

DUBUQUE COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

DATE: Wednesday, April 7, 2021
TIME: 6:00 p.m.
PLACE: Dubuque County Health Department Board Room

**1225 Seippel Rd.
Dubuque, IA 52002**

(Due to the current COVID-19 situation Board Members and public should attend through ZOOM – link is included at the bottom of this agenda)

Agenda

1. Roll Call
2. PUBLIC COMMENTS –
At this time, anyone may address the Board on matters of which are on the agenda. Please raise your hand on ZOOM, state your name and home address. Individual remarks are limited to three minutes.
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of Minutes
 - a. March 17, 2021 and March 25, 2021
5. Board of Supervisor / Board of Health Liaison Comments
6. COVID-19 Update
 - a. At-Risk population vaccination plan
 - a. Billboard Proposal
 - b. Younkers POD
7. Brain Health (Chris Corken/Peter Supple)
8. Food Policy Council
 - a. Grants 2022
9. Next Meeting – April 21, 2021
10. Public Comment
At this time, anyone may address the Board on matters of which are of concern to that person and which are not agenda items. Please raise your hand on ZOOM, state your name and home address. Please be aware that the Board is limited in their ability to respond to such inquiries and Iowa Code prohibits the Board from deliberating or acting on items not appearing on the agenda. Individual remarks are limited to three minutes.
11. Adjournment

ZOOM Meeting Information.

<https://zoom.us/j/9090167418?pwd=NIhpSndvL2p3emRxZ3N0NFNYMk54QT09>

Meeting ID: 909 016 7418

Passcode: 011350

877 853 5247 US Toll-free

888 788 0099 US Toll-free

***Dubuque County Board of Health Meeting
Minutes of March 17, 2021***

Mr. Bechen called the March 17, 2021, Dubuque County Board of Health Special Meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Roll Call:

Members Present:	Tom Bechen, Diane Pape-Freiburger, Adam Hoffman, Hendrik Schultz, Corey Young, Dr. Bobby Koneru
Members Absent:	Katie Jones, Suzanne Stroud
Others Present:	Patrice Lambert, Dubuque County Health Department; Samantha Kloft, Dubuque County Health Department; Cori Burbach, City of Dubuque; Mary Rose Corrigan, City of Dubuque; Rick Steines, Dubuque Fire Chief; Ben Fischer; Ed Raber, Interim Board Executive Director; Ann McDonough, Chair to Dubuque County Supervisors; Harley Potthoff, Dubuque County Supervisor; Jay Wickham, Dubuque County Supervisor, Nichole Weber

Additional Notes: None

1. Roll Call

2. Public Comments

None

3. Approval of Agenda

Hendrik Schultz made the motion to approve the Agenda for March 17, 2021. Diane Pape-Freiburger seconded the motion. 6 Aye, motion carried.

4. Approval of Minutes

Diane Pape-Freiburger made the motion to approve the Minutes for February 17, 2021 and February 24, 2021. Hendrik Schultz seconded the motion. 6 Aye, motion carried.

5. Board member resignation

Tom Bechen recognizes the work of Valerie Peckosh on the Board of Health and thanks her for her dedication. Valerie Peckosh resigned for the BOH after the meeting on February 24, 2021.

6. Board of Health / Board of Supervisors Liaison

County Supervisor and BOH Liaison, Ann McDonough, shares that the BOS will be meeting Monday and the agenda may already be published. Any action made tonight may not make it on to the BOS agenda until April 5.

Ann adds that the BOS have no additional information about the additional POD proposal and they will all be joining tonight via Zoom to hear the presentation.

7. COVID-19 Update

Tom Bechen starts by stating that there were many questions asked of the IMT at the last BOS meeting. The answers to those questions will be in the update this evening, provided by Patrice Lambert.

Samantha Kloft shares her screen to display a brief COVID-19 update presentation led by Patrice. Patrice shares that all tiers 1-5, other than those 65+ and those incarcerated, have been vaccinated or are in the process of vaccine completion. More than 14,000 Dubuque County residents in the 65+ population are now fully vaccinated or are in the process of completing their two-dose series.

In the Governor's Press Conference this week, Governor Kim Reynolds announced plans to open the COVID-19 vaccine to the public as early as April 5. This would occur with a significant increase of vaccine to the state and county as early as March 29. This is an expected increase of approximately 220,000 vaccines to the state. More information to come next week on the Governor's plan. The IMT is questioning if a large increase to the county will require new, additional POD locations.

The Governor also mentioned the COVID-19 variants present in the state. IDPH will now be sharing which counties are seeing variants. The IMT urges everyone to continue following the mitigation strategies that have been stressed throughout the year. It is unknown the effects of these variants on both vaccinated and unvaccinated individuals. We cannot let our guard down at this time.

Patrice then addresses the questions that were posed to the IMT on Monday:

- **How many 65+ have declined the vaccine?**

The IMT did ask this question to the county vaccine providers. Some providers do keep this information, but not for a reportable purpose. It is used to circle back to those who declined to offer the vaccine again. This is not information that can be compiled at this time.

- **What is the plan for vaccinating >64? What is the one place they can go to get information and sign up?**

We will most likely see many providers develop online systems to schedule anyone wanting a vaccine appointment. The SleevesUp hotline has been opened up to this population and many people have been calling to get on the waitlist. If the Governor does open the vaccine to the public, the IMT will have to look at various ways to inform people of how to sign up for an appointment. Additionally, the 221 number has been opened to help those with technological barriers to appointment scheduling.

- **What is the plan for focusing on vaccination minority groups in Dubuque County?**

There is an equity immersion team working on this now. The team has been reaching out to various groups throughout the county to assess needs of minority community groups. This then gets reported back to the IMT to include in vaccination plans. Some of the strategies and actions they are looking at are additional messaging and translations as well as greater use of

social media. The team is working with community leaders to assist with information sharing and services such as transportation.

- **What is the plan for working with businesses that do not have Chamber of GDDC relationships?**

GDDC has help immensely with identifying businesses that fit the state's definition of essential and keep them informed on vaccination progress. Businesses who do not have a relationship with the Chamber or GDDC are urged to reach out to the Dubuque County Health Department to begin the process of developing a vaccination plan for their staff. This can be done on the county website, via phone, or through the SleevesUp hotline.

Patrice then shares some new guidance from the CDC on those who are fully vaccinated; long term care visitation; travel recommendations; and quarantine. Regularly check these updates on the CDC website.

Patrice shifts to the POD expenses update and shares that expenses are still coming in as the POD is up and running. These expenses are all covered through a variety of public health grants other than one (Mr. Rooter – water hook up). This expense will be covered through another funding source. Moving forward, any expenses that are not covered by the grants will be shared with the BOH. No action is needed by the BOH at this time.

Diane Pape-Freiburger asks if the number of doses from the state has decreased to the county over the past few weeks. Patrice responds that this state decrease did not affect Dubuque County. The county has been receiving 2,340 Pfizer and 200 Moderna doses on a weekly basis.

Diane also asks if the IMT is informed of how many vaccines are coming through the federal vaccine program. Patrice responds that the providers receiving those allocations are invited to the weekly meetings and asked to share that information. These numbers cannot be provided by the state, as there are many times that they do not even know what the federal allocations are.

Diane then asks if the dashboard is up-to-date and if subtracting the state allocation from the total would provide a number for federal allocations. Patrice responds that there have been issues with the dashboard accuracy over the past few weeks and she does not know that answer. She will get back to Diane on this.

Diane asks how are the variants being discovered and picked up? Patrice responds that this has been done by random sampling. Hendrik Schultz adds that there are two ways to do this. One is the randomly sampling by pooling them together. The second is done in shorter time. Hendrik does not know the specifics of how this is done in the State Hygienic Lab, but there are different ways to pick up a sequence belonging to a variant.

Diane asks if it is known which variants are in Dubuque County. Patrice adds that there are now an additional 38 cases of the B117 variant in Iowa. That is the one identified in Dubuque County as well. Hendrik adds that it is not unexpected to see variants emerge as the virus mutates. He predicts that eventually all variants will be seen in the US. Vaccines are still effective among these variants.

Tom Bechen asks if there is going to be a decrease in the cost to security at the POD. Patrice responds with yes.

8. COVID-19 Funding Requests

Rick Steines, Dubuque Fire Chief, shares his screen to present a proposal to the BOH for an additional POD location at the Grand River Center. Rick shares that with an expected increase in vaccine coming to the county, more space may be needed to accommodate. The Dubuque County Fire Department has now become an approved vaccine provider and is willing to staff this additional POD. The location was chosen as it is centrally located downtown and has the capacity to serve a large amount of people, both as walk-ins and drive thru. This site was previously used in a similar way for COVID-19 testing.

The proposed contract runs from April 1- July 31, 2021 and does exclude a few dates that were already booked at the Grand River Center. The covered parking garage, north parking lots, and Exhibit Hall A would be available through the contract. It is anticipated that staff could provide 50 vaccinations per hour.

As broken down in the agenda packet, the total cost of the proposal is approximately \$65,800.

Hendrik Shultz asks if this POD is in parallel with the current POD or replacing it. Rick responds that it would not replace the current POD. Hendrik also asks how many staff would be at the POD. Rick responds that it would be approximal 8-10 vaccinators per shift, and another 8-10 assisting with logistics.

Tom Bechen asks what the cost would be to run this for an 8-hour shift. Rick responds that it is approximately \$400-\$500 an hour for the Fire Department. This could potentially cost \$6,000+ per 8-hour day. Tom also comments that the current POD has access to the Jule bus and those transportation services are available already.

Diane Pape-Freiburger asks if providers have been asked if they can take larger vaccine allotments. Patrice responds that the IMT meets with the providers on a weekly basis and asks the capacity of each provider at that time. Capacity changes weekly as some providers are additionally administering boosters.

Adam Hoffman asks how many vaccines the current POD can provider per hour to compare to the 50 an hour that could be done at the additional POD. Patrice responds that she will reach out to the IMT for an answer. Diane adds that one provider reported 2,100 vaccinations in 1.5 days. Hendrik Schultz reiterates Adam's question in asking what is the maximin capacity of the current POD, and are we close to that now. Patrice responds that she does not know that exact answer right now, but the IMT and providers will do everything they can to avoid turning away any vaccine allocations. Capacity is a difficult question to answer as the IMT and providers only know how much vaccine and what kind is being allocated to the county on a week-to-week basis.

Tom Bechen asks what the cost of the call center software entails. Rick Steines responds that this software would assist with scheduling appointments for the public as well as those that are not tech-savvy. The call center will assist with scheduling appointments for those individuals. This will also include an app or online component for people to

schedule their own vaccinations. After scheduling an appointment and arriving at the POD site, staff can check them in using the same software and document their vaccination that downloads into IRIS. Finally, a second dose appointment can be scheduled at the same time.

Tom Bechen asks for clarification on how many people can be vaccinated in one hour at the POD. Rick responds that the POD could accommodate a car per minute, aside from the 15-minute observation period. He adds that some patients will move through the drive thru at varying paces.

Diane asks if the 15-minute observation area is also under the garage. Rick replies with yes. There is also ability to overflow into the outdoor parking lot. A paramedic will be onsite to observe this area. Diane worries the lighting under the garage is too dark for the paramedic to see in the cars during the observation period.

Hendrik asks what is being done now for those who are not tech-savvy. Patrice responds that there is the SleevesUp hotline that anyone can call and leave a message to get on the vaccine list. The Governor has also active the 211 number for this same purpose. Hendrik then clarifies, the call center is not something we have now. Patrice responds that that is correct. Hendrik also ask, what will happen to the call center when COVID-19 vaccinations are done. Rick responds that the number is a 6-month contract that would go away at the end of that time. Cori Burbach adds that the prices presented tonight are only estimates. If vaccinations move faster than 6-month, a shorter contract would be able to be negotiated. Mary Rose Corrigan also adds that the software included in the proposal is the best they have seen for the county's situation. She also comments that staff pay will go through COVID-19 grant funds as well as FEMA reimbursement.

Mary Rose also comments that this is a plan for if/when all other current resources are maxed out. Tom asks if the fire department would still be able to provide vaccines at other sites. Rick responds with yes, the fire department is a qualified provider through the state.

Diane asks if this scheduling software is something we should be looking at for the whole county, rather than just this provider. She also asks if this is a local company. Rick responds that it is not a local company. The software can accommodate to multiple providers and locations. Rick believes it can accommodate up to 5 entities/locations.

Supervisor Ann McDonough asks what it means that the county will provide match to any FEMA reimbursement. Cori responds that in the past, pandemic costs such as overtime work have been covered by FEMA 100%. However, in the future they may ask for a local match. The city may pay this themselves or ask for county assistance. Ann adds that none of the current providers are being paid for this work. Tom adds that this is one of his concerns as well.

Tom also comments that the proposal states it will go the BOH then the BOS for approval. Tom does not believe that this will need to go to the BOS and any action taken tonight could be a final decision on the additional POD site. Ann believes that this

proposal does need BOS approval as there is a contract that needs to be signed. This needs clarification.

Diane comments that she is not ready to entertain a motion at this point. She suggests scheduling a special meeting for next week to have more discussion.

Diane Pape-Freiburger made the motion to table this agenda item. Corey Young seconded the motion. 6 Aye, motion carried.

9. Committee Structure

Tom Bechen starts the conversation that there was a meeting with Ed Raber last week to discuss the committee structure. The conversation swayed toward having committees that reflect the CHNA/HIP. Tom believes that when it is time to begin the CHNA/HIP assessment process, committees could be organized at that time. Ed Raber reiterates this idea and adds caution that staff support has not been identified yet to assist these committees. There may be some areas where work is already going on and the BOH needs to be aware of that and potentially engage in the activities that are already going on. Diane also adds that while there are many things going on in the county already to analyze and/or address many health topics. She believes that many BOH members can participate in these ongoing meetings, activities, etc. based on the interests of each BOH member.

10. Brain Health

Tom Bechen proposes that Chris Corken come and speak to the BOH on this matter and have a conversation about how the BOH can assist or get involved in county brain health work. Diane comments that Chris also presented to a BOS meeting and it was excellent. She also adds that Chris's work is only one part of what is going on in the community.

Ann adds that she sits on the east central regional governing board for brain health. There is a week-long seminar that starts April 5 that includes Chris and many others focused on these issues. She also comments that the county sheriff, Joe Kennedy, wishes there were a BOH member with a brain health background.

11. Next Meeting

The BOH determines that they would be available next week for a special meeting to discuss the additional POD site proposal. The special meeting will be on Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 5:30 pm via Zoom.

12. Public Comment

Nichole Weber – Nicole asks where the boundaries of the BOH start and stop. There are things out of the BOH scope of practice that are concerning. She does not agree that the BOH should be able to determine things without the BOS. There is lots of oversight and

lack of transparency. FEMA and grants are also taxpayer dollars and if that money is being used for community work, more transparency and fiscal responsibility is needed.

Supervisor Jay Wickham – Jay shares a thank you with the BOH for volunteering time, effort, expertise, and care for all Dubuque County citizens.

13. Adjournment

Hendrik Schultz made the motion to adjourn at 8:30pm. Diane Pape-Freiburger seconded the motion. 6 Aye, motion carried.

The BOH will hold a special meeting on Thursday, March 25, 2021 at 5:30pm via Zoom to discuss the additional POD proposal.

***Dubuque County Board of Health Special Meeting
Minutes of March 25, 2021***

Mr. Bechen called the March 25, 2021, Dubuque County Board of Health Special Meeting to order at 5:30p.m.

Roll Call:

Members Present:	Tom Bechen, Diane Pape-Freiburger, Katie Jones, Adam Hoffman, Hendrik Schultz, Corey Young, Suzanne Stroud
Members Absent:	Dr. Bobby Koneru
Others Present:	Patrice Lambert, Dubuque County Health Department; Cori Burbach, City of Dubuque; Mary Rose Corrigan, City of Dubuque; Rick Steines, Dubuque Fire Chief; Ben Fischer; Ed Raber, Interim Board Executive Director; Ann McDonough, Chair to Dubuque County Supervisors; Harley Potthoff, Dubuque County Supervisor; Jay Wickham, Dubuque County Supervisor, Tom Berger, Dubuque County EMA; Bennett Goldstein, TH; Sharon Larson

Additional Notes: None

1. Roll Call

2. Public Comments

None

3. Approval of Agenda

Hendrik Schultz made the motion to approve the Agenda for March 25, 2021. Adam Hoffman seconded the motion. 5 Aye, motion carried.

4. COVID-19 Funding Requests

All proposal questions presented to the IMT from the BOH were answered in the Agenda Packet prior to tonight's meeting.

Tom Bechen notes that the cost of the proposal has changed to \$47,300 since it was last presented to the BOH. He then shares his screen to show a comparison between the proposal on March 17, 2021 and March 25, 2021. Originally, the total cost was estimated at \$55,000. Hendrik Schultz questions the estimated cost per day of the additional POD site. Tom comments that in the proposal on March 17, it states \$40 per hour per staff member.

Diane Pape-Freiburger comments that the questions she submitted were not fully answered in the FAQ sheet. She references #12 first and asks if fire fighters would be working more overtime to staff the POD. She also references question #21 and asks if all current providers have been informed on the plans for the additional POD. With an increase in doses, how will that effect distribution to current providers?

Diane then asks how many vaccines have currently been allocated to the underinsured or uninsured in the County. Where is the best site to distribute vaccine to this population?

Rick Steines responds to Diane's first question (#12) by stating that the fire fighters are contracted with the City of Dubuque and are subject to mandatory overtime. Staff do not have a large capacity per hour, but that is because they will also be responsible for their daily work as fire fighters. They are looking a variety of staffing options to staff the POD while avoiding overtime and burnout.

Katie Jones asks if there has been any consideration of having volunteers provide vaccines at the POD as well. Rick responds that their medical director would have to sign off on volunteer work. It is possibly, just trickier for coordinating volunteers.

Hendrick Schultz asks if it is possible for the fire fighters to assist at other locations. Rick responds that it is possible, as they are approved vaccine providers by the State.

Diane asks if that would only be within city limits or if they can work out in the county. Rick responds that yes, it is within city limits, but if the city gives a different directive, they may be able to assist out in the county.

Patrice Lambert circles back to Diane's question #21 in the Agenda Packet. She comments that on a weekly basis, the IMT meets with all vaccine providers to discuss vaccination plans and capacity, in addition to many emails back and forth throughout the week. The additional POD site was discussed with the providers at the last meeting. The providers were very open in this discussion in saying that they can increase capacity if needed. Some have mentioned extending hours, adding staff, etc. to accommodate to a large increase. Patrice believes there is a concern among providers that things may change for them with the addition of an additional POD. Diane asks if the current providers are willing to be supplemented with fire fighter staff members. Hendrik believes that providers may fall short when it comes to staffing when vaccine allocations triple. This would be a good opportunity for the fire fighters to come in and support the current system. Patrice adds that the IMT does not know how much vaccine the county will be getting. This information is shared by IDPH on a week-to-week basis, making it difficult to plan. There are many unknowns that make it difficult to predict what will be needed from providers in the coming weeks.

Hendrik does not have concerns that people will not pull together if/when a large allocation arrives to ensure no vaccine is wasted, he is worried though that this large increase will not come for a while.

Diane asks if the IMT knows how many vaccines the county will be getting next week with the increase the state is getting. Patrice responds that the IMT does not know this. A state increase does not necessarily mean there will be an increase in Dubuque County.

Diane also asks how the last meeting with vaccine providers ended. Patrice responds that the IMT thanked providers for their openness and flexibility. The IMT also encouraged providers to reach out to BOH members if they are concerned about the additional POD

site. Patrice admits that maybe this should have been brought to the providers sooner. Diane comments that we are where we are today because of these providers.

Patrice also comments on questions about the location of the additional POD site by saying that the IMT has reached out to many county mayors to assess if there are alternative locations to provide the vaccine. The IMT is also looking at different avenues to reach vulnerable populations.

Mary Rose Corrigan adds that POD planning is all contingent on allocation increase and capacity of staff. This additional POD is not the only place that needs focus when thinking about equitable vaccine distribution. The IMT is working on more creative ways to get the vaccine to all Dubuque County residents. Suzie Stroud is glad to hear this and adds that there are many people who do not go to the current vaccination sites that will fall through the cracks. It is encouraging to hear that there are discussions happening to address this population. Diane adds this ties in to staff concerns.

Katie Jones asks if the Equity Committee has plans in place for this population to get vaccinated. This includes home visits and parks. Mary Rose Corrigan responds that the Committee's report can be shared at the next BOH meeting. The IMT has been working with these groups to ask for opinions on where the best place would be to provide the vaccines. As more vaccine becomes available, these different "pop-up" vaccination sites can be further explored and activated. Diane asks if it is possible to conduct home visits. Mary Rose adds that this is a possibility if the funding this there to do this. This is something that Crescent is exploring. Suzie also adds that as the weather gets better, more if this outreach may become a greater possibility. Patrice comments that some of our vaccine providers have already gone to locations such as the shelters to provide vaccine to many of these populations. As far as having a plan for those who are homebound, the IMT is not there yet, but it is something that will be discussed.

Katie comments that this is the first time she has heard of this committee and she is wondering if there is a way to be more connected with this group. Patrice responds that Mary Rose is the IMT representative for that committee and Patrice will add that information into the weekly updates. Suzie receives the information from the committee as well and is willing to share it.

Tom Bechen circles back to a comment made by Hendrik earlier. He adds that there may not be a need for an additional 4-month POD as many county residents are already being vaccinated quickly. Diane adds that she interpreted Hendrik's comment as meaning staff need to be used in the most impactful way. She does not necessarily believe that a second POD will accomplish that.

Katie Jones comments that she would not like to see current providers lose their current allocations due to the addition of another POD. She believes that the second POD should not be activated until current providers and the POD are at capacity. Katie, Diane, and Hendrik express their desire to see the fire fighters assisting at the current POD site.

Adam Hoffman draws attention to question #7 and asks how much would be spent at the POD initially. Would the call center and all software be immediate payments? Rick Steines replies that the call center/software would be paid monthly at a maximum cost of \$15,000. If the cost goes above that, the county would not be responsible for paying. Cori Burbach adds that the software contract is at least 3-months long and they would like to start April 5. The team is researching other software programs as well. She also adds that with the contract at the Grand River Center, we are first priority for the space and they are very flexible.

Rick Steines asks the BOH to consider the fire fighters staffing the additional POD as that is the directive from the City. He does not want to overextend staff's ability to help at other sites at this time.

No action was taken by the BOH on this proposal, as no motion was presented.

5. Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting is set for Wednesday April 7, 2021 at 6:00pm via Zoom.

6. Public Comment

None

7. Adjournment

Diane Pape-Freiburger made the motion to adjourn at 6:37pm. Katie Jones seconded the motion. 7 Aye, motion carried.

The BOH will hold their regularly scheduled meeting on Wednesday April 7, 2021 at 6:00pm via Zoom.



The Dubuque County Food Policy Council FY22 grant cycle attracted a total request of \$43,912.73 for the Dubuque County food system.

The Dubuque County Food Policy Council recommends the \$20,000 fund for eligible grants be spent as follows:

- Mighty River Food Collective \$716
- Four Mounds \$5,000
- ReEvolution Farms \$3,000
- Dubuque Schools Foundation \$5,000
- Valentine Park \$3,000
- Dubuque Rescue Mission \$2,000
- Dubuque County Agricultural Extension District \$1,284
- Total Amount: \$20,000

Michaela Freiburger-
Chair
Whitney Sanger-
Co-Vice Chair
Rich Henderson-
Co-Vice Chair
Cindy Hilken
Kathy Hutton
Sunil Malapati
Paul Schultz
Ex Officio:
Saralyn Smith- Collingwood
Lynn Sutton
Patrice Lambert

The Dubuque County Food Policy Council recommended the following grant applications to the Community Foundation of Greater Dubuque (CFGD), where their committee confirmed approval of funding these projects (through their pot of funding from the County for relief). All of these projects have been identified by our Council and the CFGD review committee as related to COVID-19 relief and food insecurity relief:

- Riverbend Food Bank \$5,000
- DuRide \$2,500
- St. Pat's, Epworth \$1,000
- Lord of Life \$3,000
- Salvation Army \$633
- St. Luke Methodist \$3,490
- Urban Bicycle Food Mission, Dubuque \$5,000
- Total Amount: \$20,623.00

TOTAL FOOD SYSTEMS SUPPORT: \$40,623

About the Dubuque County Food Policy Council funded projects (description from their applications):

Mighty River Food Collective

The Might River Food Collective has grown to 10 member farms and several of the farms have committed to actively working on this educational aspect of our Collective. We are confident that we will add to the development of local food in our community because we are already working towards it. These grant funds will help us make our work more visible.

-more-

COMPONENTS OF OUR LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM:

PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, DISTRIBUTION, ACCESS, CONSUMPTION, RESOURCE/WASTE MINIMIZATION, HEALTH



Four Mounds

Rooted in the Dubuque Winter Farmers Market (WFM) mission to “Provide access to regional foods, offer economic opportunity to farmers and growers, and contribute to a vibrant community and healthy economy,” and driven by the objective “to provide a greater public understanding of the broader food system,” WFM will present Sustainable Food Systems Conversations Series. The series will engage the community in conversations centered around the broader food system in an effort to ignite conversations that guide audiences to make connections and encourage informed attitudinal change. Guest speakers will include agriculture, conservation, and sustainability experts and advocates (and more).

Michaela Freiburger-
Chair
Whitney Sanger-
Co-Vice Chair
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Sunil Malapati
Paul Schultz
Ex Officio:
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Patrice Lambert

ReEvolution Farms

Create an AG internship space for Dubuque students to gain experience in food production and research. Our goal is to engage local students with the science behind agriculture, along with career pathways in AG. This will help to fill a void in the city schools (Hempstead, Senior, Wahlert) which offer no AG based classes, unlike county schools (West Dubuque, Cascade). High School students in Dubuque (city schools offer no AG classes, unlike WD/Cascade). Begin with Wahlert, include Hempstead and Senior in year 2. Year 1- intro interns will build educational facilities while assisting with AG research pre-developed by ReEvolution farms. Students will assist with design, building, and care plan for future interns. Year 2 students (offered to all High Schools) will develop their own research project within the provided space of the facility, while learning about AG careers, customer relations, and basic farm planning/ maintenance/care. Students will present the outcome of their learning at the end of their internship.

Dubuque Schools Foundation

Goal: Meet the basic needs for the approximately 300 students that we serve. We seek to provide healthy foods, purchased through Riverbend/ St. Stephens Food Banks to reduce cost. The Counselor works closely with community groups (NAACP, the Marshallese community, etc.) to ensure that food resources get to our diverse school community. The grant is asking for \$5,000 to increase the amount of nutritional food and resources available for the students and families of the Alta Vista.

Valentine Park

We are working to establish a community garden at Valentine Park. This will provide a community asset for area residents by producing locally grown food and providing space to meet, interact, and share gardening knowledge. The completed garden will also serve as an educational space and we will share our experiences and policies to help establish more community gardens. We have about 12 households partnering with the city of Dubuque and local college students to begin construction of the garden in Spring 2021. This includes, notably, the professional labor of running a waterline from a demolished house across the lot to a water source within the garden space.

-more-

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PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, DISTRIBUTION, ACCESS, CONSUMPTION, RESOURCE/WASTE MINIMIZATION, HEALTH



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Dubuque Rescue Mission

Expand Garden resiliency and capacity by providing a Rescue Mission resident with the transferable knowledge and leadership skills to streamline the movement of fresh produce grown in the Garden to the plates of those served through the Mission Kitchen's free meal program. Beginning in May, this individual will work with the Garden Manager to learn cultivation of vegetable plants, then begin harvesting in June, and work with Kitchen staff to process produce in readily usable ways. By July, this individual will lead and teach other residents and volunteers to do this work.

Dubuque County Agricultural Extension District

The Dubuque County Free Seed Potato Program is an educational outreach activity enabling residents of Dubuque County to access information on sustainable production of garden potatoes in the 2022 growing season. Upon signing up, participants will receive 2 pounds of seed potatoes to be planted in a space of their own. This will plant approximately 16 hills of potatoes. In addition, residents will receive season long growing information and tips on the sustainable production of garden potatoes. The goal of this program is to provide the resources enabling residents to learn how to grow their own locally grown food, resulting in a more healthy and food secure community.

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COMPONENTS OF OUR LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM:

PRODUCTION, PROCESSING, DISTRIBUTION, ACCESS, CONSUMPTION, RESOURCE/WASTE MINIMIZATION, HEALTH