

1. Workshops/Educational Opportunity for Food Entrepreneurs - short term

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 funding Leadership & Management Expertise Design & Communications Capacity Outreach documents Organizations willing to participate or host MDA/MDH involvement – leadership and food safety expertise Food entrepreneurs’ experience Curriculum Design Spaces (virtual/in-person) to meet Evaluation design	Establishment of workshop leadership positions Create a board of directors/advisory committee that includes MDA/MDH staff, members from targeted community, and organizations representing food entrepreneurs Training of educators with curriculum Presentation of educational curriculum to food entrepreneurs Continuing updating of training/curriculum Conduct Evaluations Targeted outreach to start-up food entrepreneurs	Increased food entrepreneur knowledge - including on issues of food safety Reduced 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.			