WHY FARM TO EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION?
Click here for a full list of Farm to Early Care and Education benefits.

FARM TO ECE:
The Michigan Farm to ECE Network was partially supported by a grant administered by the Association of State Public Health Nutritionists (ASPHN) and funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) from November 2020 to June 2023. Farm to Early Care and Education (ECE) is an innovative evidence-based approach that gives young children increased exposure and access to local produce, opportunities to learn about nutrition and agriculture, and hands-on learning through gardening. ECE refers to preschools, child care centers, family child care homes, Head Start, and more.

ASPHN acknowledges the CDC’s support of this work but note that CDC did not author nor endorse this resource. Further details can be found here:

Go NAPSACC helps providers create practices, policies and environments that instill lifelong health. Support statewide access to this evidence-based tool that benefits ECE providers.

IN THEIR OWN WORDS
“In my 28 years I have experienced good and bad programs. Farm to ECE and the procurement pilot grant program have been exceptional, and I sincerely appreciate the opportunity to have been offered to be part of the programs!”

— Michigan ECE Provider, Procurement Pilot Participant

THE MICHIGAN FARM TO ECE NETWORK HAS IMPACTED:

*estimated

**estimated

**estimated

Tools and Resources
CREATED a Michigan Farm to ECE Network WEBSITE, logo, resources, trainings, and a monthly Farm to ECE newsletter
DEVELOPED a Michigan GROW MORE AWARD to celebrate champions of Farm to ECE across Michigan
HOSTED ~CULTIVATE MICHIGAN MARKET-PLACE: GROWING CONNECTIONS IN EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION~ a series of virtual networking events for ECE providers and local food producers
HOSTED two RACIAL EQUITY TRAININGS and created ACTIONABLE EQUITY PLANS
USED Go NAPSACC assessment to determine that 95% of ECEs improved the quality of their children’s environments after participating in Farm to ECE

Learning Opportunities
PROVIDED TRAINING and SUPPORT for ECEs to apply or participate in 10 CENTS A MEAL FOR MICHIGAN’S KIDS & FARMS reimbursement program
OFFERED free online PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT for ECE educators, integrated into Michigan’s ECE professional registry
HOSTED two RACIAL EQUITY TRAININGS and created ACTIONABLE EQUITY PLANS

ASPHN’s Farm to Early Care and Education (ECE) Implementation Grant (FIG) Sowing the Seeds for Healthy Futures in MICHIGAN!

Why Farm to Early Care and Education?

According to the CDC, 1 IN 2 CHILDREN ages 1-5 do not eat a daily vegetable and 1 IN 3 CHILDREN ages 1-5 do not eat a daily fruit.

Farm to ECE INCREASES children’s consumption of fruits and vegetables by ONE DAILY SERVING.

Farm to ECE programs can INCREASE THE SUCCESS of Farm to School programs by DECREASING PLATE WASTE by as much as 66%.

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