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| 1. **Workshops/Educational Opportunity for Food Entrepreneurs - short term**
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| **SITUATION:** Farmers, food entrepreneurs, food system advocates, and regulators in Minnesota have difficulty navigating complex food safety requirements and in state and local rules and regulations. Moreover, there is a disconnect in understanding around food safety practices and business innovations among these groups at the regional level.  |
| **Summary:** Hold workshops and trainings for food entrepreneurs with evolving curriculum based on agency and entrepreneur needs. |
| **Ask:** Funding is secured for workshop development. Regulatory experts, food entrepreneurs, and organizations representing food entrepreneurs commit to attending workshops; MDA/MDH and community organizations participate in planning and delivery of workshops. |
| **INPUTS** | **OUTPUTS** (Activities) | **OUTCOMES** |
|  | Knowledge | Actions | Conditions |
| Funding (travel expenses, curriculum development, advisory committee)Pilot fundingLeadership & Management ExpertiseDesign & Communications CapacityOutreach documents Organizations willing to participate or hostMDA/MDH involvement – leadership and food safety expertiseFood entrepreneurs’ experienceCurriculum DesignSpaces (virtual/in-person) to meetEvaluation design | Establishment of workshop leadership positionsCreate a board of directors/advisory committee that includes MDA/MDH staff, members from targeted community, and organizations representing food entrepreneursTraining of educators with curriculumPresentation of educational curriculum to food entrepreneursContinuing updating of training/curriculumConduct EvaluationsTargeted outreach to start-up food entrepreneurs | Increased food entrepreneur knowledge - including on issues of food safetyReduced confusion around requirements on the part of food entrepreneurs | Food inspectors field fewer points of confusion. | Decreased number of site visits to problem establishments for inspectors MDA/MDH/Delegated Agency staff are better able to identify common problem areas for food entrepreneurs |
| **ASSUMPTIONS:** Educational workshops will lead to effective food safety and licensing knowledge and implementation among farmers, food entrepreneurs, food system advocates, and regulators. | **EXTERNAL FACTORS:** The success of this project will depend on willingness of participants to engage by attending meetings and contributing during these meetings. Levels of fear around this topic will also affect project success. |