Indiana Uplands Winter Food Conference
Ohio Farm to School Partnerships
Overview & Partners

A collaborative project to accelerate the distribution of local foods into Ohio communities by strengthening access, production, and consumption components of a local food value chain, creating availability to healthy food for all Appalachian communities.
Partners & Funders Building Value Chains

INPUT → PRODUCTION → PROCESSING & DISTRIBUTION → MARKETING → CONSUMER

Logos:
- ACEnet
- Rural Action
- Grow & Share the Harvest
- Osteopathic Heritage Foundations

APPALACHIAN CENTER FOR ECONOMIC NETWORKS
Partners & Funders Building Value Chains
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Farm To School Partners

- Rural Action
- ACEnet
- Chesterhill Produce Auction
- SEO Foodbank
- Hocking College
- Tri-county Joint Vocational
- HAPCAP

Building a Local Food Value Chain
Value Chain: Capturing the Bigger Picture

Relationships built on shared values and goals

1. Farm
   --Farmer meetings
   Communicating school needs to farmers, to sustain our local food availability

2. Institution
   --Processing days
   Cultivating skills for food preparation, to encourage exploration of the local food system

3. School
   --Deliveries, technical assistance, education and training, support
   Investing in the health and wellness of students, to encourage healthy choices
Objective 1: Provide workforce development for processing of local foods

- Community volunteers assist annually with processing
- Recruited four youth through Ohio Jobs and Family Services CCMEP Program to assist with FTS processing
- Hired a processing coordinator
Objective 2: Connect K-12 food service, share best practices, provide training, assess needs

- Knife skills trainings
- Education on Live Healthy Kids, School Gardens, local procurement
- 4 round tables for schools to provide feedback
Objective 3: Increase student knowledge and consumption

- Live Healthy Kids lessons updated to focus on local food systems
- Increased purchase of local foods for LHK lessons
- School Day at the CPA
- Apple Crunch Day
Objective 4: Support implementation of school gardens

- Creation of School Garden toolkit including topics such as: readiness checklist, garden types, planting, harvesting, composting and more!
- Hands on workshop
- TA assistance for existing school gardens to implement toolkit principals
- Coming soon – downloadable curriculum!
2018 HIGHLIGHTS

- 15,382 lbs total fresh
- 3,000 lbs frozen food processed
- 120+ volunteers
- The Sech-kar Company
- CCMEP
- Support from Athens Jobs and Family Services
Partners in the F2S Value Chain
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WHAT IS A VALUE CHAIN?

A Value Chain is a series of steps in the process of creating a product or service. In the context of education, it refers to the process of connecting students to the broader community through partnerships and shared experiences. This page outlines how the Appalachian Center for Economic Networks (ACEnet) works with partners to enhance educational opportunities.

HOW WE WORK

We create opportunities for students to engage with the community through partnerships, services, and experiences. Our goal is to provide students with meaningful learning experiences that prepare them for success in college, careers, and life.

In Partnership With:

- ACEnet
- Hocking College
- Partners in the F2S Value Chain

HISTORY OF FARM TO SCHOOL IN APPALACHIA OHIO

Our program began in 2009 with a grant from Ohio’s Department of Education. The program has since expanded to serve over 500 students in 13 school districts.

2009
- Farm to School program launched

2010
- Program expanded to include 13 school districts

2014
- Program continues to grow

2016
- Program serves over 500 students in 13 school districts

2017
- Program incorporates a new focus on healthy eating and sustainability

2018
- Program continues to evolve and expand

2020
- Current program focuses on providing healthy and nutritious meals to students

2/12/2020

APPALACHIAN CENTER FOR ECONOMIC NETWORKS