

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

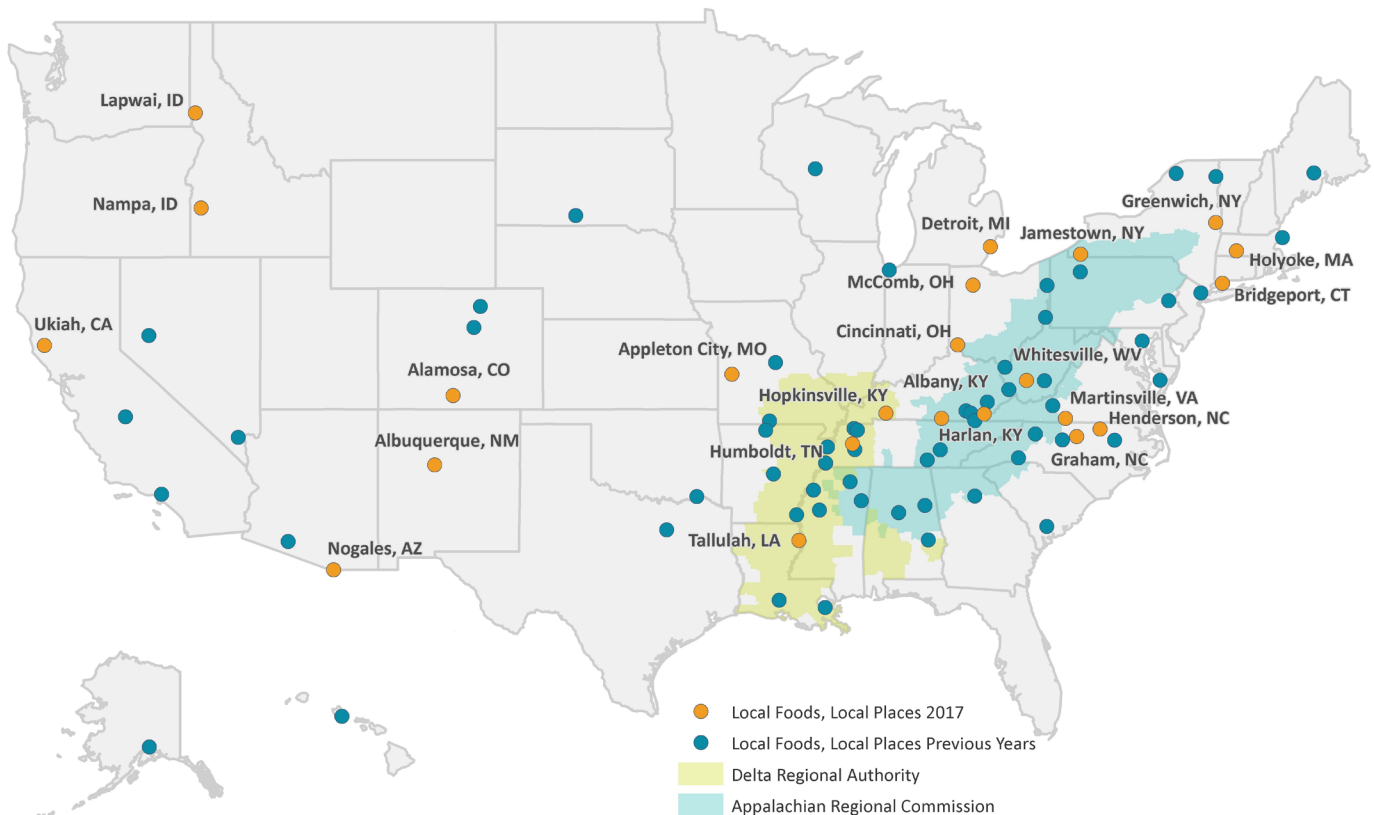
2017 PARTNER COMMUNITIES

APRIL 2017

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 will help community members set goals and plan projects that can boost local economies and drive downtown and neighborhood revitalization. Projects might include 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 are investing \$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**, wants 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 community kitchen.

California

North Coast Opportunities in **Ukiah, California**, plans to open a community kitchen and wellness hub in the soon-to-be-vacant county courthouse downtown.

Colorado

The Local Foods Coalition in **Alamosa, Colorado**, seeks 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**, plan to enhance a downtown farmers market to take advantage of its central location while complementing other efforts to attract economic activity.

Idaho

The Nez Perce Tribe in **Lapwai, Idaho**, will receive technical assistance to use its unique food culture as a tool for community revitalization.

Nampa, Idaho, aims 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**, plans to create a new downtown farmers market using community input. The market will let families living in downtown buy local produce within walking distance of their homes.

The Mountain Comprehensive Health Corporation in **Harlan, Kentucky**, will receive technical assistance to create a farmers market downtown and develop other strategies to use agriculture to mitigate the loss of coal-mining jobs in the area and support broader economic development.



Locating a farmers market on a main street attracts more people and businesses to the area.



High tunnel gardens allow more types of food to grow in a community, extending the growing season and increasing local food sources.



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

Louisiana

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

Massachusetts

Nuestras Raices, Inc., in **Holyoke, Massachusetts**, intends to develop a downtown food hub, including a commercial kitchen and storage space that provides training, marketing support, and certification to new food entrepreneurs and producers; offers nutrition and cooking classes to residents; and hosts cultural events.

Michigan

Detroit Public Schools Office of Nutrition in **Detroit, Michigan**, plans to implement an Outdoor Education Center that will provide a 7-acre learning site for students and a 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.

Missouri

The West Central Community Action Agency in **Appleton City, Missouri**, will receive technical assistance to move forward with the planned Food and Agriculture Regional Enterprise (FARE) Center, a hub for food enterprises potentially located in a vacant building on the main business corridor.

New Mexico

The Downtown Albuquerque Main Street Initiative in **Albuquerque, New Mexico**, plans 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.



Greenery, expansive sidewalks, interesting signs and other streetscape improvements make areas more walkable and attract customers.



Trails and walking bridges connect people to different parts of a community, improving accessibility while encouraging healthy activities.



New York

The Village of **Greenwich, New York**, will receive technical assistance to better coordinate ongoing food initiatives, including finding a permanent home for an existing farmers market and opening a restaurant in a newly renovated building, in an effort to revitalize its downtown by strengthening its ties with the surrounding agricultural economy.

The Jamestown Renaissance Corporation in **Jamestown, New York**, plans to reclaim an old city park as a new community garden to help revitalize the neighborhood and increase access to low-cost fresh food while helping residents learn more about sustainability and gardening.

North Carolina

The city Planning Department in **Graham, North Carolina**, seeks to align its downtown investments and redevelopment with the local food system. Graham wants to build on a recently launched entrepreneurial space and explore the creation of a culinary incubator.

The Henderson-Vance Downtown Development Commission in **Henderson, North Carolina**, will receive technical assistance to establish a downtown farmers market and determine partnership opportunities with the county farmers market.

Ohio

Working in Neighborhoods, a nonprofit in **Cincinnati, Ohio**, will convene community partners, city staff, residents, and other stakeholders to coordinate and integrate multiple projects to improve food security in the area and revitalize the neighborhood.

The McComb Economic Development Organization in **McComb, Ohio**, will receive technical assistance to support economic recovery in the downtown area, 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 can dovetail with downtown redevelopment.

Puerto Rico

Coamo, Puerto Rico, will receive technical assistance to convert a vacant lot downtown into a food access hub as the expected first step to larger revitalization efforts that include a new farmers market and community garden.



Vacant lots can be transformed into community gardens and provide healthy food for a community.



Community pop-up shops provide new entrepreneurs with affordable space to sell local food products.



Tennessee

The Humboldt Chamber of Commerce in **Humboldt, Tennessee**, plans to create a food-based business incubator in downtown, enabling entrepreneurs to rent kitchen space and access business consultation services.

Virginia

Martinsville, Virginia, will receive technical assistance to revitalize the Fayette neighborhood using local food enterprises. In particular, Martinsville wants to create a Healthy Hub by combining a community kitchen and cannery with gardens and educational programming.



Community gardens improve access to healthy local foods and provide places for children to learn and play.

West Virginia

The WV Community Development Hub in **Whitesville, West Virginia**, will receive technical assistance to determine how local food production can create healthy lifestyle opportunities, bring new jobs, and help this coal-impacted community improve its residents' access to healthy food.

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