C. Building the Case for Collaborative Networks
Monday, November 16, 2015, 1:00 pm session only – Arbor Lakes Room

This workshop will provide the “key ingredients” to effective collaboration in handling complex problems, such as food systems change. Fun and engaging activities for building cross-sector relationships and discussion regarding generating collective action among diverse stakeholders will illustrate how food-systems-based collaborative efforts have created successful action-oriented community engagement. Examples will be provided from the Metro Food Access Network (MFAN), several food networks in northwestern Minnesota, as well as the Minnesota Food Charter — a document created through extensive public engagement that outlines the future of food in Minnesota where residents live, work, and play.

Learning objectives
1. Demonstrate that collaboration is a tool for handling complex problems such as food systems change.
2. Illustrate the effectiveness of collaboration through the exploration of very different food networks around the state of Minnesota.
3. Show how collective action can contribute to systems level change that otherwise could not have been accomplished by any one entity.
4. Begin to equip participants with tools for collaboration.

Jamie Bain, MPH
Health and Nutrition Extension Educator, University of Minnesota Extension

Jamie Bain works for the University of Minnesota Extension as a health and nutrition extension educator in the seven-county metro area. She seeks to advance equitable access to healthy foods for all metro residents through coordination of the Metro Food Access Network (MFAN) as well as supporting Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program Education (SNAP-Ed) programming in the region. She has her degree in nutritional Sciences and a master’s in public health nutrition. She looks at nutrition not as individual molecules and their interaction in your body, but as a holistic experience originating from the soil and culminating in community.

Noelle Harden
Extension Educator in Health and Nutrition, University of Minnesota Extension

Noelle Harden is an extension educator in health and nutrition at the University of Minnesota Extension, covering 16 counties and three reservations in northwestern Minnesota. She has an educational background in geography, agroecology, and sustainable food production. Noelle’s work as a professional is based on examining food and nutrition issues through a systems approach that includes food policy, supply and demand of local food, and food literacy. This work has included providing leadership at the regional and state level in the development of the Minnesota Food Charter and support for food network across northwestern Minnesota.
Building the Case for Collaborative Networks

JAMIE BAIN & NOELLE HARDEN

Collaboration with other organizations is an essential part of my day to day work
INTRO TO FOOD NETWORKS

- Collaboration occurs at multiple scales (local, regional, statewide)

- Key ingredients for success
LOCAL

The Fergus Falls Community Food Partnership

REGIONAL

The MISSION of MFAN is to leverage collective capacity of partners to advance equitable access to healthy food for all Twin Cities metro residents.
The Minnesota Food Charter Network is a statewide network, rooted in Minnesota Food Charter strategies, that supports and fosters shared action towards healthy food access for all.

CURTIS OGDEN’S FRAMEWORK FOR COLLABORATION
What is the most important lesson you have learned about networking at this conference?

1) Write down your answer (1 min)
1) Discuss with a neighbor (2 min)
1) Introduce yourselves & discuss with table members (6 min)
1) Rewrite your answer (1 min)
What is the most important lesson you have learned about networking at this conference?

1) Write down your answer (1 min)

1) Discuss with a neighbor (2 min)

1) Discuss in small groups (6 min)

1) Rewrite your answer (1 min)
What is the most important lesson you have learned about networking at this conference?

1) Write down your answer (1 min)

1) Discuss with a neighbor (2 min)

1) Discuss in small groups (6 min)

1) Rewrite your answer (1 min)

CURTIS OGDEN’S FRAMEWORK FOR COLLABORATION
**ALIGNMENT ACTIVITY: COIN LOGO**

- Each person at the table take 2-3 objects out of their pocket or bag and put it in the middle of the table
- In 60 seconds, use the items you have assembled to design a group logo

---

**CURTIS OGDEN’S FRAMEWORK FOR COLLABORATION**

- Decentralized Action
  - Advocacy, prototyped project, coalition, support ventures, fundraising, etc.
- Alignment
  - Align around context, current reality, and goals
  - Achieve conceptual congruence/shared terms
  - Create and promote shared values vision
- Connectivity
  - Build stronger connections and trust
  - Share knowledge, create new knowledge systems and resource channels together
  - Develop understanding of the state of the systems
ACTION ACTIVITY

What questions do YOU have about collaboration?

1) Brainstorm questions and challenges
2) Prioritize topics
3) Identify tools, resources, connections

CURTIS OGDEN’S FRAMEWORK FOR COLLABORATION
WRAP UP

▪ What is one action step you will take based on what you have learned in this workshop?

▪ Please fill out an evaluation!

Thank you