

Michigan Local Food Councils & Food and Health Networks/Associations

A Directory

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Center for
Regional Food Systems

Table of Contents

Michigan Local Food Councils & Food and Health Networks/Associations.....	1
Michigan Local Food Councils & Statewide Food and Health Associations Directory.....	4
Local Food Councils & Food Policy Councils	5
Bay County Food Council.....	5
Capital Area Food Council	5
Detroit Food Policy Council	5
Flint/Genesee Food Council	5
Food Access Collaboration Team of Saginaw (FACTS)	6
Healthy Montcalm.....	6
Hunger Free Calhoun County Coalition.....	6
Kent County Food Policy Council.....	6
Lake County Community Food Council	6
Livingston County Hunger Council	6
Local Food Alliance of Northern Michigan	7
Midland County Hunger Connections / United Way of Midland County	7
Monroe County Food Advisory Council	7
Northwest Michigan Food and Farming Network.....	7
Northwest Food Coalition	7
Oakland County Food Policy Council.....	8
Ottawa Food	8
Southwest Michigan Local Food Council.....	8
Thumb Food Policy Council	9
Tribal Food Sovereignty Collaborative (Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians)	9
Upper Peninsula Food Exchange	9
Washtenaw County Food Policy Council.....	9
Western Michigan Food Recovery Council	10
Western U.P. Food Systems Collaborative.....	10
Western Wayne County Food Policy Council	10
Wiisinidaa Mnomijim (Let's Eat Good Food) in Bay Mills Indian Community.....	10
Zoo City Farm and Food Network	10
Statewide Networks and Associations	11

Center for Civil Justice	11
Elder Law of Michigan MiCAFE Network.....	11
Fair Food Network.....	11
Food Bank Council of Michigan	11
FoodCorps Michigan.....	12
Great Lakes Bay Health	12
GreenStone Farm Credit Services	12
Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities.....	12
Healthy Kids, Healthy Michigan	13
Michigan Breastfeeding Network.....	13
Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD).....	13
Michigan Department of Education (MDE).....	13
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).....	13
Michigan Environmental Council	13
Michigan Farm to Early Care and Education (ECE) Network.....	14
Michigan Farm to Institution Network.....	14
Michigan Farmers Market Association (MIFMA)	14
Michigan Fitness Foundation	14
Michigan Food and Farming Systems (MIFFS)	15
Michigan Food Hub Network	15
Michigan Good Food Fund	15
Michigan Municipal League.....	15
Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI).....	16
Michigan State Medical Society	16
Mid-Michigan Community Action Agency	16
National Kidney Foundation of Michigan.....	16
Taste the Local Difference.....	16

Michigan Local Food Councils & Statewide Food and Health Associations Directory

This update directory contains information on Michigan local food councils and food policy councils, statewide food and health associations. The main purpose of the directory is to help participants connect with each other over shared interests, areas of expertise, geographic regions served, etc.

Please note that this directory may not include every council or association doing this type of work in Michigan. If you know of an organization that should be added, please contact us for inclusion in the next update.

This directory was produced by the Michigan State University Center for Regional Food Systems (CRFS). Funding for this project comes from the Michigan Health Endowment Fund.

For questions about this directory, contact Liz Gensler at gensler@msu.edu or Rachel Kelly at kellyra2@msu.edu.

Local Food Councils & Food Policy Councils

Bay County Food Council

Mission: Within Bay County, community partners work collaboratively to eliminate hunger

Contacts: Samantha McKenzie - smckenzie@hiddenharvestshares.org, Nicole Luczak - nicole@unitedwaybaycounty.org

Geographic Area Covered: Bay County

Areas of Expertise: Food insecurity

Networking Interests: Food councils

Capital Area Food Council

Mission: Helping build a sustainable, equitable food system in the Greater Lansing, Michigan area where everyone has access to healthy, green, fair and affordable food

Contacts: Julia Kramer - juliak@allenneighborhoodcenter.org

Geographic Area Covered: Tri-County Area (Ingham, Clinton, Eaton)

Areas of Expertise: Gardens; farmers markets; emergency food; data collection

Website: <https://www.capitalareafoodcouncil.org/about.html>

Detroit Food Policy Council

Mission: To influence policy which ensures the development and maintenance of a sustainable and equitable food system, resulting in a food-secure City of Detroit in which all of its residents are hunger-free, healthy, and benefiting from a robust food system

Contacts: Winona Bynum - winona@detroitfoodpc.org, Amy Kuras - amy@detroitfoodpc.org, Kibibi Blount-Dorn - kibibi@detroitfoodpc.org

Geographic Area Covered: Detroit

Areas of Expertise: Urban agriculture; food access and grocery store improvement; wasted food (food waste); convening and outreach

Networking Interests: Collaboration around federal and state policy

Website: www.detroitfoodpc.org

Flint/Genesee Food Council

Mission: A network of food champions whose mission is to develop a resilient and reliable local food system rooted in community engagement, collaboration and education

Contacts: Joe Schipani - joe.ffar@gmail.com, Samantha Farah - sfarah@crim.org

Geographic Area Covered: Genesee County, Michigan

Areas of Expertise: Community engagement; food pantry support; nutrition and physical fitness education; food system research

Networking Interests: Seek stakeholders such as residents, businesses, local governments, farms, schools and any other organization or individual who is involved or interested in our local food system

Website: *coming soon*

Food Access Collaboration Team of Saginaw (FACTS)

Mission: To identify, develop and connect resources to increase food security

Contacts: Tina Swanton - t.swanton@mihia.org, Andy Damore - andy@damoreproduce.com

Geographic Area Covered: Saginaw County

Areas of Expertise: Collaboration; sharing resources

Networking Interests: Local growers to help use locally grown product to better serve the community

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/FoodAccessCollaborationTeamofSaginaw/>

Healthy Montcalm

Contacts: Rex Hoyt – rhoyt@mmdhd.org

Geographic Area Covered: Montcalm County

Hunger Free Calhoun County Coalition

Contacts: Marsha Keefer - mkeefef@foodbankofscm.org, Summer Sunnock - ssunnock@foodbankofscm.org

Geographic Area Covered: Calhoun County

Areas of Expertise: Food bank; fresh food; childhood/senior hunger relief programs; SNAP; food rescue; outreach

Networking Interests: Any

Kent County Food Policy Council

Mission: To advocate for and promote a Good Food system in Kent County

Contacts: Janelle Vandergrift - jvandergrift@hwmuw.org, Wende Randall - wrandall@hwmuw.org

Geographic Area Covered: Kent County

Website: <http://entfkent.org/subcommittees/kent-county-food-policy-council/>

Lake County Community Food Council

Mission: Work with our community partners to help provide fresh produce to our community

Contacts: Lynne Mills - lnrmills@gmail.com, Pastor Bruce Whitney – btw2@hotmail.com

Geographic Area Covered: Lake County

Areas of Expertise: Community gardening (provided a community garden at Grand Oaks nursing home)

Networking Interests: Those who can help provide fresh produce and healthy eating habits

Livingston County Hunger Council

Mission: Together we nourish our community by championing food access and education

Contacts: Bridget Brown - bbrown@gcfb.org, Douglas Fekete - dougfekete15@gmail.com

Geographic Area Covered: Livingston County

Areas of Expertise: Pantry Network, Summer Lunch Programs, Community Gardens, food education

Networking Interests: Pantry Network, Summer Lunch Programs, Community Gardens, food education

Website: <https://www.livingstonhunger.com>

Local Food Alliance of Northern Michigan

Mission: To enrich the culture of local food and farming in the Northern Farms Foodshed

Contacts: Larry Dyer - ldyer3913@gmail.com, Wendy Wieland - wieland@msu.edu

Geographic Area Covered: Emmet, Charlevoix, northern Antrim, and western Cheboygan County

Areas of Expertise: Food Access, Farm to School, Farm to Institution, State of local Agriculture papers to share at State of the community events

Networking Interests: Share our farm-to-institution experience; Explore/share experience with policy issues, e.g. PDR and accessory uses on farms, including various agritourism ventures

Midland County Hunger Connections / United Way of Midland County

Mission: Midland County Hunger Connections is a collaborative to reduce barriers for the hungry

Contacts: Kim Stuhler - kstuhler@unitedwaymidland.org, Holly Miller - holly@unitedwaymidland.org

Geographic Area Covered: Midland County

Areas of Experience: Engage existing food partners to foster ideas in which to collaborate to leverage resources, ensuring non-duplication of services

Networking Interests: Collaboration; food security; community gardens

Monroe County Food Advisory Council

Mission: No resident of Monroe County will go hungry for lack of access to healthy food

Contacts: Stephanie Zorn Kasprzak - skasprzak1@gmail.com, Shawnterra Glasgow-Scott - sgscott1140@gmail.com

Geographic Area Covered: Monroe County

Areas of Experience: Partnership development; completion of a Hunger Study; Green Mapping process; fresh and healthy food distribution; resource and financial development

Networking Interests: Any

Northwest Michigan Food and Farming Network

Mission: Building NW Michigan's Agricultural Future

Contacts: foodandfarmingnetwork@gmail.com, Wendy Wieland - wieland5@msu.edu

Geographic Area Covered: Prosperity Region 2 (Emmet, Antrim, Charlevoix, Kalkaska, Wexford, Missaukee, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Benzie, Manistee)

Areas of Expertise: Local Food Sales, Agribusiness Generation, Farm to Institution, Farmland Resources, Food Access

Website: <https://foodandfarmingnetwork.com/>

Northwest Food Coalition

Mission: To empower member food programs by coordinating and creating resources to achieve food security

Contacts: Val Stone - vals@goodwillnmi.org, Michelle Northrup - mnorthrup@benziebacn.org

Geographic Area Covered: Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau and Wexford

Website: <http://northwestmifoodcoalition.org/>

Oakland County Food Policy Council

Mission: Create a fair and culturally friendly food system in Oakland County that encourages healthy eating

Contacts: Amanda Woods - woods@oakgov.com, Lisa McKay-Chiasson - mckay-chiasson@oakgov.com

Geographic Area Covered: Oakland County

Areas of Expertise: Healthy food access; emergency food relief; partnership and collaboration with community organizations; SNAP education and nutrition education; school and childhood nutrition programs

Networking Interests: Improving access to healthy, culturally relevant foods through policy and environmental work; addressing racial equity in the local food system; increasing community outreach and engagement; building council capacity; improving council membership diversity across the food system spectrum, including individuals impacted by the food system environment and policies

Website: <https://www.oakgov.com/health/partnerships/echo/Pages/food-policy-council.aspx>

Ottawa Food

Mission: To ensure that people in Ottawa County have access to healthy, local and affordable food

Contacts: Lisa Uganski - luganski@miottawa.org, Patrick Cisler - patrick.cisler@gmail.com

Geographic Area Covered: Ottawa County

Areas of Expertise: Cross-sector efforts to reduce food insecurity; nutrition education; establishing EBT/DUFB at farmers markets; produce donation programs at farmers markets

Networking Interests: Groups doing work around food recovery/reducing food waste; groups that have had success increasing diversity within their council

Website: <http://www.ottawafood.org/>

Southwest Michigan Local Food Council

Mission: The Southwest Michigan Local Food Council is a collective of advocates that takes evidence-based actions toward the development of an equitable regional food system that values local farmers and entrepreneurs

Contacts: Dawn Marie Smith – dawnmarie.smith@uwsm.com, John Egelhaaf - egelhaafj@swmpc.org

Geographic Area Covered: Berrien, Cass, Van Buren Counties

Areas of Expertise: Improving the significance of local food in our community; improving economic prospects

Networking Interests: Establishing working groups; prioritizing diversity, equity and inclusion

Website: <https://www.behealthyberrien.org/council/>

Thumb Food Policy Council

Contacts: Joe Bixler - bixlerj@msu.edu or jbixler@gmail.com

Geographic Area Covered: St. Clair, Lapeer, Tuscola, Huron and Sanilac

Areas of Expertise: Food and agricultural literacy; volunteer support for food giveaways; community food systems support

Networking Interests: Restaurants; social welfare organizations; farmer operators; farmers markets; community based NGO's to develop food and agricultural literacy; capacity building and creation of local food policy development

Tribal Food Sovereignty Collaborative (Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians)

Mission: Connecting, promoting, and building community food systems through: education, youth engagement, cultural traditions, and modern sustainability

Contacts: Heather Hemming - HHemming@saulttribe.net, Josie Fegan - JFegan@saulttribe.net

Geographic Area Covered: The Sault Tribe of Chippewa Indians' 7-county service area (Chippewa, Mackinac, Luce, Alger, Schoolcraft, Marquette and Delta County)

Areas of Expertise: Edible plants/medicines, gardening, harvesting, preserving, farmer's markets, economic development, etc.

Networking Interests: Discussing past, present, and future local food systems, designing and implementing culturally-centered food projects and classes, and attending community, state, and national Tribal Food Sovereignty conferences and workshops with interested Sault Tribe staff and members, neighboring communities and tribal members, and other organizations such as MSU Extension

Upper Peninsula Food Exchange

Mission: Growing local food systems

Contacts: Sarah Monte – smonte@marquettefood.coop, Alex Palzewicz - localfood@marquettefood.coop

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan's Upper Peninsula

Areas of Expertise: Policy and planning; farm-to-school assistance (programming, school gardens and some procurement); marketing and outreach; collaboration; communication; business consultation

Networking Interests: Food council members; institutional purchases; healthcare and community health; regional and municipal planning; education; government; food safety consultants; local food marketing; chefs; farmers; fishers; food producers; SNAP/FIDPR; early childhood + K-12; farmers market managers; intermediate school districts; universities; value added producers. Looking to learn from support, connect and grow local food systems

Washtenaw County Food Policy Council

Mission: The Washtenaw County Food Policy Council increases and preserves access to safe, local and healthy food for all residents of Washtenaw County

Contacts: Jae Gerhart (chair) - gerhart1@msu.edu, Ariane Donnelly - donnelya@washtenaw.org, washtenawfoodpolicycouncil@gmail.com

Geographic Area Covered: Washtenaw County

Areas of Expertise: Food access/food security; pollinators; planning and zoning; food waste and packaging; farmers and institutional purchasing; policy advocacy; local farmers/food economy

Networking Interests: Food waste; planning and zoning; preserving pollinator habitats

Website: <https://washtenawfoodpolicycouncil.wordpress.com/>

Western Michigan Food Recovery Council

Mission: The Western Michigan Food Recovery Council is a multidisciplinary council of food system stakeholders that promotes food recovery among local businesses

Contacts: Daniel Schoonmaker - dschoonmaker@wmsbf.org

Geographic Area Covered: Western and Southwest Michigan

Areas of Expertise: Food waste

Western U.P. Food Systems Collaborative

Contacts: Rachael Pressley - rpressley@wupcdr.org or wupfoodsistemas@gmail.com

Geographic Area Covered: Western U.P. counties of Baraga, Gogebic, Houghton, Iron, Keweenaw, Ontonagon

Areas of Expertise: Policy and planning, farmer and market support, project development and coordination, education, outreach, focus groups, and grant support

Networking Interests: We work together because we are stronger in our collective efforts than we are alone. Organizations and groups such as local and regional government, educational institutions, community-based organizations, environmental advocacy, healthcare and health foundations, food cooperatives, farmers markets

Western Wayne County Food Policy Council

Mission: The Western Wayne County Food Policy Council collaboratively shapes the local food system and works to ensure that nutritious food is accessible for all

Contacts: Theresa Tejada - ttejada@nkfm.org

Geographic Area Covered: Belleville, Dearborn, Dearborn Heights, Garden City, Inkster, Livonia, Northville, Plymouth, Romulus, Wayne, Westland, Canton Township, Huron Township, Redford Township, Sumpter Township, Van Buren Township

Wiisinidaa Mnomijim (Let's Eat Good Food) in Bay Mills Indian Community

Contacts: Connie M. Watson – cwatson@baymills.org, Angie Johnston - ajohnston@baymills.org

Zoo City Farm and Food Network

Mission: To Honor, Redeem and Repossess Food, Water, Air, Soil and Ourselves Through Designing New Pathways to Access

Contact: Remi Harrington (Administrator) - remi@zoocityfood.com

Geographic Area Covered: West Michigan-Kalamazoo, Grand Rapids and Battle Creek

Areas of Expertise: Alternative pathways to food systems design for underrepresented groups in agriculture and the food industry ecosystem, including aggregated supply chains, worker owned cooperative development and land acquisition

Networking Interests: We would like to work with all groups that are aligned with our values-based mission and goals

Website: www.zoocityfood.org

Statewide Networks and Associations

Center for Civil Justice

Mission: Fighting poverty through advocacy

Contacts: Jessica Flint - jflint@ccj-mi.org, Kelly Bidelman - kbidelman@ccj-mi.org

Geographic Area Covered: Arenac, Bay, Clare, Genesee, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Isabella, Lapeer, Midland, Saginaw, St. Clair, Sanilac and Tuscola

Areas of Expertise: Food assistance; school nutrition; MI Bridges navigators

Networking Interests: School food service coordinators and child nutrition sites

Website: <http://www.ccj-mi.org/>

Elder Law of Michigan MiCAFE Network

Mission: To enhance food security for older adults through SNAP

Contacts: Darling Garcia - dgarcia@elderlawofmi.org, Keith Morris - kmorris@elderlawofmi.org

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan Statewide

Areas of Expertise: SNAP outreach and education; targeted outreach to older adults; partnering with local organizations

Networking Interests: Grant opportunities; more partners to enroll older adults in SNAP; improved understanding of the food networks

Website: <https://www.elderlawofmi.org/micafe>

Fair Food Network

Mission: To grow community health and wealth through food

Contacts: Oran Hesterman - ohesterman@fairfoodnetwork.org, Kate Krauss - kkrauss@fairfoodnetwork.org

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan Statewide

Areas of Expertise: Double Up Food Bucks, Fair Food Fund, Fair Food Michigan

Networking Interests: Grocers; farmers; healthy food entrepreneurs

Website: <https://fairfoodnetwork.org/>

Food Bank Council of Michigan

Mission: To create a food secure state through advocacy, resource management, and collaboration among stakeholders and Michigan's unified food bank network

Contacts: Kait Skwir - kskwir@fbcnich.org

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan Statewide – see URL below to find a food bank in your area - <https://www.fbcnich.org/resources/find-a-food-bank/>

Areas of Expertise: Food access; emergency food; advocacy

Website: <https://www.fbcnich.org/>

FoodCorps Michigan

Mission: Together with communities, FoodCorps serves to connect kids to health food in school

Contacts: Addell “Dale” Austin Anderson - addell.anderson@foodcorps.org, Kelly Cleaver - kelly.cleaver@foodcorps.org

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan Lower Peninsula

Areas of Expertise: Health education; gardening; nutrition; cooking with youth; community outreach

Networking Interests: Project collaboration; school nutrition; school food systems; fundraising opportunities; youth gardening programs; healthy living initiatives

Website: <https://foodcorps.org/>

Great Lakes Bay Health

Mission: Provide excellent healthcare to individuals and communities that are underserved and uninsured

Contacts: Lance Redwanz, MS, RD - lredwanz@glbhealth.org

Geographic Area Covered: Saginaw, Bay, Huron and Shiawassee

Areas of Expertise: Clinical nutrition education; health care management

Networking Interests: Nutrition education; fresh food initiatives; food system improvements

Website: <https://www.greatlakesbayhealthcenters.org/>

GreenStone Farm Credit Services

Mission: Supporting rural communities and agriculture with reliable, consistent credit and financial services today and tomorrow.

Contacts: Amber Echlin - amber.echlin@greenstonefcs.com, Becky Taylor - becky.taylor@greenstonefcs.com

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan and NE Wisconsin

Areas of Expertise: Lending for farms, agribusinesses and rural communities; young, beginning and small farm loans; tax, accounting, payroll, crop and life insurance financial services; financial literacy education

Website: www.greenstonefcs.com

Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities

Mission: We focus on solutions that improve daily life and build community health - things like local food, energy, transportation and economy

Contacts: Paula Martin, MS, RDN - paula@groundworkcenter.org, Meghan McDermott - meghan@groundworkcenter.org

Geographic Area Covered: NW Lower Michigan. Offices in Traverse City and Petoskey

Areas of Expertise: Transportation; food and farming; nutrition and food systems; clean energy

Networking Interests: Culinary skills and local food training for health providers; food policy; farmland preservation; building local food markets; food access

Website: www.groundworkcenter.org

Healthy Kids, Healthy Michigan

Mission: Healthy Kids Healthy Michigan advocates and collaborates on strategic policy initiatives to ensure that all children in Michigan have the opportunity for optimal health and well-being

Contacts: Amy Burton - amyburton@healthykidsmi.org, Mary Moomaw - mmoomaw@michiganfitness.org

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan Statewide

Website: <https://healthykidsmi.org/>

Michigan Breastfeeding Network

Mission: To lead the statewide collaborative actions for education, advocacy, and coalition building to create a supportive breastfeeding culture

Contacts: Shannon McKenney Shubert - shannon@mibreastfeeding.org, Kaitlyn Bowen - kaitlyn@mibreastfeeding.org

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan Statewide

Areas of Expertise: First food; lactation support; nutrition; health care; lactation policy; community building; policy advocacy; education

Networking Interests: BIPOC-led organizations; lactation support organizations; food access organizations; fund developers; state-level and local coalitions and community organizations

Website: www.mibreastfeeding.org

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD)

Website: www.michigan.gov/mdard

Michigan Department of Education (MDE)

Website: www.michigan.gov/mde

Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)

Website: www.michigan.gov/mdhhs

Michigan Environmental Council

Mission: MEC drives the environmental agenda in MI by developing innovative policy ideas, communicating them to key audiences and engaging our members, community leaders and residents as effective advocates for shared goals

Contacts: Tina Reynolds – tina@environmentalcouncil.org

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan Statewide

Areas of Expertise: Policy development, advocacy, and implementation; HKHM healthy food access coordinator; childhood obesity; and sustainability initiatives

Networking Interests: Food hubs, food networks, food equity, financing/funding, healthy food access and food policy development.

Website: www.environmentalcouncil.org

Michigan Farm to Early Care and Education (ECE) Network

Mission: The Michigan Farm to ECE Network collaborates so children ages birth to 5 can grow, choose, and eat nutritious local food in early care and education settings

Contacts: Meagan Shedd - mshedd@msu.edu, Lindsay Mensch - menschli@msu.edu

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan Statewide

Areas of Expertise: Farm to ECE in Michigan includes local food sourcing, nutrition education, and gardening. The Michigan Farm to ECE Network exists to: improve access to healthy food, increase nutritional awareness and health outcomes, and support ECE providers as they work to improve children's learning environments

Networking Interests: Early Care and Education settings (centers, Head Start/Early Head Start, family based child care), farmers and food producers, food distributors, food hubs, state organizations supporting early care and education

Website: <https://www.canr.msu.edu/michigan-farm-to-ece-network/index>

Michigan Farm to Institution Network

Mission: The Michigan Farm to Institution Network (MFIN) is a space for learning, sharing and working together to get more local food to institutions

Contacts: Colleen Matts - matts@msu.edu, info@cultivatemichigan.org

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan Statewide

Areas of Expertise: Local food procurement and marketing, tracking, and promotion; connections; education; storytelling; farm food safety

Networking Interests: Institutions including food service buyers, food suppliers including farmers, food distributors and processors, food and health-related networks, eaters

Website: www.mifarmtoinstitution.org, www.cultivatemichigan.org

Michigan Farmers Market Association (MIFMA)

Mission: To advance farmers markets to create a thriving marketplace for local food and farm products

Contacts: Amanda Shreve - amanda@mifma.org, Michelle Gagliardi - michelle@mifma.org

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan Statewide

Areas of Expertise: Farmers markets; food access with farmers markets; shared metrics data collection; Produce Prescription Programs

Networking Interests: Supporting food access initiatives; linking small to mid-sized farmers with markets; statewide and national advocacy

Website: mifma.org/findafarmersmarket

Michigan Fitness Foundation

Mission: To inspire active lifestyles and healthy food choices through education, environmental change, community events, and policy leadership

Contacts: Marci Scott - mescott@michiganfitness.org, Sarah Panken - slpanken@michiganfitness.org

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan Statewide

Areas of Expertise: Nutrition; food systems; evaluation; community change work; communications; physical activity; placemaking, grant management

Networking Interests: Healthy food access; policy collaboration; food insecurity; community engagement, farm to institution; produce supply chains in rural areas

Website: michiganfitness.org

Michigan Food and Farming Systems (MIFFS)

Mission: Connect beginning and historically underserved farmers to each other and to resource opportunities; ensuring social justice, environmental stewardship, and profitability

Contacts: Lauren Marquardt - lauren@miffs.org, Jennifer Silveri - jen@miffs.org

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan

Areas of Expertise: Agriculture; USDA programs; historically underserved farmers; food safety; grant writing; hosting conferences; food systems; beginning farmer education

Website: www.miffs.org

Michigan Food Hub Network

Mission: Supporting business development and collaboration for Michigan food hubs

Contacts: Noel Bielaczyc - bielacz1@msu.edu

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan Statewide

Areas of Expertise: Aggregation; storage; processing; distribution; and/or marketing of local and regional food products

Networking Interests: Healthy food procurement initiatives in schools, hospitals and other institutions; food access; farmer viability; workforce development; food entrepreneurship

Website: foodsystems.msu.edu/michiganfoodhubnetwork

Michigan Good Food Fund

Mission: Healthy, affordable, fair, green food for Michigan

Contacts: Jamie Rahrig - rahrigj1@msu.edu

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan Statewide

Areas of Expertise: Food entrepreneurship, nutrition, healthy food access

Networking Interests: Nutrition; economic development; helping organizations/businesses become loan ready; improving food access

Website: migoodfoodfund.org

Michigan Municipal League

Mission: The Michigan Municipal League is dedicated to making Michigan's communities better by thoughtfully innovating programs, energetically connecting ideas and people, actively serving members with resources and services, and passionately inspiring positive change for Michigan's greatest centers of potential: its communities

Contacts: Melissa Milton-Pung - mmiltonpung@mml.org, Shanna Draheim - sdraheim@mml.org

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan Statewide

Areas of Expertise: Municipal governance and management; placemaking; communicating with elected officials

Networking Interests: Farmers markets in Michigan cities; local food security; sustainability; and circular economy

Website: <https://www.mml.org/>

Michigan Public Health Institute (MPHI)

Mission: Working with you to promote health and advance well-being for all

Contacts: Michelle Napier-Dunnings - mnapierd@mphi.org

Geographic Area Covered: State of Michigan primarily (also national work)

Areas of Expertise: Facilitation; evaluation; network mapping; data analysis; policy; research

Networking Interests: Creating a stronger collective narrative

Website: www.mphi.org

Michigan State Medical Society

Mission: The mission of the Michigan State Medical Society is to improve the lives of physicians so they may best care for the people they serve

Contacts: Anne'ka Marzette - amarzette@msms.org

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan Statewide

Website: www.msms.org

Mid-Michigan Community Action Agency

Website: www.mmcaa.org

National Kidney Foundation of Michigan

Mission: To prevent kidney disease and improve the quality of life for those living with it

Contacts: Crystal D'Agostino - cdagostino@nkfm.org, Theresa Tejada - ttejada@nkfm.org

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan Statewide

Areas of Expertise: Preventive health regarding nutrition and physical activity; chronic kidney disease; diabetes; high blood pressure; working with minority populations within community settings; policies, systems and environmental change regarding food access

Networking Interests: NKFM welcomes collaboration with all partners that share our vision for more equitable and healthier communities

Website: www.nkfm.org

Taste the Local Difference

Mission: To educate consumers about the value of local food, and support food and farming entrepreneurs in building successful, well-connected, and thoughtful businesses

Contacts: Tricia Phelps - tricia@localdifference.org, Kelly Wilson - kelly@localdifference.org

Geographic Area Covered: Michigan Statewide

Areas of Expertise: B2B market development, local food focused media and marketing solutions (social media strategy, SEO, email newsletter marketing, photography, etc.), e-commerce solutions for local food businesses

Networking Interests: Those interested in support independently owned local food businesses (farms, farmers markets, grocers, restaurants, food hubs, wineries, value added producers, etc.), particularly BIPOC/women owned businesses, in strengthening their businesses and connecting to new markets; organizations interested in improving access to local food; organizations interested in educating the public about local food systems/the value of local food

Website: <https://www.localdifference.org/>