Local Food System Stakeholders for Community Engagement

Potential Stakeholders to include in Incubator Farm Community Engagement Activities

Agricultural Service Providers

- o Cooperative Extension / Advisory Board members
- Farm Service Agency staff / Advisory Board members
- o Master Gardeners
- Natural Resource Conservation Service
- Soil and Water Conservation District / Advisory Board members
- Non-profit Agricultural Service Providers

Elected Officials / Government Offices / Volunteer Commissions

- City Manager / County Manager
- State Legislators
- o Mayor
- County/City Commissioners or Council members
- o Planning Department / Planning Commission members
- o Tourism Department
- o Public Health Department
- Environment/Sustainability Office
- Workforce Development Office
- Parks and Recreation
- o Economic Development
- Procurement Departments

Service / Community Groups

- Chamber of Commerce
- Civic clubs (e.g. Rotary, Kiwanis)
- o Food Bank
- o Faith-based organizations
- o Farmworker advocates (e.g. Student Action for Farmworkers)
- Local Land Trust

Education Community

- Local High Schools (FFA)
- Community Colleges
 - w/agriculture education courses/curriculum
 - w/Small Business Centers
- Institutions of Higher Education

- Funders / Potential Funders
 - Community Foundations
 - o Farm credit agencies/Banks
 - o Local Philanthropic institutions

Local / Regional Farmers

- Existing farmers in the community**
- Participant farmers (those who will use the incubator farm space)**

Community of Health

- County Health Department
- Health practitioners
- o Hospital

Gardening Groups

- o Community Gardens
- o Gardeners
- o Garden Clubs
- FoodCorps

Local Food Groups

- o Farmers markets
- Food Hubs/Food Aggregators/Produce marketing groups
- Produce marketing cooperatives

Local Businesses

- o Banks
- o Chefs
- o Grocery stores
- o Hardware / Home Improvement Store
- o Planners/Architects/Landscape Architects

Media

- o Television / Radio stations
- Local Bloggers
- Newspapers

Individuals

 Include citizens from diverse ethnic and economic backgrounds and of diverse ages

Note: This is a list developed from stakeholders involved in successful local food projects including, and other than, incubator farms. It is not exhaustive. Base your list on the vision for your incubator farm project. Brainstorm other stakeholders with your Leadership Team.

 References: Peemoeller, L. (2011). Food Production/Agriculture. In S. Coyle (Ed.), Sustainable and Resilient Communities: A Comprehensive Action Plan for Towns, Cities and Regions (p. 269-294). Hoboken, NJ: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
Dunning, R., Creamer, N., Lelekacs, J.M., O'Sullivan, J., Thraves, T., & Wymore, T. (2012). Educator and institutional entrepreneur: Cooperative Extension and the building of localized food systems. Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development. Advance online publication: http://dx.doi.org/10.5304/jafscd.2012.031.008

This document was prepared by Joanna Massey Lelekacs with the Center for Environmental Farming Systems (<u>www.ncnewfarmers.org</u>) as a resource through the <u>Bringing New Farmers to the Table</u> project. This project is supported by the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture, grant number #2010-49400-21733. To find more resources for beginning farmers, please visit **www.Start2Farm.gov**.

United States Department of Agriculture National Institute of Food and Agriculture



bringing new farmers to the table www.ncnewfarmers.org