**Joint Educational & Problem-Solving Forums 2x per year in 8 locations in MN**

**Summary:** MDA/MDH/Delegated staff and food entrepreneurs located in 8 regions of Minnesota hold in-person meetings twice per year to share information, work out food safety solutions, and build relationships within the region.

**ASK for MDA** – Facilitate meeting attendance by food inspectors operating in the regions; facilitate attendance by state-level meat inspections staff.

**ASK for MDH** – Open the FSP meeting structure to this regional in-person meeting 2x/year; facilitate regional meeting attendance by MDH staff based in the region.

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| INPUTS | OUTPUTS (Activities) | OUTCOMES |
| Funding to support travel, honoraria, food, etc.  MDA/MDH/Delegated Authority leadership support for attendance by staff within the regions  Commitment from MDA/MDH/Delegated Authority staff with regions to attend  MDH Food Safety Partnership existing meeting infrastructure opened to this forum 2x/year  MDH’s 8 regional offices opened to this forum 2x/year  CEUs ??  Meeting coordination/facilitation team managed by Renewing the Countryside  Sustainable ag & local food organizations, trade associations willing to assist with outreach communications, logistics, hosting (MISA, MFMA, SFA)  Food entrepreneurs committed to attending | Targeted outreach to food entrepreneurs to encourage attendance  Targeted outreach to regional MDA/MDH/Delegated staff to encourage (require) attendance  Development of food entrepreneur case studies within regions  Development or compiling of resource documents based on feedback from the regional meetings  Ongoing revision of meeting design/content based on evaluation & feedback by attendees  Meeting agendas may include:  \* Presentations by food entrepreneurs about their businesses (case studies)  \* Panel discussions  \* Q & A from the field  \* Informal networking & discussion time  \* Presentations by regional regulators re: food safety issues and best practices  \* Problem-solving around licensing or food safety issues | Increased food entrepreneur knowledge  and inspector knowledge including  on issues of food safety and business practices  Increased MDA/MDH/Delegated inspector and staff knowledge of food entrepreneur questions/concerns  Better coordination/alignment among food  regulatory agencies within regions  Improved food entrepreneur  perception/trust of MDA/MDH/Delegated  intentions  Improved MDA/MDH/Delegated perception of food entrepreneur willingness to comply with food safety provisions  Increased food entrepreneur knowledge and reduced confusion around licensing and food safety  Increased efficiency for food inspectors  fielding fewer points of confusion |