

# LOCAL FOODS, LOCAL PLACES: REVITALIZING COMMUNITIES BY GROWING LOCAL FOOD ECONOMIES

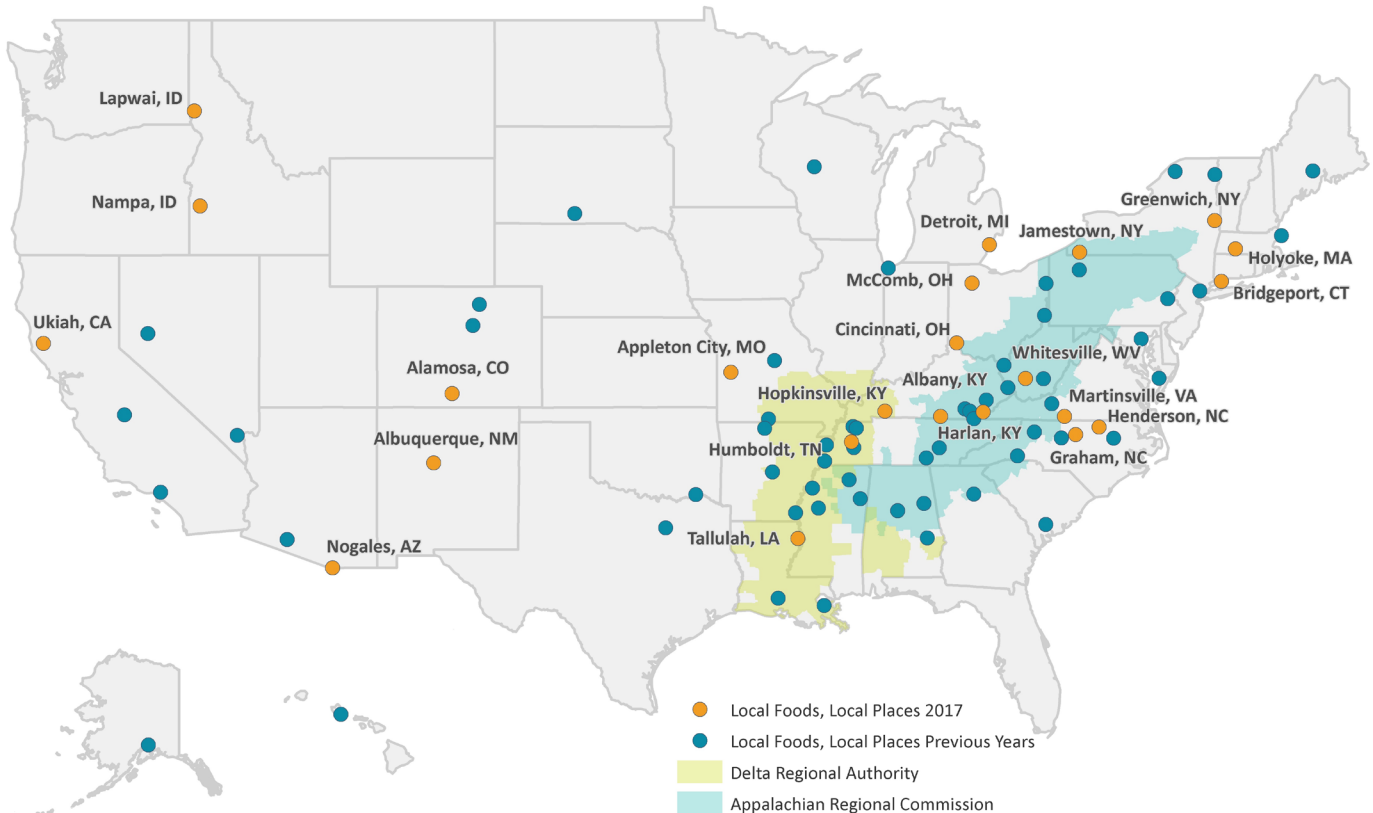
2017 PARTNER COMMUNITIES

MAY 2018 UPDATE

**Local Foods, Local Places**, established in 2014, helps cities and towns across the country protect the environment and human health by engaging with local partners to reinvest in existing neighborhoods using local food enterprise. Seven federal agencies—the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, the U.S. Department of Transportation, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Appalachian Regional Commission, and the Delta Regional Authority—selected 24 communities to participate in **Local Foods, Local Places** in 2017. In each partner community, a team of experts helped community members set goals and plan projects that can boost local economies and drive downtown and neighborhood revitalization. Projects included farmers markets, local food cooperatives, community gardens, and other food-related enterprises. By promoting better health, a cleaner environment, and stronger economies, **Local Foods, Local Places** also supports efforts to alleviate poverty and boost wellness among children. In 2017, federal partners invested \$810,000 in **Local Foods, Local Places**.



## Local Foods, Local Places 2017



Local Foods, Local Places helps communities create walkable, healthy, economically vibrant neighborhoods through the development of local food systems.

Sources: *Local Foods, Local Places*  
U.S. Census Bureau



## Arizona

Mariposa Community Health Center in **Nogales, Arizona**, planned how to expand opportunities for agricultural entrepreneurs and promote physical activity and healthy eating by increasing community involvement in and walking and biking access to the Nogales Mercado Farmers Market and planned community kitchen downtown.

## California

North Coast Opportunities in **Ukiah, California**, created a plan to better support local food production; grow local food processing capacity; and coordinate local food initiatives with projects to encourage walking, biking, and new relationships among diverse communities.

## Colorado

The Local Foods Coalition in **Alamosa, Colorado**, sought to better connect the downtown with a nearby weekly farmers market and create cultural and local food events to draw people to the area.

## Connecticut

The Food Policy Council and the Farmers Market Collaborative in **Bridgeport, Connecticut**, developed a plan to enhance the branding, programming, and marketing for the downtown farmers market to better serve low-income residents, take advantage of its central location, and complement other efforts to attract economic activity and nurture entrepreneurship.

## Idaho

The Nez Perce Tribe in **Lapwai, Idaho**, received technical assistance to use its traditional food culture as a tool for community revitalization and reconnecting youth with elders through innovative intergenerational programs.

**Nampa, Idaho**, aimed to improve low-income residents' health by increasing access to healthy food in the North Central Nampa neighborhood and strengthening existing community partnerships.

## Kentucky

The Clinton County Cooperative Extension Service in **Albany, Kentucky**, sought community input on a plan to create a new downtown farmers market that will let families living in downtown buy local produce within walking distance of their homes.



*The Healthy Harvest Mobile Market makes stops in the South Cumminsville neighborhood of Cincinnati, Ohio, to bring fresh food to neighborhood residents.*



*In Holyoke, Massachusetts, foodWorks offers unemployed and underemployed individuals job and skills training in the culinary field.*



The Mountain Comprehensive Health Corporation in **Harlan, Kentucky**, received technical assistance to create a farmers market downtown, create a “prescription veggies” program, revitalize the downtown through integrating art and food, and use agriculture to improve health and support economic opportunity for residents.

Christian County-Hopkinsville Development Corporation in **Hopkinsville, Kentucky**, created a plan to expand its downtown farmers market using new partnerships to train more vendors in marketing and other business-related areas. This technical assistance built on ongoing work to reuse abandoned properties, support property maintenance, restore downtown parks to bring more people downtown, offer additional healthy food options, and create new spaces for people to eat and socialize.



*Downtown businesses in Greenwich, New York, would benefit from the community's vision of the village as the regional center for agritourism.*

## **Louisiana**

The Louisiana State University Agricultural Center in **Tallulah, Louisiana**, received assistance to help connect ongoing community efforts around physical fitness, access to healthy food, and downtown revitalization.

## **Massachusetts**

Nuestras Raices, Inc., in **Holyoke, Massachusetts**, developed a plan to grow the city’s food economy; increase access to healthy food; and integrate food production, food businesses, and food culture into the city’s revitalization efforts.

## **Michigan**

Detroit Public Schools Office of Nutrition in **Detroit, Michigan**, furthered plans to use 7 acres of available land as an outdoor learning and community space for the Barton-McFarlane neighborhood. The new site will promote healthy eating and active living while celebrating local food as a catalyst for neighborhood revitalization.

The West Central Community Action Agency in **Appleton City, Missouri**, received technical assistance to refine the concept for the planned Food and Agriculture Regional Enterprise (FARE) Center, a hub for food enterprises that could be located in a vacant building on the main business corridor.

## **New Mexico**

The Downtown Albuquerque Main Street Initiative in **Albuquerque, New Mexico**, created a plan to transform a vacant building in a struggling part of downtown into a community kitchen and local food hub to provide vocational opportunities for local farmers and food entrepreneurs, improve nutrition and food access for residents, and help attract investment to the area.



## New York

The Village of **Greenwich, New York**, received technical assistance to position the village as the regional agritourism hub, encourage entrepreneurs and organizations to fill vacant spaces downtown, and enhance the community's character by improving walkability, river access, arts and culture, and trails.

The Jamestown Renaissance Corporation in **Jamestown, New York**, created a plan to upgrade a city park with a new community garden, orchard, and mobile farmers market stop to help revitalize the neighborhood and increase access to low-cost, fresh food.

## North Carolina

The city Planning Department in **Graham, North Carolina**, received help to make downtown more walkable and thriving while increasing access to fresh, local food and improving health outcomes.

The Henderson-Vance Downtown Development Commission in **Henderson, North Carolina**, received technical assistance to develop a thriving community space on a downtown green; improve access to healthy, fresh food for downtown residents; and use food to help build community.

## Ohio

Working in Neighborhoods, a nonprofit in **Cincinnati, Ohio**, convened community partners, city staff, residents, and other stakeholders in the South Cumminsville neighborhood to improve access to fresh foods, create jobs in new food enterprises, redevelop underused brownfields in industrial areas, and improve local transportation options.

The McComb Economic Development Organization in **McComb, Ohio**, received technical assistance to support economic recovery in the downtown, building on the momentum from a recently completed grant that identified community values and increased participation in local decision-making. One possible project is a new farmers market that could dovetail with downtown redevelopment.

## Puerto Rico

**Coamo, Puerto Rico**, received technical assistance to convert an abandoned downtown building into a vibrant multiple-use facility to host a farmers market and cultural events. Reusing the site is a key component of downtown revitalization, Hurricane Maria recovery, and broader community plans to bolster its "food resiliency" against future hurricanes.



*Residents and stakeholders provided input into the design for a "Healthy Hub" in Martinsville, Virginia, that would bring together local food enterprises.*



*The Crews & Brodie Farm in Henderson, North Carolina, provides a source of fresh produce for neighborhood residents.*



## **Tennessee**

The Humboldt Chamber of Commerce in **Humboldt, Tennessee**, developed a plan to launch a farmers market near downtown; expand a community garden; leverage the benefits of local food projects; and develop a local food and health planning collective that engages and educates the community.

## **Virginia**

**Martinsville, Virginia**, received technical assistance to revitalize the Fayette neighborhood using local food enterprises in a beloved landmark building that has sat abandoned for years. The resulting action plan for a “Healthy Hub” in the building and surrounding property would combine uses such as a restaurant, a community kitchen to support food-related businesses, and community gardens while creating a walkable and safe neighborhood.

## **West Virginia**

The WV Community Development Hub in **Whitesville, West Virginia**, created a plan to increase food, hospitality, and tourism-related economic development opportunities while improving infrastructure and walkability to position the community for new economic growth following the decline of the coal industry.

For more information: <https://www.epa.gov/smartgrowth/local-foods-local-places>

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