



## MSU Center for Regional Food Systems

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### Michigan's statewide networks & Michigan Good Food Fund

Monday, August 8, 2016

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Morse Marketing Connections, LLC

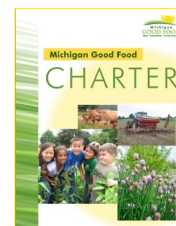


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## MSU Center for Regional Food Systems (CRFS)

**Mission:** Develop regionally integrated, sustainable regional food systems

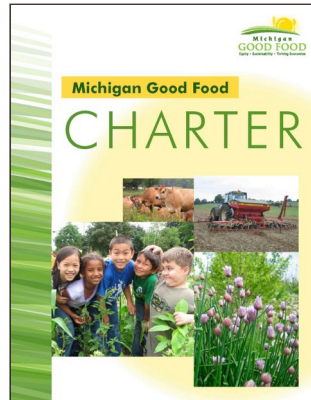


**Work:** Michigan Good Food Charter, food access and health, farm to institution and farm to school, healthy food financing, **food hubs**, food systems planning and food policy, organic production and marketing, beginning farmers, city-region food systems in a global context

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## Michigan Good Food Charter – 2010-2020



- “Good Food” policy framework food that is affordable, fair, green, and healthy
- 6 goals – local food purchases and fair jobs, healthy food access, nutrition standards and food systems education
- 25 agenda priorities
- More than 25 MI orgs active

[www.michiganfood.org](http://www.michiganfood.org)

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## MSU CRFS Networks

### Michigan Meat Network

- Funded by USDA AFRI – Focused on building capacity for small livestock producers & meat processors



### Farm to Institution Network

Coordinated effort to increase Michigan grown food sales at institutions

- K-12
- Colleges/Universities
- Hospitals



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## Michigan Local Food Council Network

- Started in 2015 with 6 active local councils
- Convene all councils; provide funding for existing & new councils, education and policy
- Existing councils mentor new councils
- Direct connection to Michigan ICC\*

\*equivalent of state-level food policy council

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## What exactly is a FOOD HUB?

Food hubs are **centrally located facilities** with a **business management structure** facilitating the **aggregation, storage, processing, distribution, and/ or marketing of locally/regionally food products**. (USDA-AMS working definition)



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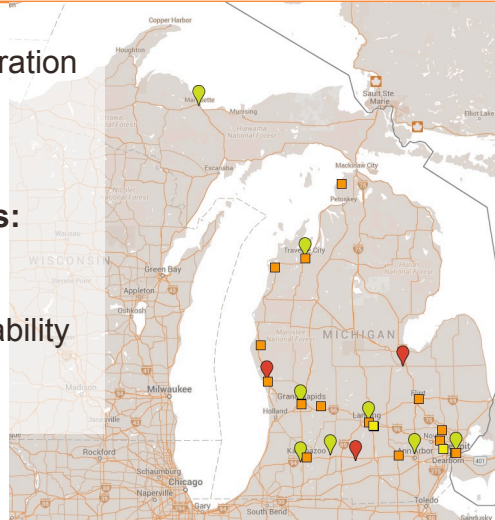
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## Michigan Food Hub Network (2012 - present)

Led by CRFS in collaboration with Morse Marketing Connections, LLC

### The Network facilitates:

- Increased learning, innovation, and profitability for food hubs



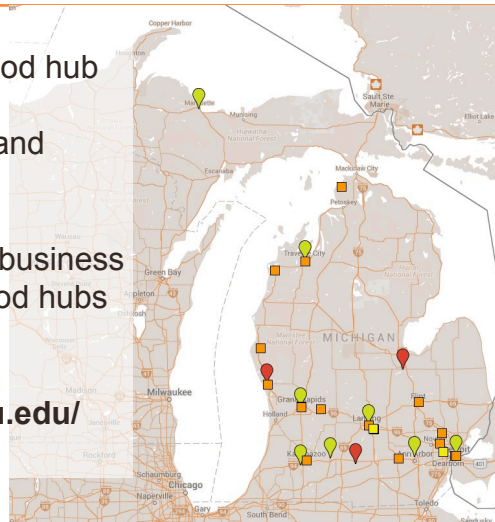
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## Michigan Food Hub Network (2012 - present)

- Increased access to food hub financial and technical assistance, research, and education
- Increased business-to-business collaboration across food hubs

For more information:  
<http://foodsystems.msu.edu/>



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## Michigan Food Hub Network (2012 – present)

- Learning community for food hubs and those that support, supply, and buy from hubs
- Accelerate innovation and adoption of best practices
- Strong partnership with MDARD at state level and with National Food Hub Network
- Increase capacity of food hubs to supply healthy foods to low-income communities
- Funds from Kresge and Kellogg Foundations
- Three statewide meetings/year ---webinars and technical publications
- Listserv with 500+ subscribers

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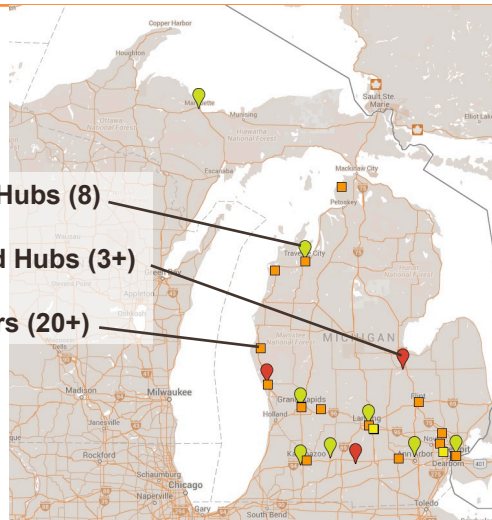
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## Michigan food hubs & incubator kitchens

Existing Food Hubs (8)

Emerging Food Hubs (3+)

Food Incubators (20+)

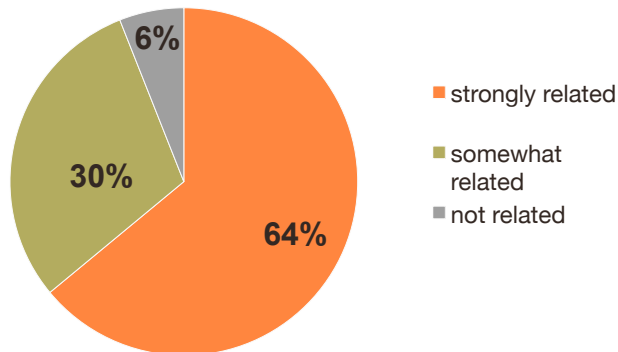


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## Food hubs and community health

Extent to which **improving human health in their community** was a part of **food hub mission in 2015**:



n = 141

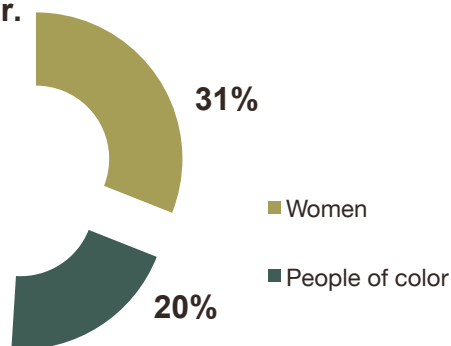
Results from 2015 National Food Hub Survey

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## Who are hubs buying from?

On average, about half of food producers and suppliers were owned and operated by women and people of color.



Results from 2015 National Food Hub Survey

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## Top challenges for food hubs

- **Managing growth** (2013: 19%; 2015: 17%)
- **Access to capital** (2013: 14%; 2015: 15%)



Results from 2015 National Food Hub Survey

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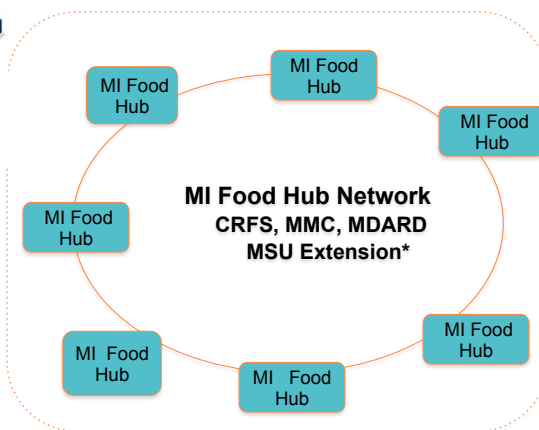
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## Nested networks for MI Food Hubs

Wallace - National Network



Other Regional  
Networks in MI  
Farm to Institution  
Local Food Councils  
Meat Network



\*MSU Extension plays key role!

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### **MI Food Hub Network – Outcomes-Outputs**

- Increased market opportunities for MI farmers
- Increased business to business cooperation – 39% of members formed new partnerships
- UVM Food Hub Manager Certification program – 9 Michigan participants in 2015-16
- Feasibility study – statewide IT platform for range of business functions – value stream mapping
- Cooperation with MI Farm to Institution Network – joint annual meeting
- Leverages state investments with private and federal investments (grants, TA, loans) – 31% of respondents have secured new funding