



F2S STATE FORMULA GRANTS FOR FARM TO ECE

SPEAKERS:

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TODAY'S AGENDA



- Basics of SFG funding
- How to learn more in each state



- Details on proposing & using SFG from leads in MI, AL, and ND for Farm to ECE



- Q & A



STATE FORMULA GRANTS: PURPOSE

**Farm to School infrastructure =
supply chain resiliency (COVID-19)**

2 Goals:

1. Build and increase capacity of institutions to procure and use local food
2. Provide Ag Ed opportunities for participating children.



STATE FORMULA GRANTS: SCOPE

- Non-competitive, American Rescue Plan Act
- \$600k minimum with timeline 9/30/22–9/30/26
- Final amount based on 2019 NSLP enrollment
- Funding to partners is allowed

Activities may include:

1. Local procurement capacity building and coordination
2. Training and TA
3. Local food promotion and education activities for kids
4. Outreach to local producers or participating schools new to F2S (or Farm to ECE)



WHAT ABOUT SFG FUNDING FARM TO ECE IN CACFP SITES?

F2S State Formula Grant (SFG) recipients may use funds for allowable activities supporting CACFP.

1. Align with SFG objectives to build and increase the capacity of participating institutions to procure and use local foods in program meals.
2. Provide Ag Ed opportunities for participating children.

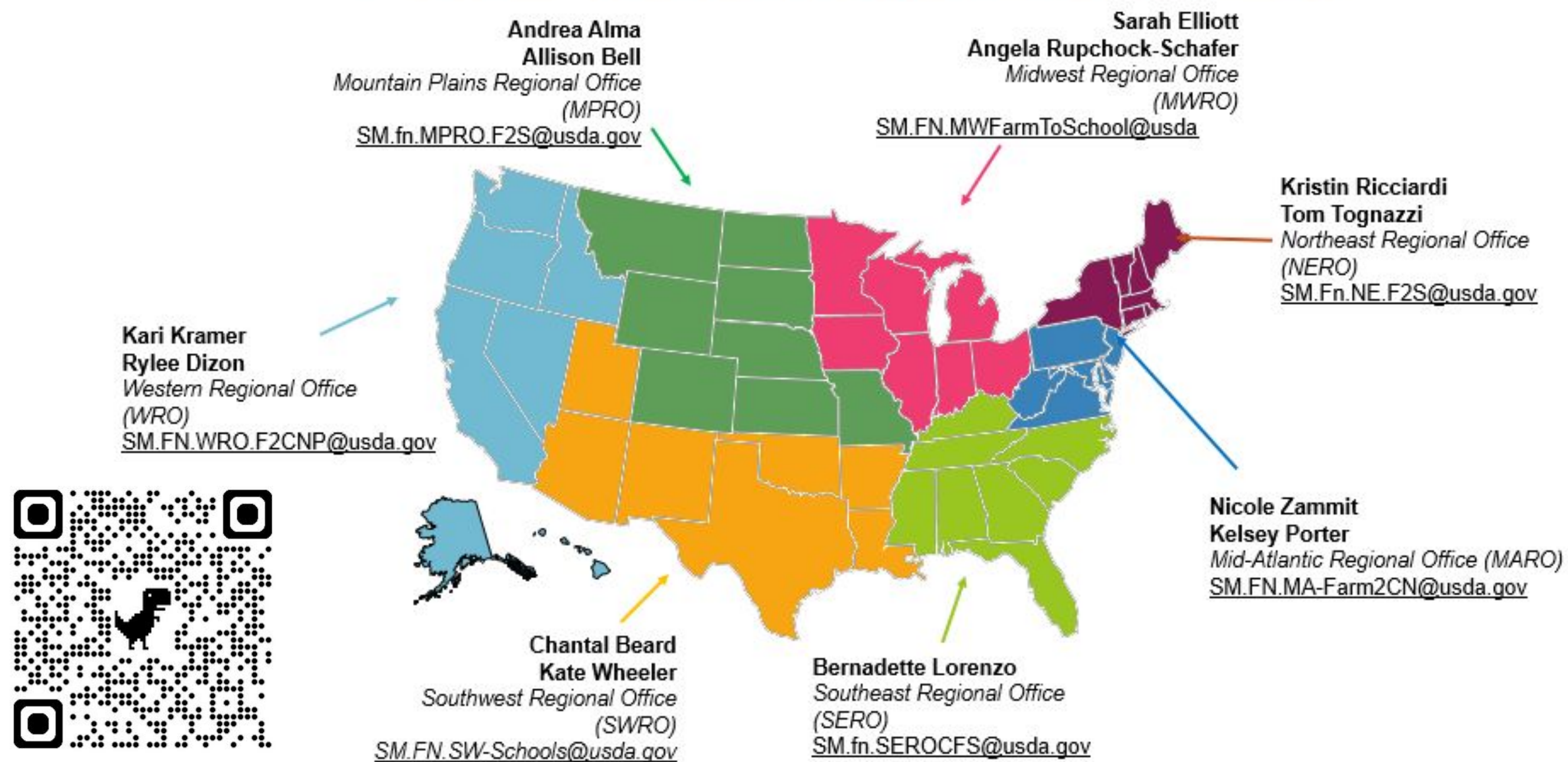
If SFG recipient agency $\neq$ CACFP agency, then may enter an arrangement CACFP agency, such as a MOU or a subgrant.



WANT TO KNOW MORE?

CONTACT USDA F2S SPECIALISTS

Farm to School Regional Specialists



TODAY'S SPEAKERS



**Cheyenne Liberti,
Michigan
Department of
Education**



**Devin Williamson,
Alabama State
Department of
Education**



**Amanda Olson,
North Dakota
Department of
Public Instruction**

Michigan's Farm to ECE Context

- 10 Cents a Meal for Michigan's Kids and Farms
- Child and Adult Care Food Program
 - MDE - administrator
 - LARA
 - MDARD
 - MILEAP





Formula Grant Budget Narrative

- “Child Nutrition Programs”
- “Participating institutions and children”
- “...assess the growth of participation among non-school sponsors as well as harder to reach rural areas.”

MDE Farm to Program Team



Staff Activities

- Michigan Farm to ECE Network (led by National Kidney Foundation of MI)
- Supplier outreach
- Grant technical assistance
- Institute planning



Budget Amendment: Food Transportation

- Pay fees for a supplier to add a delivery route
- Pay wages and mileage costs for your staff to transport food
- Pay fees for a supplier to deliver to multiple buildings
- Pay fees for a supplier to deliver food to a pick-up point that you share with another CNP sponsor.



Overview of Alabama's Farm to School Formula Grant



Devin Williamson
Registered Dietitian
ALSDE Child Nutrition Programs
School Programs Staff



Background



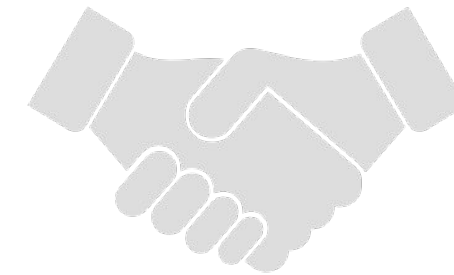
Original Grant Plan:

Hire two nutritionists and one culinary specialist

Farmer Meet and Greet

Alabama's Junior Chef Competition

Farm to School Materials



Main Grant Barrier:

Hiring difficulties



Pivots

I was originally working under Alabama's Team Nutrition Training Grant

Began my role on this grant in late 2023, early 2024

- 50% FFVP Coordinator
- 50% State Formula Grant Coordinator

New Plan

- Began to create a rough draft revision to make up for funds due to hiring difficulties
- Began to identify Farm to School needs for Alabama school districts
 - Promotion of local products
 - Culinary training for cooking and utilizing local products
 - Sub-grants to support culinary efforts



Grant Revisions

- We keep a running list of adjustments that need to be made to the budget, we have submitted one revision and will be submitting another one soon
- Wrote an RFP for contract culinary services
- Chef Ann Foundation won the bid!
 - 10 schools will be selected 24 recipes developed for Alabama using Alabama Harvest of the Month items
 - Taste testings with students
 - Culinary trainings for cafeterias
- We designated a retired state employee as our ECE Farm to School Specialist



Other Grant Projects

Farm to School Meet and Greets



Other Grant Projects

Alabama's Junior Chef Competition



Other Grant Projects

Alabama's Junior Chef Competition



1st Place

Haleyville City Schools
Korean BBQ Chicken Sandwich



2nd Place

Dekalb County Schools
Meatless Monday
Southwest BBQ Nachos



3rd Place

Fort Payne City Schools
Sweet Chili Chicken Noodle Bowl



NORTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Amanda Olson

Child Nutrition and Food Distribution

Farm to Child Nutrition

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Farm to School Formula Grant Funding



We are the primary agency that applied for the funds. We also oversee CACFP, NSLP, and other federal and state nutritional programs.



Key relationships with NDSU Extension, ND Dept. of Agriculture, ND Health and Human Services, non-profit organizations, producer groups, community groups, and more.



These groups have often committed to the cause with extra funding, support, and enthusiasm for Farm to School and ECE.

Formula Grant

- Childcare facilities are key to the application's scope. The ND State Formula grant pays for my position coordinating the Farm to Child Nutrition Program (schools and ECEs).
- Indirect costs, pros and cons.
 - Fiscal department is excellent at managing the funds.
 - Indirect costs account for roughly 20% of total grant funds.

PROJECT SCOPE: Enter a brief description of how the State agency will use the funds to address the objectives mentioned above and the metrics the State will use to evaluate progress.

Hire Farm to Child Nutrition Programs Coordinator to complete the following

- Local food procurement capacity building and coordination (such as value chain coordination, grower/buyer matching tools, etc.);
- Training and technical assistance for local producers and program operators.
- Local food promotional and educational activities for participating institutions and children (such as Harvest of the Month promotions or “crunches”); and
- Outreach to local producers or participating institutions not engaged in farm to school.
- Continue to coordinate the ND Harvest of the Month Project
- Coordinate Farm to Child Nutrition activities with other State and Local Agencies
- Provide Training and Technical Assistance to Schools, Child Care facilities and Local Producers.



Success in Farm to School!

Now, we are shifting more focus Farm to ECE capacity building, resources, and opportunities to expand.



Farm to ECE Future in North Dakota

- The North Dakota Early Care and Education Coalition (NDDPI, NDSU Extension, ND Dept. of Agriculture, NDHHS, and local public health) was established by applying to be in FARMWISE.
- Expanded Harvest of the Month posters and characters to CACFP sites. But any childcare can access these online.
- Team Nutrition Grant, recipe building with using local food. Partner in this initiative.
- LFSCC (fingers crossed).
- Mini garden grant-NDECE coalition.
- Farm to School & ECE equipment grants through ND Dept. of Agriculture.
- Enhancing my portion of CACFP training. Ideas: Microgreens, gardening, farmers market visits, culinary skills building.
- Resources, manuals, and ND materials.
- Spreading the word through presentations, conferences, trainings, and media.



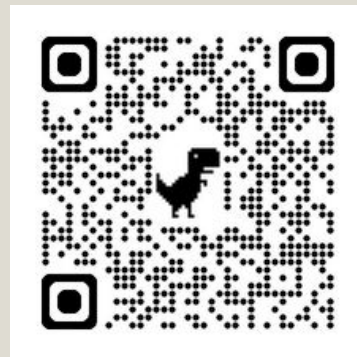
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UP AHEAD:

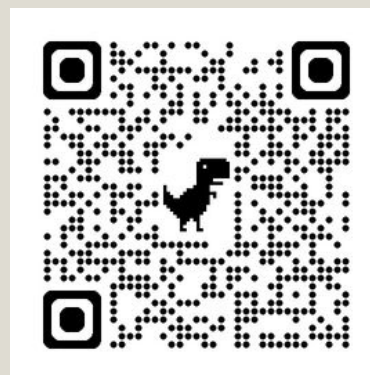
March 11th and April 8th FARMWISE Networking
Calls; 2-3pm ET



March 27th Webinar: Farm to ECE Local Procurement
Strategies & Problem Solving, 2-3pm ET



May 6th-8th Online FARMWISE Institute
at 2-4pm ET. More details to come.



THANK YOU



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