KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY | Extension

October 2026 Town Hall Links

KSRE Local Food Systems Email Newsletter

Notes & Recordings of all Town Halls

302 Delaware, Jewell, KS – From Vacant to Vital: Community Restaurant & Market, Shelby Bohnert

Kansas Farm to Plate Strategic Plan - Eryn Davis, Kansas State Dept. Of Education, Eryn Davis, Farm to Plate Project Director, Child Nutrition and Wellness, (785) 296-5060 & eryn.davis@ksde.gov

Local Foods Program Announcements

- Quarterly Town Halls will not continue in 2027.
    - Coming Soon: Food Systems in Focus webinars, Third Friday at 9:30 a.m. in Jan, Mar, May, July, Sept, & Nov
- Local Food Producer Workshops: Feb 13 in Wichita, Feb 18 in Lawrence at Haskell, Feb 25 in Salina, Feb 26 in Pittsburg, Mar 3 in Hays and Mar 4 in Liberal (tentative)
- Food Business Start Up Summit – April 2027 (tentative)
- Local Food Summit – November 2027

Other Links shared during Announcements

- Douglas County and the local food council are working on an Indigenous Food Systems Study and Action Plan.
    - Connie Fiorella Fitzpatrick, Food Systems Specialist, Douglas County Sustainability Office, cfitzpatrick@dgcoks.gov & www.dgcoks.gov/fpc
- Save the Date – Kansas Food Action Network Annual Convening, November 4 and 5 in Manhattan, KS
- Kansas Food Action Network Advocacy Day is February 3, 2027. If you are interested in participating, reach out to Lorrie.
    - Contact: Lorrie Kessler, lorrie@ksfoodactionnetwork.org
    - Join the network gaggle for updates and announcements
- Chronic Disease Risk Reduction Community Grant - aims to address chronic disease risk factors through evidence-based strategies focused on tobacco use, physical activity, and healthy food access. The CDRR grant mostly funds salaries to work on a community's selected strategies. We are hosting an in-person CDRR workshop in January in Wichita.
    - If you are not familiar with the grant, Lisa Frey Blume with KDHE can provide more information, lisa.freyblume@ks.gov
- Kansas Rural Center Farm Dreams & Farm Beginnings
    - Contact Ryan Goertzen-Regier at ryangr@kansasruralcenter.org with questions about program or financial assistance

