**

HOW DOES USDA SUPPORT LOCAL AND REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS?

In 2009, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) launched the Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food Initiative (KYF2) to better support the farmers, ranchers, food businesses and communities engaged in local and regional food systems. Through a variety of grants, loans, and other resources, USDA is helping connect farmers and consumers at the local level and supporting every step of the supply chain in between.

The KYF2 initiative is a Department-wide effort, channeling the strengths of USDA's seventeen agencies to revitalize rural economies, connect rural and urban communities, create jobs, and improve access to healthy food.

WHO DO WE HELP?

Whether you are a farmer looking to extend your growing season, a cooperative or entrepreneur building a food hub, a farmers market that wants to accept SNAP benefits, a school that needs cold storage to store locally procured meat, or a local government or nonprofit supporting these efforts, KYF2 can help you identify the right federal resources for the job. Our website provides a portal into USDA's many agencies and programs.

WHAT HAVE WE DONE?

Since KYF2 launched in 2009, USDA has invested more than \$800 million in local food systems, supporting more than 29,000 local food projects across the country. We've seen SNAP redemption at farmers markets rise from \$4 million in 2009 to over \$18 million by 2014. And between 2013-14 alone, USDA made over 500 investments in local food infrastructure, including processing facilities, cold storage, food hubs, and more. This is all part of USDA's commitment to strengthening local economies through agriculture.

Local and Regional Food Systems:



Create market opportunities for new and existing farmers and ranchers



Benefit the local economy



Connect consumers to agriculture



Provide healthy, affordable food to families



Bridge rural and urban communities

Interested in how USDA can help you? Start here!

The KYF2 Website: A One-Stop Shop for information

From a comprehensive list of USDA grant and loan opportunities to technical resources, the latest blog posts, and more, KYF2 is your portal into local food at USDA. Check it out at www.usda.gov/knowyourfarmer.

See USDA at work in your community on the KYF2 Compass Map

This interactive map shows USDA and other federal investments in local and regional food systems, searchable by zip code, keyword, or federal program. Check it out at <http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usdamedia?navid=kyf-compass-map>



United States Department of Agriculture