

**Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP)  
Final Performance Report**

<b>Report Date Range:</b> <i>(e.g. September 30, 20XX-September 29, 20XX)</i>	September 30, 2015- September 29, 2016
<b>Authorized Representative Name:</b>	Gerry F. Roll
<b>Authorized Representative Phone:</b>	606-439-1357
<b>Authorized Representative Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:gerry@applachianky.org">gerry@applachianky.org</a>
<b>Recipient Organization Name:</b>	Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky
<b>Project Title as Stated on Grant Agreement:</b>	Northfork Local Food Feasibility Study and Food System Assessment
<b>Grant Agreement Number:</b>	15-LFPP-KY-0076
<b>Year Grant was Awarded:</b>	2015
<b>Project City/State:</b>	Chavies, KY
<b>Total Awarded Budget:</b>	\$25,000

LFPP staff may contact you to follow up for long-term success stories. Who may we contact?

Same Authorized Representative listed above (check if applicable).

Different individual: Name: \_\_\_\_\_; Email: \_\_\_\_\_; Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

1. State the goals/objectives of your project as outlined in the grant narrative and/or approved by LFPP staff. If the goals/objectives from the narrative have changed from the grant narrative, please highlight those changes (e.g. “new objective”, “new contact”, “new consultant”, etc.). You may add additional goals/objectives if necessary. For each item below, qualitatively discuss the progress made and indicate the impact on the community, if any.

**Goal/Objective 1:** One feasibility study is conducted for a regional local food products aggregation and marketing center sourcing local foods from a 150-mile radius covering supply, demand, competition, and legal, facility, and financial considerations.

- i. **Progress Made:** We contracted with the Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development (KCARD) to conduct the feasibility study. The study was completed and shared with the Northfork Local Food Board in September 2016. The feasibility study results allowed clarity on a dream for Perry County’s local food system. Even though our community is moving forward with local food, we are still not able to support a retail location at this time. Thankfully, this study has given a great amount of background that has led to very strategic goals, that one day, will lead us to a more localized food system. In order to conduct the feasibility study KCARD collaborated with Community Farm Alliance (CFA) to collect consumer, producer, and food buyer data through SurveyMonkey, an online survey site. Individual phone calls were also made to target specific people in those categories that we believed would have significant input on what the food system looks like and where they would like to see it in the next 10 years. During those conversations the impact and results it seemed that folks were generally interested in buying local food but were unaware of where to do so, or how costly it could get. Some specific results from the KCARD feasibility study included that during that time, only 2 percent of consumers reported always shopping at the farmers’ market, and another 17 percent shop at the farmers’ market once per month. One of the greatest barriers indicated

by the survey results was transportation. We are combatting this in some ways but utilizing the Senior Citizens bus to make market visits. We are also looking to collaborate with local churches to see if they can sponsor weekly shuttles to the market.

- ii. **Impact on Community:** In the beginning before the feasibility study came to a close, information about the feasibility study created opportunities for the community to think about and engage in dialogue about local food production and the idea of an aggregation and marketing center. Now that the study has been completed the Northfork Local Food Coordinator, Maggie Smith, started attending community meetings focused around agriculture and sharing results. As the 2017 year starts Northfork Local Food will host a community forum/ stakeholders meeting to share the results with a wider audience and start moving forward with the goals of Northfork for the 2017 year. We are not discouraged by the results that Hazard is not ready for a retail location but instead motivated to stabilize our eating environment to become ready for that growth. Some recommendations from KCARD in moving forward included piloting a winter CSA basket, extending the market season, community farm-to-table dinner and/or hosting an online winter farmers' market store. In those projects we have to address the concerns of consumer demand (stated above) and the Producer confidence in the market, because out of 48 respondents only 11 producers are comfortable expanding their current operation.

**Goal/Objective 2:** If concept is found feasible, a business plan is designed for a regional local food products aggregation and marketing center considering and integrating findings from the feasibility study.

- i. **Progress Made:** The KCARD Feasibility Study was completed and the quest of a local food aggregation retail space was found to not be feasible at this time. One barrier is the lack of producers in our area that are willing to risk entering the retail sector because they feel that "there is not a large enough demand to make a retail market secure." When creating the consumer survey our greatest curiosity was: where are people shopping? Why are they choosing to shop there? When analyzing results KCARD & Community Farm Alliance (CFA) were able to see that most people shop out of convenience. From that we are charged with changing the community food habits as a part of the foundation of this work.

- ii. **Impact on Community:** Although the idea of a local food retail space would be a leading force in the downtown revitalization effort in Hazard, the project is a big step from where we are now with local food. In order to one day reach the goal of placing a local food aggregation point in Hazard, we have learned that there are certain steps that need to be taken beforehand. One major focus for the 2017 year is to increase farmer recruitment, to get farmers selling at the Perry County Farmers' Market. The market would be a direct filter for vendors at the retail space and with the limited number of producers participating in the market, there would not be enough produce to meet the consumer/industrial demand. Industrially, Perry County has a huge demand with our Farm to School Program and even with our local hospital. Currently, those industries are sourcing from out of county to meet the majority of their needs. Additionally, the feasibility study brought to light the need for season extension amongst current and future growers. Due to the retail space being unfeasible, KCARD did not create a business plan but supplied Northfork with a number of options that can help them grow. Some recommendations from KCARD in moving forward included piloting a winter CSA basket, extending the market season, community farm-to-table dinner and/or hosting an online winter farmers' market store.

**Goal/Objective 3:** Participatory community food system assessment is conducted to define community-identified priorities and engage with potential stakeholders.

i. **Progress Made:** The Community Food System Assessment (CFSA) began in August after Northfork Local Food Coordinator, Maggie Smith, was hired by Community Farm Alliance to work in Hazard. The CFSA research came to a close early December, edits were submitted by board members, and the final report will be shared with the Northfork Local Food Board at the January 2017 meeting where they will also set a date for the Community/Stakeholder Forum. Throughout the research and compiling of data, Northfork Local Food Coordinator, saw a need to create a humanistic component of all the numbers. She conducted interviews with producers, consumers, and community members and included them within the report. Readers are able to see who is a part of the food system, while also seeing the data. After months of trying to conduct interviews with food buyers, she had no traction and was unable to complete an interview with a grocery chain or restaurant (food buyers). The surveys were conducted through the online service of SurveyMonkey that collects data and displays results in easy to read graphs. Survey questions for producers were targeted to figure out what they were growing and why, and if they were willing to extend their growing season or expand their production. Survey questions for consumers dug for trends of where they shop regularly, who cooks and grocery shops, and importance of food safety in relation to convenience. Consumers were also asked demographic questions (highest level of education, race, age, annual income, etc.) that helped created trends. Consumer respondents totaled 340: 65 out of county, 275 residing in Perry County. Food buyer questions targeted what was local in store and how local is defined by each interviewed institution. We were also curious as to what restrictions or allowances individual institutions were facing when purchasing local food. Survey links were distributed through facebook, community partners, organizations, and church email lists. Paper copy surveys were available at the farmers' market and data was entered into the online service. For more information on how to conduct a community food system assessment or deeper results (quantitative or qualitative) please contact Community Farm Alliance at <http://cfaky.org/>.

ii. **Impact on Community:** The Community Food System Assessment (CFSA) allowed us to engage community members and stakeholders through a dialogue about local food in Perry County. Since the beginning of this assessment hearing the stories of others that qualify the data from the surveys has led Northfork Local Food to create priorities for the upcoming year. The CFSA identified two definitive overarching goals: (1) **Board Development and Community Goal Setting:** Northfork gaining 501(C)(3) status, local food education campaign, farmer recruitment and support; and (2) **Utilizing Community Networks:** partnering deeper with Perry County Farm to School, healthcare institutions, churches to reach out into the county, and intersecting and investigating additional food buyers. The survey results consumers stated that they are interested in local food and farmers' market expansion, during interviews we saw that data further come to life with the dependence on local food for diets, economic growth, and socialization. Hearing the honest stories of low and high income consumers really qualified the growth detected by this assessment and the feasibility study.

**Goal/Objective 4:** Multi-sector community support for local food products aggregation and marketing center is developed through processes of the feasibility study and community food system assessment and the communications of findings.

i. **Progress Made:** Information about the feasibility study has created opportunities for people to think about and engage in dialogue about local food production and an aggregation and marketing center. This interest and dialogue will serve as a foundation for building support for this plan among various community sectors. Due to the completion of both the KCARD Feasibility Study and the CFSA when Northfork enters conversations with other community stakeholders that are interested in seeing a more agrarian community. One of the current partners is Hazard Community and Technical College who is launching their sustainable agriculture certificate program. HCTC and Northfork Local Food, along with other community partners, are banding together to create projects that have a greater impact.

ii. **Impact on Community:** Due to the data collected in these studies there have been opportunities for us to partner on grants and have a voice in local initiatives around agriculture. The set the baseline for what our community needs and allow us to focus greater on what's next, and what we can handle right now that will promote growth. In the future they will remain as a way to start and provoke conversations about local food in Perry County, and create plans to serve the community better.

**Goal/Objective 5:** A strategic plan is created for the development of a local food products aggregation and marketing center with consideration to the feasibility study, business plan, and community food system assessment.

i. **Progress Made:** The KCARD feasibility study proved that a local food aggregation point in downtown Hazard is not sustainable at this time. Instead of supplying us with a business plan, that is not usable for our community currently, KCARD gave additional options that can help Northfork guide Perry County towards a more localized community food system. From the KCARD feasibility study:

#### **Issues Addressed**

- **Consumer demand** To increase local food consumption, Northfork must create and support consumer habits related to purchasing and eating local food. The Perry County Farmers Market generally operates from May to October, approximately six months of the year. Over the course of the season, consumers in search of higher quality, fresh, and local products begin to visit the market. During that time, only 2 percent of consumers reported always shopping at the farmers market, and another 17 percent shop at the farmers market once per month.
- **Producer Confidence in Market and Expertise** Based on Perry County Farmers Market data, the number of producers is five or less at Saturday market until July. This lack of consistent product availability and variety does not attract and retain consumers. Out of the 48 producer survey respondents, 11 had the ability to extend their farm season through high tunnels or other practices. Their participation in the farmers market is not apparent according to early season vendor data. While they may have the physical tools to extend the season, these producers either have not successfully employed season-extension practices or do not have confidence in the consumer base during May and June.
- **Farmers Market Extended Season** Extending the season of the farmers market is the first step in increasing the production and consumption of local food products. It creates a longer period for producers sell products and increases their revenue. However, difficulties faced in extending the farmers market season include getting producers to plan for and participate early- and late-season production. Northfork will have to engage in extensive marketing that promotes the extended market season to consumers and the products available. Failure of producers to have items at the market, or failure of consumers to shop, especially in the spring, can adversely affect both producer and consumer confidence in the farmers market throughout the year. Producer engagement and consumer marketing must be undertaken to mitigate this risk.

#### **Avenues to Support Local Food**

- An **online farmers market store** during the winter season can be modeled after the precursor to the Boone Street Market in Jonesborough, TN. Jonesborough Locally Grown used this tool to both habituate consumers to buying locally year-round and to give farmers confidence and ability required to produce products with extended seasons or long shelf-life. Obstacles to creating an online farmers market store include space to store farm product, logistics in procuring local food products from outside the immediate area, and setting up an online storefront. Proper inventory management and communication with producers will mitigate risk of consumers ordering unavailable products produced seasonally. The online store will need to supplement the winter farm product available by including local food products from surrounding areas available in the store is recommended, such as cheese, pasta, bread, flour, specialty drinks, and other locally-produced foods. Most of these products can be procured by a weekly trip down the Hal Rogers

Parkway and Interstate 75, with a drive time of approximately 4 hours to Richmond and 2 hours of product pick-up time. Flour, aged cheese, and pasta can be ordered biweekly and shipped. Frozen meats can be delivered by either local producers or processors and stored in a chest freezer, while vegetable and other crops can be delivered weekly by interested farmers. The minimum equipment required will be a chest freezer, an upright refrigerator, a computer, a sturdy shelving unit for dry goods, and a work surface for completing and checking orders. It is anticipated to take 20 to 25 hours per week during the winter months to procure products, gather orders, respond to customer inquiries, communicate with farmers, and update inventory availability. Orders can be pick up weekly window, during a one-hour window at the same general time and location as the farmers market, reinforcing consumer habits.

- **Whole Basket Winter CSA** The “whole basket” winter CSA (community supported agriculture) shares will be a once-per-week basket that may include local farm vegetables and fruits, one meat, a dairy product, a baked good, a canned product, a beverage, and a dry good (pasta or flour). The “whole basket” approach will refer to the inclusion of other regionally available foods, including pasta, bread, spreads, preserved foods, flour, and cheese.
- **The Whole Basket CSA** program will include the products mentioned in the online market above section and require roughly the same amount for product procurement time. To begin the program, five- to ten-week shares are recommended to allow consumers to try the program and acclimate producers to the system, with at least two cycles offered during the farmers market off-season. The benefits of this program include creating a habit for customers, strengthening producer confidence in the market, and giving producers an incentive to increase their season extension production practices. Additionally, it will help create relationships with local food producers in the region as dairy, meat, pasta, and others are included in the basket. While the bare equipment necessary for a product storage are similar to the online store option, the money to purchase items in the basket is provided up front, creating a positive cash flow at the beginning of the endeavor.
- **Farm-to-Table Dinners** Seasonal farm-to-table dinners increases community awareness of local agriculture and the farmers market. These dinners are time-consuming to coordinate and must involve both chefs and producers from the beginning. Some markets do the dinner during the peak of summer, when vegetable and fruit variety is at its highest. However, to emphasize early spring production or an extended market season in the fall, these dinners are a useful tool. Although labor intensive to coordinate, other organizations have used these dinners as a fundraising opportunity. Relying on volunteers for much of the planning and coordinating of the event, with a paid employee overseeing the event as a whole, is a way to reduce overhead cost and enhance the fundraising aspect of the dinner. While this option will not strengthen consumer habits of purchasing local food, it will create awareness of local food options and producer visibility in the community.

**Next Steps for Northfork:** The Northfork board and KCARD will need to discuss the results of the feasibility study and its implication for the direction the Northfork board choses to take. KCARD will work with board members to produce a business plan for the alternative route of their choosing.

ii. **Impact on Community:** Due to the amount of conversation around these studies, there is interest in a marketing center located in our downtown area that would be within walking distance of several low-income neighborhoods as well as serve as an anchor for downtown revitalization. At the same time these studies show that consumers in those areas are not adequately represented on the data. There were a number of producers that have also indicated an interest in the opportunity a marketing center creates for their businesses, but among those producers is little to no desire to take the risk of entering a retail market. The strategic plan that has blossomed from the research presented in these two studies focuses heavily on education, recruitment, and development.

**2. Quantify the overall impact of the project on the intended beneficiaries, if applicable, from the baseline date (the start of the award performance period, September 30, 2015). Include further explanation if necessary.**

- i. Number of direct jobs created: N/A In the upcoming year several market opportunities will be created but due to the results coming in later in the fall for both studies we are unable to report a definite number at this time.
- ii. Number of jobs retained: N/A
- iii. Number of indirect jobs created: 1 Northfork Local Food Coordinator position with Community Farm Alliance in Hazard to compile, create, and coordinate all of the local foods efforts.
- iv. Number of markets expanded: 0 we are focused on building our current community farmers' market before expanding. There are conversations and potential plans for a mobile market, but until we can supply the consumer and industrial demand we have now, we will not be launching any additional markets.
- v. Number of new markets established: N/A
- vi. Market sales increased by...we have not shared our results on a wide base with the community, until we have our community/stakeholder forum and start the 2017 market season we are unable to report definite numbers of a market sale increased. However, we believe that once the community sees the results and some of our goals come to fruition that we will see a significant increase.
- vii. Number of farmers/producers that have benefited from the project: Approximately 20 farmers will benefit from the results of these studies.

**3. Did you expand your customer base by reaching new populations such as new ethnic groups, additional low income/low access populations, new businesses, etc.? If so, how?**

To date, the informal conversations in the community around this issue have occurred primarily with “the usual suspects”, however, we are planning to reach out to producers who are not currently part of Northfork or the Perry County Farmers Market, various low-income communities including SNAP recipients and Housing Authority of Hazard neighborhoods, and locally owned restaurants who may be interested in purchasing local products. We have not yet begun work on our newfound goals at this time. The 2017 year will be focused heavily on building that larger customer base through education and recruitment.

**4. Discuss your community partnerships.**

**Who are your community partners?**

Community Farm Alliance, Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky, Hazard Community and Technical College, Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development (KCARD), Perry County Extension Services and Perry County Farm to School.

**i. How have they contributed to the overall results of the LFPP project?**

**Community Farm Alliance** hired Maggie Smith, the Northfork Local Food Coordinator who finalized the Community Food System Assessment and continues to work and carry out the mission of Northfork Local Food.

**Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky** serves in a guiding role as the fiscal sponsor of Northfork Local Food. The Foundation manages our accounting and assists in creating sound financial structures.

**Hazard Community and Technical College (HCTC)** is a huge stakeholder in Perry County and with the launching of their sustainable agriculture degree program. Jenny Williams serves as a liaison between the HCTC and Northfork. She also serves on the Community Farm Alliance Board. In the future

HCTC and Northfork are planning to partner on several agriculture projects in Perry County, and the feasibility study and food system assessment have helped to build this relationship.

**Perry County Extension Services** is a great ally in carrying out the priorities that have resulted from these studies. Extension has a great amount of knowledge and resources regarding agriculture education. Perry County Extension is also in process of building new building that will double as a community kitchen and have space for an indoor farmers' market.

**Perry County Farm to School** aids in creating a secure market for local producers because they are a part of a permanent institution that always needs local food products. They will serve as a selling point to recruit additional farmers and producers. The farm to school coordinator, Liberty Campbell, participated in the food system assessment and continues to be invested in the community.

**Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development** conducted the feasibility study for the local food aggregation retail space, and serves as an advising organization for future business plans.

**ii. How will they continue to contribute to your project's future activities, beyond the performance period of this LFPP grant?**

**Community Farm Alliance** hired Maggie Smith, the Northfork Local Food Coordinator who continues to work and carry out the mission of Northfork Local Food and build relationships with stakeholders and community members.

**Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky** will continue to serve as a guiding role as the fiscal sponsor of Northfork Local Food. The Foundation manages our accounting and assists in creating sound financial structures.

**Hazard Community and Technical College (HCTC)** In the future HCTC and Northfork are planning to partner on several agriculture projects in Perry County. Combined the two will break silos that are happening in their community around local food.

**Perry County Extension Services** is in the process of building new building that will double as a community kitchen and have space for an indoor farmers' market. They will also be a great ally when starting education campaigns within communities.

**Perry County Farm to School** aids in creating a secure market for local producers because they are a part of a permanent institution that always needs local food products. They will serve as a selling point to recruit additional farmers and producers.

**Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development** will be a source of advisement for future business plans.

**5. Did you use contractors to conduct the work? If so, how did their work contribute to the results of the LFPP project?**

Northfork Local Food through the Foundation for Appalachian Kentucky contracted with **Community Farm Alliance (CFA)** for Northfork Local Food Coordinator, Maggie Smith, conducted the Community Food System Assessment. Her work in Perry County focuses primarily on carrying out the future work and mission of Northfork Local Food. They also contracted with **Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development (KCARD)**, who conducted the feasibility study. Without the contracted work of these two organizations we would not have the clarity or the plans that are currently coming into place.

**6. Have you publicized any results yet? Yes, but not to the public.**

**i. If yes, how did you publicize the results?**

The results for the feasibility study and the food system assessment have been shared with the board at the end of the year meeting. The final results will be shared on a greater level with the community and stakeholders at the first of the year.

**ii. To whom did you publicize the results?**

KCARD presented the results of the feasibility study to the Northfork Local Food Board at the September board meeting. The final results/report of the CFSA will be shared at the January board meeting. The results have also briefly been mentioned in meetings with Community Farm Alliance and Hazard Community and Technical College.

**iii. How many stakeholders (i.e. people, entities) did you reach?**

Through local food focus groups meetings and other community meetings that our Northfork Local Food Coordinator has been present some of the results have been shared. We are waiting to open the full results at the beginning of the year.

**7. Have you collected any feedback from your community and additional stakeholders about your work?** Not yet.

**i. If so, how did you collect the information?**

We will open a survey that can be filled out January and February so that community members and stakeholders can respond to the results.

**ii. What feedback was relayed (specific comments)?** None at this time.

**8. Budget Summary:**

**i. As part of the LFPP closeout procedures, you are required to submit the SF-425 (Final Federal Financial Report).**

Check here if you have completed the SF-425 and are submitting it with this report:

**ii. Did the project generate any income?** No.

**9. Lessons Learned:**

**i. Summarize any lessons learned. Draw from positive experiences (e.g. good ideas that improved project efficiency or saved money) and negative experiences (e.g. what did not go well and what needs to be changed).**

**Positive**

a) Due to the feasibility study and the food system assessment our Northfork Local Food Coordinator was able to become very acquainted with Perry County on a data driven level as well as created deeper relationships with those she interviewed.

b) Northfork Local Food has a clear outline of what to focus on in the future and how to move forward in the 2017 year with education, recruitment, and development.

c) Although the feasibility study was unsuccessful as far as the retail outlet goes, we now have concrete reasoning as to why it is not possible.

**Negative**

a) Due to the hire date of the Northfork Local Food Coordinator, the Community Food System Assessment progress and the sharing of reports was delayed.

b) Looking back we would like to have concentrated on gaining responses from a more diverse population to make a more accurate depiction of what the food system looks like. Though we focused our consumer surveys on those who “eat, shop, and play in Perry County” we would have liked to have seen a greater diversity amongst all demographics.

**ii. If goals or outcome measures were not achieved, identify and share the lessons learned to help others expedite problem-solving:**

a. Make sure that all communities within your area are represented in the data when conducting one of these assessments. One way we could have gotten a more diverse poll of respondents if we would have taken paper copies of surveys into specific neighborhoods and gain their responses. Perry County has a lot of smaller communities out in the county (Buckhorn, Leatherwood, etc.) we did not see a heavy number of respondents out in the county.

**iii. Describe any lessons learned in the administration of the project that might be helpful for others who would want to implement a similar project:**

a. If you are planning to conduct a Community Food System Assessment make sure that you set dates at the beginning for local food focus groups, stakeholder meetings, and interviews so that you are able to obtain a completed set of information and do not run into roadblocks like we did with the food buyer interviews on the CFSA.

**10. Future Work:**

i. How will you continue the work of this project beyond the performance period? In other words, how will you parlay the results of your project's work to benefit future community goals and initiatives? Include information about community impact and outreach, anticipated increases in markets and/or sales, estimated number of jobs retained/created, and any other information you'd like to share about the future of your project.

The background work that the KCARD Feasibility Study and the Community Food System Assessment provide lay the foundation for Northfork Local Food to be a leader in Perry County. These studies will be shared with folks who show interest in local food and their community. Because of this work we expect an increase in market customers and producers. We anticipate that there will be an increase in sales at the farmers' market and that the community will become more engaged in the local food movement through workshops. The future of Northfork Local Food is outlined further in the following question.

ii. Do you have any recommendations for future activities and, if applicable, an outline of next steps or additional research that might advance the project goals?

**Recent or Upcoming Activities:**

- Apply for **501(c)3 status with the IRS**, opening new opportunities for Northfork to apply for grants to continue important local food access work.
- **Continue and expand the Perry County Farmers' Market**, currently in year 2 of new management.
- Conduct a **Community Food System Assessment** to assess current local food access to more thoughtfully and strategically inform the development of local food access projects
- Provide **capacity to Perry County Farm to School program**
- **Develop partnerships** with community allies including area hospitals, schools, and churches to increase respective constituent access to local food.
- **Pursue funding** through grants, fundraising, and sponsorship to ensure future project development.
- **Recruit** new producers to enter the farmers' market
- **Coordinate** with Perry County Farm to School and Perry County Extension to host community workshops around local food and agriculture.

**The following is the adjusted timeline for the Coordinator based upon the hiring date as well as project progress throughout the reporting period above.**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Activity</b>
August 1, 2016	Northfork Coordinator starts with CFA
August-October 2016	Perry County Farmers' Market Support: assisting the Market Manager at each market, preparing strategies and streamline processes for next market season.
August-September 2016	Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development (KCARD) was hired to conduct a feasibility study for a local food aggregation point in downtown Hazard, Kentucky. The final report was submitted to Northfork on September 1st and was shared at the September board meeting. (see attachments for contract)
August-December 2016	Northfork Local Food Board contracted with Community Farm Alliance to conduct a Community Food System Assessment for Perry County. The draft was submitted by the Coordinator at November's board meeting for board revisions. The final report will be shared with Northfork on December 16th. (see attachments for contract)
October-December 2016	Coordinator reports on ARC and USDA grants, and completes the 2017 USDA Farm to School Implementation grant.
January 2017	Northfork Local Food hosts a community stakeholder meeting to share the KCARD Feasibility Study and Community Food System Assessment. Planning for the Perry County Farmers' Market 2017 season will start in January also.
January-August 2017	Apply for 501(c)3 status, continue support for Perry County Farm to School and the Perry County Farmers' Market while building a sustainable system and sourcing funding for the future work of Northfork Local Food. Host community workshops, education campaign, and recruit farmers.