

IOWA FOOD SYSTEM PLAN



SETTING THE TABLE

Iowa has world class soils, skilled farmers, and a vibrant table-food farm and business scene. Yet nearly 90% of the food Iowans eat is imported, resulting in valuable food dollars leaving our state every day and making us vulnerable to food supply chain disruptions. We also experience inequitable access to healthy food, diet related health issues, and declining rural communities. These dynamics are not sustainable, but neither are they inevitable.

With the Iowa Food System Plan, we envision a better way.

The Plan is the product of two years of work by more than 600 Iowans including farmers, government, universities, Extension, public health, food banks and pantries, public schools, and more,

Our Vision

The Food System Plan outlines an Iowa food system that cultivates health, justice, and sustainability for all people, communities, and the environment.



OUR TOP PRIORITIES INCLUDE:



Improving opportunities for land access for new and aspiring farmers to improve the success and longevity of food farmers.



Increasing farm and food business sustainability through targeted technical support, investment, and policy development



Establishing institutional buying of local foods to support farms and businesses and to bring better access to healthy food through schools, grocers, and more.



Securing and developing resources to support a local and regional food system as an essential part of Iowa agriculture.



Using policy change and food system innovation to build and sustain the health and wellbeing of Iowans.



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Photo credit: Rob Mattson/Noble Research Institute

A STATE WIDE PLAN...

- Stimulates imagination - What's possible?
- Supports stronger partnerships for systems change
- Informs policy makers of state and local priorities
- Organizes shared measurements for greater impact

COLLABORATION

The Iowa Food System Coalition supports The Plan and partners with regular communications, hosting meetings for strategic reporting and planning, and by highlighting important food and farming work throughout the state.



Photo credit: Practical Farmers of Iowa



Photo credit: Field to Family

GET INVOLVED!

The Iowa Food System Plan belongs to all of us! Connect your work with this statewide conversation and discover what can happen when we work together.

Get Connected! - Visit IowaFoodSystemCoalition.org



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COALITION