



A Part of the Cooperative Extension System

## i-Three Issue CORPS

*eXtension is pleased to present 69 projects that are a part of the i-Three Issue Corps for 2016. These projects involve 126 individuals and team members representing 36 institutions and 33 states. Each of these projects is being shared in San Antonio. If you see a NeXC attendee with an "Ask Me About my i-Three Issue Corps Project"...do just that!!!*

# i-Three Issue Corps Projects

## **A Statewide Local Food Program Team**

NC Cooperative Extension is developing a statewide local food program team to build the capacity of agents, identify resources for stakeholders, and share successful programming that will benefit food systems across the state. How do we evaluate the effectiveness of the team's workings and the impact on local food systems across the state?

**Leigh Allen Guth**

*North Carolina Cooperative Extension - NC State*

## **Addressing the needs of organic and sustainable growers in Idaho**

I will use a participatory action research framework to identify and address the major challenges to organic production in Idaho. Initial survey work indicated that weed and pest pressures are major constraints to certified and transitioning organic growers. Through community-driven research and education, we will identify, test, and evaluate strategies to improve pest and weed management.

**Carlo Moreno**

*University of Idaho*

## **Ag Adaptations to Weather & Extreme Events**

Provide knowledge to agricultural producers by connecting the agriculture community with early adopters of adaptation strategies that temper the effects of weather variability. This will be accomplished by creating videos featuring early adopters and showcasing the adopted practices through Extension programs to other producers around the region, while supporting education by connecting individuals to resources, publications, and outreach through popular media.

**Windy K. Kelley, Brad Bauer, Caleb Carter, David Keto, Jeremiah Vardiman, Tyler Williams**

*UW Extension & USDA Northern Plains Regional Climate Hub*

## **Alaskan Livestock Production and Health Action**

(ALPHA) is an online program designed to administer instructional and experiential modules relevant to livestock health, biosecurity, and production-based concepts pertinent to Alaskan producers. By providing easily accessible information, producers can develop better practices, set achievable goals, and gain confidence, which will help to advance animal agriculture and reduce food insecurity in Alaska.

**Lisa Lunn**

*University of Alaska*

## **Animal Agriculture in a Changing Climate**

Building capacity in Extension across the U.S. to create more resilient farms and ranches. Specific i3 projects: scenario planning for beef and dairy, Western Water Conference, managing water on the farm, and climate science education.

**Gary L. Hawkins, Jill Heemstra, Pamela Knox, Crystal Powers, Elizabeth Whitefield**

*University of Georgia, University of Nebraska, TAMU, Cornell*

## **Beginning beekeeping workshop**

This workshop educated people interested in being beekeepers and provided them the knowledge to start their bee hives and get those bees through the first year. The class was taught by a local beekeeping group. We provided an evaluation to the participants which gauged their knowledge gained, how they plan to use the knowledge gained, their likelihood of becoming beekeepers, how many hives they plan to setup, and any other topics they would like to see in subsequent presentations. We will summarize the data and use it to build more educational opportunities in beekeeping.

**Michael Patrick Davis**

*University of Missouri Extension*

## **Blog for Beginning Farmers and Local Food Producers**

I am initiating a blog that will highlight beginning farmers from our Farm Beginnings classes and also other local food producers in Nebraska. It will include video interviews with farmers, and photos of their farm and food they produce. I plan on highlighting 2-4 farmers every month.

**Gary Lesoing**

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

## **Borrow, Adapt, Adopt; Tools for Municipal Engagement in Climate Resiliency**

This project provides easily editable tools for adoption at the local government level to implement best practices and procedures which increase climate resiliency. Tools are supported by workshops held 3-4 times per year to share, engage and support municipal action.

**Alicia Betancourt**

*University of Florida*

## **Bring Climate to the County**

Analyzing, interpreting, and disseminating climate change information to the agriculturalists and consumers on the local level.

**Hans Schmitz**

*Purdue Extension*

## **Changing the Conversations About Agriculture**

Utilizing social media, marketing materials, and modern media, we can create a renewed focus on agriculture and agricultural processes. It is important to remove political stances from this push, but rather create a communication space where traditional agriculture process and emerging techniques can be discussed. The goal is not to change perceptions of agricultural processes but encourage increased participation in conversations and the pursuit of agriculture as a more normalized career choice.

**Lauren Vath**

*University of Tennessee*

## **Climate Literacy for Youth**

The Climate Literacy for Youth project is a collaboration regarding extending online learning for youth on the topic of climate science as well as providing a core collection of youth oriented content pages on the topic on the [www.extension.org](http://www.extension.org) website. An existing project based at Texas A&M University has developed an online course on Climate Science intended for a youth audience. In collaboration with eXtension's For Youth, For Life Learning Network based at Auburn University, the Climate Science course will be modified for greater youth appeal and aligned with a digital form of recognizing learning achievement (digital badge).

**Tony Cook, David Smith**

*Auburn University, TAMU*

## **Climate Forests & Woodlands**

Increase impact on existing CoP via a communication plan, increased use of social media tracking and an unobtrusive evaluation system. Explore the rollout of a user-friendly website to drive user traffic to eXtension CoP site

**Susan Moore, Robert Bardon, Mark Megalos, Tom Murphy**

*NC State University- Raleigh, NC*

## **Collards in the Cafeteria**

"Collards in the Cafeteria" is a project that was started in Brunswick County through partnerships within the Brunswick County Local Food Policy Council. A need was recognized within the school system for more local products and interested farmers were there who wanted to make it happen. Our goal is help farmers become GAP certified and grow enough collards to feed all of school kids and then help create an efficient process to deliver them to each school in a value-added form.

**Morgan McKnight, Mark Blevins**

*NC Cooperative Extension*

## **Community Rating System Workshop**

A workshop on the National Flood Insurance Program's Community Rating System (CRS) for the Tampa Bay planning community (4-county region including cities) in partnership with the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council. The workshop will take a "deep dive" into the CRS, including a look at the connection between the CRS and the implementation of sea-level rise adaptation strategies.

**Libby Carnahan**

*University of Florida*

## **Community & Regional Food Systems Toolkit**

Food systems are more than the sum of their parts, but many planning and evaluation resources do not currently reflect this. The UW-Extension Community Food System is the curator of a values-based community food systems toolkit developed by the University of Wisconsin through a USDA-AFRI grant. We propose enhancing the utility and expanding the reach of the toolkit through the following activities: 1) developing capacity-building workshops to implement individual tools 2) adding content to less robust value fields 3) adding resources to promote systems thinking and holistic evaluation, and 4) conducting user experience testing to improve the platform.

**Erin Peot, Lindsey Day Farnsworth, Carrie Edgar**

*University of Wisconsin Extension*

## **Cooperative Extension Seafood Partnership**

Seafood is an important part of a balanced diet because it contains high-quality protein and good fats called omega-3 fatty acids and other nutrients. Many, particularly low-income populations do not include enough seafood in their diets and do not get the full range of benefits. National collaborators from Cooperative Extension, the Seafood Nutrition Partnership, local Health Departments, and food pantries are implementing interventions to alleviate this problem. The goal of the intervention is to provide four sessions on seafood including recipe preparation using cheaper sources of seafood so that low-income audiences can reel in the benefits of seafood.

**Ingrid Adams**

*University of Kentucky*

## **Data Sharing Facilitation and Demonstration**

In Wake County, the capital county of North Carolina, Extension is working with local government and community partners to establish a comprehensive plan and approach to addressing food insecurity among the more than 140 thousand people in our community living in poverty. Extension is playing a lead role in the formation of a local food policy council and strategies to increase access to fresh, local nutrient dense foods in a manner that strengthens social and economic vitality of vulnerable communities.

**Katherine Williams**

*North Carolina State University*

### **Develop 4R Farm, a greenhouse at Ocoee High School**

The greenhouse will serve as a productive learning environment to provide direct nutrition education and job skills training as well as increasing the availability of fresh, local foods to students at the school. The Farm to School and Community initiative will integrate experiential learning models with community building while educating students on all components of the growing and food safety process.

**Caitlyn Glatting**

*University of Florida*

### **Developing a social media outreach plan for the Seed to Supper program**

Seed to Supper is an effective classroom curriculum developed by Oregon State University Extension and the Oregon Food Bank to teach vegetable gardening to low-income audiences. In Linn and Benton counties, OSU Extension is growing this program and cultivating a new community of engaged gardeners. Financial and community support is needed to sustain this highly successful and in-demand program. The main focus of my i-Three Corps project will be to develop a traditional and social media marketing plan that engages the community, increases donor support for the project and communicates the impact of the Seed to Supper program through innovative storytelling.

**Brooke Edmunds**

*Oregon State University*

### **Drones for Youth STEM Education**

We teach kids about drones in agriculture and research to inspire, promote and encourage interest in STEM education, so they can assist researchers and farmers address food sustainability issues.

**Victor Villegas, Susan Buffer**

*Oregon State University*

### **Dry Farming Project**

In 2016, the Dry Farming Project will:

- Host a 'Growing Resilience: Water Management Workshop Series'
- Expand the Dry Farming Demonstration to three OSU Extension sites in Oregon.
- Initiate the Participatory Dry Farming Research Project.
- Disseminate project information and findings locally, regionally, and nationally.

**Amy Garrett**

*Oregon State University*

### **E-3 Garden Project**

The E3 Garden Project is an effort to Engage, Educate, and Empower the community on topics surrounding nutrition, physical activity, conservation, and of course gardening! The community garden site will be a focal point for citizens to gain knowledge and tools to improve self-efficacy of the individuals and the community as a whole.

**Andrea Morris, Rudy O Pacumbaba**

*Alabama Extension - Alabama A&M*

### **Energy Production at the Rural Ag Interface**

Increasingly energy production of many types is spreading across rural landscapes in many locations of the U.S. This creates an interface with many agricultural stakeholders whose land is being utilized, whether on the surface with renewable technologies, or subsurface with extractives, such as shale gas. This project is focused on creating an expanded understanding of the implications on the landscape and what rural landowners need to know as they make potential long term decisions when agreeing to this localized energy production. Lessons learned in the process have global educational impacts through associated extension outreach activities.

**Tom Murphy**

*Penn State University*

### **Ergonomics and Wearables for Women in Agriculture**

For many reasons, women are more susceptible to ergonomic injuries in agriculture. The Ergonomics for Women in Agriculture i-Three Corps Project is working on the development and dissemination of resources and tools to educate on and evaluate these issues in food production systems. This includes looking at wearable technology as a tool to evaluate ergonomics of women that work in agriculture, as well as using those devices as educational tools.

**Aaron Yoder, Linda Fetzer**

*University of Nebraska Medical Center and Penn State*

### **Farm and Ranch Premises Weather Security 101**

In the best of times, turning a profit on a farm is challenging, whether a producer raises livestock or grows cash crops. An unexpected event, such as severe weather, may mean financial disaster. By adopting certain practices, producers can reduce the risk of extreme weather impacts on their property – reduced damage and recovery time—and increase their ability to get back to business quickly. For this experiment, (Farm and Ranch Premises Weather Security 101), we will develop a competency-based module that focuses on practical steps producers can take to prepare and protect property from the impacts of extreme weather.

**Virginia White, Jerri Hammonds**

*Auburn University*

### **Food Systems Development Certification Team**

The Food Systems Development Certification Team, composed of community and university-based Extension and other educators inside and outside Extension, is creating a self-paced, competencies-based training and certification program designed to support US and Canadian individuals working on local and regional food systems, including (but not limited to) increasing sustainability in farming, and innovative value chains, to food security, health, and community and individual wellbeing.

**Duncan Hilchey, Craig Chase, Christian, Gilbert Gillespie, Duncan Hilchey, Jane Kolondinsky, Gail P Myers, Roxanne Richards, Katie Wright**

*Lyson Center for Civic Agriculture and Food Systems (a nonprofit affiliated with Cornell University)*

### **Food Safety Answers**

Implement a 24/7 social media and text message-based service to proactively and reactively engage with consumers and answer food safety questions.

**Benjamin Chapman**

*North Carolina State*

### **Forks Mobile Market and Education Trolley**

The Forks Mobile Market and Education Trolley, purchased with a Farmer's Market Promotion Program grant, will be used at our first agritourism event at Stable Days Youth Ranch. Education will be provided about the importance of supporting our local farmers, the value of local foods for health, for the economy and teaching techniques for gardening, safe preparation of produce, how to reduce food waste.

**Molly Soeby, Caryl Lester, Glenn Muske**

*North Dakota State University Extension, Grand Forks County*

### **GAP Training for Urban Gardeners**

Help urban gardeners apply good agricultural practices (GAP) to minimize microbial food safety hazards of home grown fruits and vegetables from garden to table.

**Cindy Brison**

*Nebraska Extension*

### **Garden2Go**

The Garden2Go (G2G) project includes nutrition education paired with take-home and easy-to-use grow boxes for home vegetable and herb production and consumption. Limited resource (SNAP eligible) Florida residents are provided in-person nutrition education and follow up SMS (text) messages to provide on demand gardening and nutrition education. The G2G project is currently in the second growing season and the G2G implementation team is creating a template for replication around the state and beyond.

**David Campbell**

*University of Florida/IFAS Extension, Family Nutrition Program*

### **Global Dynamics and Cultural Knowledge**

Integrating global dynamics and cultural knowledge into Extension's research, education and outreach while enhancing and growing the Internationalizing Extension Community of Practice.

**Renee Pardello**

*University of Minnesota Extension*

### **Goats Online Certification Program**

A holistic approach to improving efficiencies of goat production is needed; however, many producers lack the necessary knowledge, skills, or abilities needed to become better live-stock managers. An online certification program will fill that void and equip goat producers with the management tools that they need to succeed and to help feed the future.

**Terry Gipson**

*Langston University*

### **Greenhouse Systems Evaluation Strategies**

The greenhouse foliage and floriculture industry in central Florida is struggling to recover from the downturn of the econ-

omy. The demand for fresh produce in the area continues to increase. High tech greenhouse growing infrastructures already exist; transitioning to produce would be a natural fit. A greenhouse, demonstrating different production systems, exposes growers to what system would work in their greenhouse and best fits their personal style of production.

**Liz Felter**

*University of Florida*

### **Grow Healthy Schools & Communities**

Improving consumer health requires LINKING the food and health systems, rather than viewing them as separate, unique entities. Efforts to promote healthy eating can't succeed without considering food production/distribution/marketing. Likewise, agriculture cannot be profitable without attention to consumer interest/needs. Schools and restaurants are key settings to highlight this link. Constituents tell us more can be done to source more local foods and create healthier menu options for schools and restaurants. Our project teams Extension with foodservice, farmers and community groups to identify opportunities to organize systems/protocols that combine farm-to-table with health/wellness in our communities.

**Luanne Hughes, Sherry Cirignano, Luanne Hughes, Kathleen Morgan, Alex DelCollo**

*Rutgers Cooperative Extension, Family & Community Health Sciences (FCHS)*

### **Grow Scott**

The grow Scott program is a fruit and vegetable production program for small landowners and limited resource families. Participants receive training in production, management, harvest and product marketing.

**Jeremy West**

*University of Tennessee Extension*

### **Growing Alaska's Food Entrepreneurs**

I hope to increase visibility of Alaska's resources, trainings and food business led projects for potential food entrepreneurs across the state. I will also improve my methods to collect and share the impact of these services and the successes of our blossoming Alaska food entrepreneurs.

**Kate Idzorek**

*University of Alaska Fairbanks CES*

### **Hydroponics and Edible Landscaping in Rural Communities**

Floating gardens, towers and edible landscaping to increase food access and serve as an alternative growing system in food deserts.

**Kelly Korman**

*University of Florida*

### **Environmental Influences on Food Choices**

Educated consumers have a collective strength to change entire industries, and I would like to know if students experiencing school garden and nutrition education programs choose more fruits and vegetables during school meals. A positive correlation would shed light on the economic, social, and environmental values of school garden programming utilizing integrated curricula.

**Zach Glorioso**

*UF/IFAS Family Nutrition Program*

### **i-Master Food Volunteers**

Imagine what a story Extension could tell about the impact we have on farmers' markets. This project examines the impact of Master Food Volunteers on the sale and consumption of fruits and vegetables at farmers' markets. By the end of the project, this team will have developed best practices to help Extension programs tell their stories through collective impact.

**Janie Burney, Melissa Chase, Joseph Donaldson**

*The University of Tennessee*

### **Increasing Capacity in the Institutional Use of Michigan Specialty**

Our project addresses challenges to using Michigan foods in school food programs, specifically the culinary skill gap required for preparing meals from scratch and the lack of Michigan-specific information on seasonal menu planning. Our objective is to develop and implement an applied learning curriculum through on-site trainings and publicly available multimedia resources to help food service professionals increase knowledge and skills to handle and prepare whole, fresh, seasonal Michigan foods and ultimately increase institutional use of Michigan agricultural products.

**Mariel Borgman, Kaitlin Koch, Garrett Zeigler**

*Michigan State University Extension*

### **Kentucky Nutrition Education Program**

A state-wide marketing campaign will encourage Kentucky residents to eat more fruits and vegetables and make memorable meals with their families. Through the campaign, advertisements will target limited-resource audiences through billboards, bus wraps, a family cooking magazine, and social media. Our project will also identify ways to connect SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) families to healthy local foods through their farmers' market.

**Martha Yount, Angela Renee Fox**

*University of Kentucky*

### **Kids, Compost, Crops & Consumption**

The Kids, Compost, Crops and Consumption team aims to increase youth involvement in the food cycle. Students learn the basics of livestock and crop production, how to turn raw manure into compost, the value of compost as a fertilizer, importance of fertilizer for growing plants, how plants become food, how to make nutritious food choices and what influence we have in the food cycle. The target outcomes are students who are knowledgeable about agriculture and where their food comes from, increased vegetable consumption among students and students who know how to garden as an economical option for

fresh food.

**Mary Berg, Nikki Johnson, Alicia Harstad, Kelcey Hoffman, Todd Weinmann**

*North Dakota State University*

### **Learn, Grow, Eat & GO! (LGEG) Extension, Volunteer and Teacher Online Training Course**

The Learn, Grow, Eat & GO! (LGEG) Extension, Volunteer and Teacher Online Training Course will be a self-directed online Moodle course. It will serve both as a professional development opportunity for extension/volunteers/teachers, as well as, provide a new, electronic curricular option to the LGEG hardcopy curriculum. The course will prepare the teacher/leader, provide needed resources to effectively utilize the LGEG curriculum, and serve Extension faculty/staff and volunteers in their efforts to support school educators and group leaders as they facilitate curriculum implementation.

**Randy Seagraves, Rusty Hohlt, Maecy Mannen, Caren Walton, Lisa Whittlesey**

*Texas A&M AgriLife Extension*

### **Meeting Requirements of the new FDA Food Safety Modernization Act**

We are developing and adapting resources and training courses that will assist small scale produce growers in Kansas and Missouri to meet the requirements of the new FDA Food Safety Modernization Act, as well as increasingly strict food safety requirements of produce buyers. This project will help protect consumers from foodborne illness from produce grown in Kansas and Missouri and will also help small scale farmers meet regulatory and marketplace requirements, thus strengthening their business. I work for both Kansas State University and the University of Missouri so can easily work with stakeholders in both states.

**Londa Nwadike**

*Kansas State University/ University of Missouri*

### **Minnesota Food Charter Network**

Launched November 2015, the Minnesota Food Charter Network is a statewide network, rooted in Minnesota Food Charter strategies, that supports and fosters shared action towards healthy food access for all. This project will develop and execute a plan for local, regional and issue-based networks across the state to learn, share and act together to effectively carry out food charter strategies. In coming years, the Minnesota Food Charter Network will grow into a supportive 'ecosystem' of people, information, relationships, and resources positioned to implement the 99 Food Charter policy and systems change strategies.

**Stephanie Heim**

*University of Minnesota Extension*

### **Nebraska Urban Food Production Online Course**

The Nebraska Urban Food Production online course will give backyard and community gardeners in Nebraska the information they need to grow and raise more food within city limits. The fee-based course will walk participants through the basics of growing and raising food in an urban setting, including everything from site evaluation and considerations of zoning regulations to harvest and handling of fresh produce. The course will provide reliable, easy-to-understand, science-based recommendations tailored to Nebraska growing conditions through interactive lessons, short video demonstrations, and links to available web resources.

**Connie Fisk**

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

### **Nursery Tour**

A 3-day nursery, greenhouse, and landscaping tour will be conducted for fifty nursery growers, landscapers, and Agriculture Extension Agents. The tour will visit neighboring states to study how their nursery and landscaping industries are adapting to climate change. The tour will enable nursery growers and landscapers to evaluate new and proven plant varieties that are adapted to our climate and learn about innovative plant production methods.

**Ty Petty**

*University of Tennessee Extension*

### **Our markets are for everyone: welcoming new faces to Farmers' Markets across Idaho**

Southwest Idaho is rapidly becoming more diverse, but our farmers' markets don't always reflect that. We think everyone should have opportunities to participate and benefit. So our talented team of community collaborators are breaking down the barriers to access and participation. We're creating multi-lingual, culturally appropriate toolkits for markets to use to attract new vendors and market-goers. We're offering education and mentorship for brand new farmers. We're designing mobile market routes strategically to reach new neighborhoods, and we're getting the word out about food stamp programs at markets everywhere. Together, we'll all build a more vibrant, inclusive local food system!

**Ariel Agenbroad**

*University of Idaho Extension*

### **Pollinator Spaces Project**

The Pollinator Spaces Project encourages community and school gardeners to add pollinator habitats to their gardens. Resources are provided through webpages and face-to-face workshops. Participating gardens send me a photo of their new garden and they will receive a Certificate of Participation designed by an artist.

**Becky Griffin**

*UGA Extension*

### **Reducing Climate Risk in Agriculture: the Power of Phenology**

The combination of crop phenology and climate information can be a powerful tool for reducing risks associated with ex-

treme climate events. Our goal is to co-develop solutions with extension faculty and producers to quantify and analyze risk associated with extreme events such as high temperature, dry spells, and extreme rainfall in conjunction with crop development phases. Basically we want to answer typical growers' questions such as what is the probability that we will have a dry spell during tasseling of a corn crop planted on a given date in Marianna, FL?

**Clyde W. Fraisse**

*University of Florida*

### **Refuges of Non-Plant Produced Insecticidal Corn**

Corn represents significant component of the North Carolina's land-use and is important to the economy. A vast majority of field corn in North Carolina is planted to genetically modified hybrids producing insecticides (Bt) to manage certain insect pests. Refuges of non-plant produced insecticidal corn (non-Bt) are required by law to maintain susceptible insect populations. However, refuge compliance is at an all-time low in the state and nation. This project seeks to increase the proportion of non-Bt corn planted in the state to maintain insect pest susceptibility using field visits, county meetings, agent trainings, blog articles, and partnerships with industry.

**Dominic Reisig**

*North Carolina State University*

### **Rethink Your Drink**

Sugar sweetened beverages, like soft drinks and fruit drinks, are the largest source of added sugar in the American diet. These drinks contribute lots of calories, and can lead to obesity, type 2 diabetes, and heart disease. It's time to kick the sugar habit and Rethink Your Drink! The Rethink Your Drink project will teach adults and kids to identify how much sugar is in their drink, and teach them to make healthy alternatives like fruit-infused water. The project also includes environmental change strategies, like improving access to drinking water and limiting access to sugar sweetened beverages.

**Laura Balis**

*University of Wyoming Extension*

### **Russellville Urban Gardening Project**

In the small town of Russellville, KY, we're continually exposing racially minority youth who live in poverty stricken neighborhoods to agriculture, specifically ethnic crops relating to their heritage. In the past four years we've grown the project from small container gardens on back porches, to a land lease with the city containing over an acre of crops, raised beds and two new high tunnels to diversify and extend the growing season even more. Many of these youth have never been exposed to agriculture of any kind and are certainly excited about eating their crops and new found careers in agriculture.

**Gary M. Templeman**

*University of Kentucky*

### **Sandhills Food Systems/Team Farmtastics**

A thriving local food system in the NC Sandhills has the potential to save existing farms and grow new ones, at a time when many farmers are seeking more opportunities for self-determination and economic return than conventional agriculture

provides in this infertile region. A key feature is establishment of a regional food hub, which can provide vitality to a rural area struggling for economic relevancy. The Sandhills of NC is a unique combination of challenging farming conditions, sophisticated urban centers and a nearby military base that offers great market potential, but requires vision and expertise to make reality.

**Susan Kelly, Paige Burns**

*North Carolina State University*

### **Scaling Up the Local Food System of Northeast Kansas**

Douglas County, Kansas enjoys a relatively mature local food system. Most of our local food producers rely on direct-to-consumer markets for their products, and concern exists over saturation of these markets. In order to continue to grow our local food system, producers need to tap into new, larger markets. Though we have developed a producer-owned food hub, a knowledge gap exists for many who are interested in producing on a larger scale. My project will address this gap by equipping local food producers with the knowledge and skills needed for this level of production with an emphasis on sustainability.

**Marlin A. Bates**

*K-State Research and Extension*

### **Smart Farmers Markets**

The Smart Farmers Markets team will design and develop a mobile app for consumers and farmers market partners to promote farmers market patronage and increase farm profitability. The app will facilitate collection and distribution of information and will enable:

- Reporting and retrieval of farmers market prices
- Vendor and customer access to farmers market prices
- Distribution of GPS-based push notifications to consumers near farmers market locations
- Access to informational videos and websites about selection and preparation of common Tennessee produce items

The team will educate consumers and farmers market partners on the availability and use of app.

**Margarita Velandia, Whitney Kay Danhof, Matt Horsman, Megan Leffew, Chris Sneed**

*University of Tennessee*

### **Sustainable Crop Production**

Sustainable crop production is a current need that will only gain in importance in the future. We are re-visioning a teaching garden to serve as a training center to provide hands on learning experiences to students, agents, growers, and industry personnel. This facility will allow people from non-ag backgrounds to learn real skills in the real world.

**Wesley Everman**

*North Carolina State University*

### **Sustainable Seafood Production in the United States**

Ninety percent of U.S. seafood consumption is imported; the bulk of imported shrimp is grown in Asian ponds in an unsustainable manner, discharging pollutants to coastal zones and consuming large quantities of marine fish meal. The PI developed systems allowing for zero-discharge production of fish

and shellfish in a system yielding byproducts replacing imported fish-meal as an ingredient in shrimp feed. Using this process, shrimp production can be expanded across the U.S. needing only soy, wheat and corn meals as the primary ingredients. A prototype system will demonstrate design, start-up, and operation of zero-discharge seafood production to U.S. farmers and stakeholders.

**David Brune**

*University of Missouri*

### **The Sustainable Living Series**

The Mecklenburg Cooperative Extension Sustainable Living Series (SLS) is designed for citizens who desire to increase knowledge of food literacy, gardening and cooking skills through experiential learning. The integrated program is a collaboration of Mecklenburg Family and Consumer Sciences, Horticulture, Mecklenburg Extension Master Gardeners and volunteers to provide citizens with education to incorporate sustainable practices into their lifestyle. From gardening to canning, the Sustainable Living Series connects families with nature, nutrition and sustainability through practical and innovative application!

**Kristin Davis, MA**

*NC State University*

### **Toolkit for Regional Food System Assessment**

Regional food systems are a crucible requiring transdisciplinary and multi-sector resources. To achieve alignment between regional economic development potential, regulatory and natural resources, a toolkit for rapid market assessment of the business environment is needed. Data gathered would create systems-level understanding of any regional agricultural value chain and provide guidance for appropriate technical assistance.

**Heather E. Manzo**

*Penn State Extension*

### **Unleashing the power of Extension on Climate Change Communication**

Is Extension meeting public demand for climate change outreach? Based on a statewide survey, we've discovered that half of Utah's population is "worried about climate change." Extension educators at the county level are trusted by clients and their community, therefore, helping them with engage clients about climate change is an excellent starting point. Our plan moving forward is threefold:

1. Build a knowledge base within Extension
2. Build a consensus on how to best serve clientele
3. Create tools necessary to help clients through a climate change education program that can be replicated nationally

**Paul Hill, Roslynn Brain, Robert Davies, Richard Heflebower, Dennis Hinkamp**

*Utah State University*

### **Urban IPM (the bug people)**

The focus of our project is to work with other food system groups to help us refine, develop and distribute information about pest management in a variety of settings. At the same time, our group is seeking assistance with updating informa-

tion in a 21st Century platform like infographics, social media messaging and impact statement writing not just for our Agencies, but also to help spread the word about IPM in all settings. Our ultimate goal is to build new relationships with Extension personnel whom may not be aware of the expertise we can offer to everyday pest problems.

**Janet A. Hurley, Fudd Graham, Kathy Murray, Shaku Nair, Faith Oi**

*Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, University of Florida, University of Arizona, Maine Department of Agriculture*

### **Using a Community-based Model to Enhance Food Security in Rural Areas**

I am currently involved with two grant projects (multi-state and state level) that have an integrated research and Extension approach. Both have a mutual aim of using a community-based model to enhance food security in rural areas through policy change across food system partners, such as food pantries and banks and retail venues. Potential outcomes include the development and assessment of tools to measure food security and toolkits to assist communities in developing new or supporting existing Food Councils and healthier retail outlets. The ultimate goal is to work with communities and increase the availability and access of healthy foods.

**Lisa Franzen-Castle**

*University of Nebraska-Lincoln*

### **Using Social Media to tell Agriculture's Story**

This project aims to use various social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to reach suburban and urban audiences to help raise awareness of the impact of agriculture in their lives.

**Doug Edlund**

*University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture*

### **Technology Enhancing Exercise and Nutrition (TEEN)**

The Technology Enhancing Exercise and Nutrition (TEEN) Program, a funded USDA 1890 Capacity Building Grant (CBG), is an innovative approach using technology to encourage urban teenagers to eat healthy and become more physically active to reduce the risk of chronic diseases. The technologies consist of interactive Powerpoint presentations, clicker systems, exergaming, apps and websites. The program's target audience is one of the nation's most at risk youth groups- teenagers ages 12-18 years old.

**Tamara C. Warren, PhD**

*Alabama A&M University*

### **Virtual Demonstration Network of Agricultural Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies in the Northeast**

Working with the USDA Northeast Climate Hub University Partners Network, I will develop a network of field demonstration sites to showcase agricultural climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies currently in place across our region. This network will be displayed using a web based story mapping tool that will include background information and multimedia content on practices and systems. This tool will virtually demonstrate effective climate change adaptation and mitiga-

tion strategies to Extension colleagues throughout the Northeast and the agriculture and forestland clientele that we reach.

**Jennifer Volk**

*University of Delaware Cooperative Extension*

### **Virtual Local Food Project Field Trips**

Through identification of creative processes and solutions to capture, edit, and distribute high-quality virtual local food project field trips, this project will initiate creation of a virtual local food field trip video library. Pilot virtual field trips will be embedded into a new online, non-credit local foods course for evaluation. NC Cooperative Extension's virtual local food project field trip library will provide local food system developers and entrepreneurs with accessible examples and lessons learned of local food projects designed to address multiple community issues, ultimately improving project outcomes and potentially saving project developers and their communities time, money, and frustration.

**Joanna Massey Lelekacs**

*North Carolina State University*

### **Wasted Consumer Food Audit & Prevention**

Consumers will complete a short, wasted food audit of specific types of foods that are wasted foods for them and reasons for this waste. Categories include Dairy, Grains, Fruits, Protein Foods and Vegetables. Reasons for waste are based on a review of reasons frequently cited for consumer food wastes. Suggestions will be given for preventing food wastes for each of these areas. The audit sheet will be available through the Internet with data entered via the Internet. Within one month, audit, participants will be contacted via email to determine if they're implementing practices to reduce wasted food.

**Alice Henneman**

*University of Nebraska Extension*

### **Watering A Food Desert: Partnership Improves Water Quality and Establishes Community Learning Garden Downtown**

Public interest in community / urban gardens and local foods continues to expand. Urban food desert areas offering few healthy food choices to local residents. Additionally, urban stormwater runoff contributes significant pollution to drinking water supplies. Cooperative Extension teamed up with Food Security Coordinators and Master Gardeners to establish a learning garden and stormwater control demonstration site irrigated by stormwater collected off a downtown rooftop. The Camden Street Learning Garden is a vibrant green space full of fresh local produce, grown by the community that surrounds the garden. Over forty gardeners growing in 36 raised beds and we also are in the process of establishing a small food forest which will feature various fruit trees, bushes and medicinal and culinary herbs. The garden is irrigated with a rain harvesting system that can collect over 50,000 gallons of rainfall annually, reducing stormwater flows to area stream and the Neuse River. Cooking, nutrition and gardening classes are being held onsite teaching kitchen and classroom. Composting and recycling education and research on site will also be added soon!

**Mitch Woodward**

*NC Coop Extension - NC State University*