

March 23, 2017

Pam Herdrich, Executive Coordinator/ Project Director
High Country Resources Conservation and Development (RC&D) Area, Inc.
P.O. Box 501
St. Anthony, ID 83445

Subject: Partner Organization Letter

Dear Pam Herdrich:

The mission of the Teton Food and Farm Coalition (TFFC) is to build a strong local food system. Our vision is “a strong local food system supporting a vibrant, resilient, and healthy community.” This collaborative and diverse group of volunteers is a result of a handful of grassroots meetings since May 2016 with chefs, farmers, and others interesting in having farm-to-table events and a local food directory in Teton Valley. We are working together to help coordinate food system efforts moving forward in Teton Valley, ID and Jackson Hole, WY under the larger umbrella of a food coalition. We began meeting formally in December 2016. Since that time, the University of Idaho Teton County Extension Office has helped facilitate and serve as the host site for our monthly meetings. As a result of our foundation building efforts, we are now a functioning group that links farmers, food processors, distributors, restaurants, nonprofits, and others in community food system projects and policy development in the Teton Valley, ID and Jackson Hole, WY area.

We recognize that High Country RC&D, on behalf of the TFFC, is submitting a proposal to the USDA Agriculture Marketing Service’s Farmers Market Promotion Program. The proposal includes the following tasks and objectives:

- Develop a “Teton Fresh” marketing campaign for locally produced food.
- Update and expand an existing online farmer/rancher/producer directory for the Teton region.
- Develop and implement an online farmers market for the Teton Valley and Jackson Hole region.
- Support existing farmers markets in Jackson Hole and Teton Valley to build capacity and expand reach.
- Provide educational opportunities and events such as farm tours, cooking demonstrations, and farmers market vendor and management classes.

If the application is successful we commit to participating in and supporting the **2017 Developing and Expanding the Capacity of Direct Farm to Consumer Local Food Marketing in the Teton Valley and Jackson Hole**, for the time period of **September 30, 2017 through September 29, 2020**.

The Teton Food and Farm Coalition (with fiscal/nonprofit sponsorship from High Country RC&D) will be the lead and unifying organization carrying out the project deliverables. We commit to:

- Hosting monthly meetings, events and working committees to carry out the FMPP project objectives, our mission, and build collective social and financial capital for community food systems and direct marketing opportunities for farmers and food entrepreneurs in our area.
- Hiring and supervising the Teton Food and Farm Coalition Project Coordinator and other relevant staff or contractors.
- Contacting and recruiting food and farm producers to participate in the printed and online food and farm directories and online farmers market.
- Coordinate on-farm tours and other agritourism events during the grant funding period.
- Coordinate collaboration and build trust between project partners and others involved in the TFFC.

The individuals and our organization agree to abide by the management plan contained in the application. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Teton Food and Farm Coalition Members and Partners
c/o UI Extension, Teton County
235 S. 5th E., Driggs, ID 83422
208-354-2961