



Dairy Business Innovation Center Summit

NORTHEAST REGIONAL FOOD BUSINESS CENTER



About The Northeast Regional Food Business Center

The **Northeast USDA Regional Food Business Center** is a program facilitated by the NASDA Foundation, established to develop and amplify local and regional supply chains, with a strong emphasis on building equity and community resiliency into these systems in the Northeast region.

MISSION STATEMENT

Provide sustainable and equitable regional network coordination and localized business support to invest in farm and food businesses throughout the Northeast.

VISION STATEMENT

We envision a Northeast food system with informed and connected networks, viable businesses and accessible markets that strengthen communities and economies.

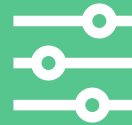
● Center Objectives



Network
Building



Supporting
Technical
Assistance



Capacity
Building



Program
Sustainability



DEI-Led
Programs

Collaborative Structure

Core Team

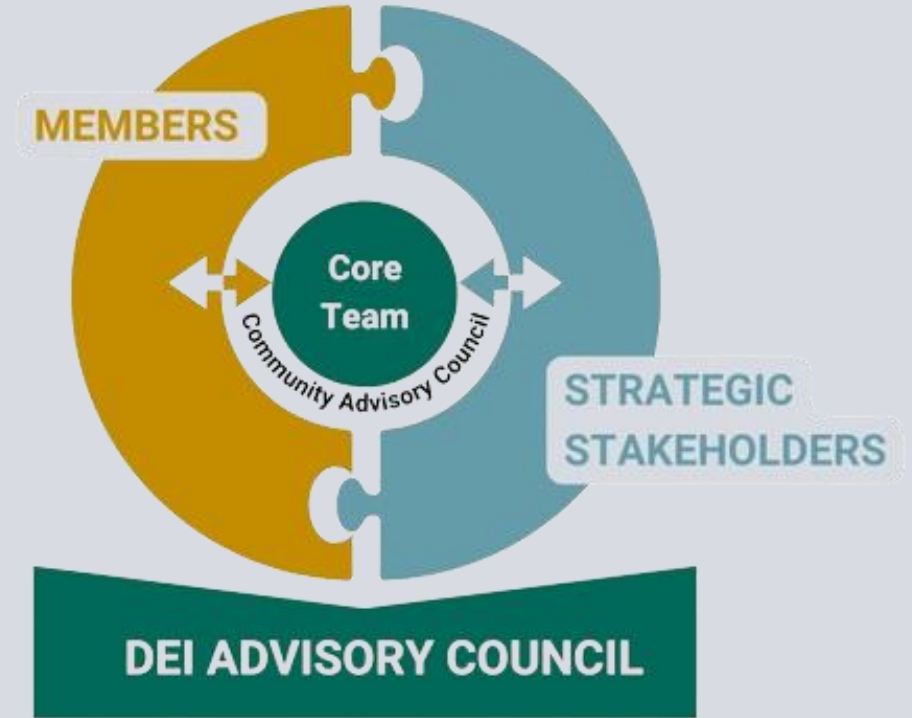
NASDA Foundation
Cornell Center for Regional Economic Advancement
Buffalo Go Green
New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets
Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation & Forestry

DEI Council

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Allison DeHoney | Robb King |
| Cynthia Medina | Della Miller |
| Gail Wells | Jocelyn Germany |

Community Advisory Council

| | |
|--|--|
| The Livestock Institute | Farm and Food Growth Fund |
| CommonWealth Kitchen | Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center |
| DC Office of Planning | The Common Market |
| Farm Credit East | Farm to Institution New England |
| Future Harvest | The Carrot Project & Agricultural Viability Alliance |
| CEI Maine | Providence Farm Collective |
| New England State Food System Planners Partnership | |



● Roadshow Events

NASDA Winter Policy Conference

Maryland's Best Expo

Future Harvest Annual Summit

Delaware Ag Week

Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention

Pennsylvania Farm Show

Pasa Sustainable Agriculture Conference

Grow-NY Summit

Northeast Dairy Business Innovation Center Summit*

CT Vegetable and Small Fruit Growers Conference

Vermont Farm to Plate Annual Gathering

NOFA-VT Winter Conference

NH Food System Statewide Gathering*

Maine Agricultural Trade Show

NEASDA Annual Meeting*



Past & Upcoming Milestones

PAST MILESTONES

Funding Structure

- Identify program mission, vision, strategic priorities and outcomes

Programs & Outreach

- Roadshow
- Stand up collaborative structure
- Launch Center website
- Engage with facilitators, contractors and stakeholders
- Quarterly newsletter

Q1 2024

Funding Structure

- USDA Deliverables: Semi-annual reporting, working groups participation, work plan and evaluation plan

Programs & Outreach

- Roadshow (cont.)
- Quarterly webinar
- Communications mapping tool
- Quarterly newsletter (cont.)

Q2 2024

Funding Structure

- Technical assistance provider applications

Programs & Outreach

- Roadshow (cont.)
- Quarterly webinar (cont.)
- TA provider application workshops
- NEASDA Regional Meeting
- Quarterly newsletter (cont.)

Upcoming Milestones

Q3 2024

Funding Structure

- Technical assistance provider awarding period
- USDA Deliverables: Semi-annual reporting, working groups, business builder implementation plan

Programs & Outreach

- Roadshow (cont.)
- TA provider application workshop (cont.)
- Launch CREA's Community Hub
- Quarterly webinar (cont.)
- Quarterly newsletter (cont.)

Q4 2024

Funding Structure

- Business builder applications

Programs & Outreach

- Business builder application workshops
- Launch additional courses on CREA's Community Hub
- Roadshow (cont.)
- Quarterly webinar (cont.)
- Quarterly newsletter (cont.)

Q1 2025

Funding Structure

- Business builder awarding period
- USDA Deliverables: Semi-annual reporting

Programs & Outreach

- Roadshow (cont.)
- Quarterly webinar (cont.)
- Business builder application workshop (cont.)
- Quarterly newsletter (cont.)

● Technical Assistance vs. Business Builder

Technical Assistance Provider funds can be used for business development services or training, including:

Planning

Financial literacy

Legal and regulatory awareness

Succession planning

Record keeping

Creating value-added non-food items and activities

Staff time

Business planning activities

Software implementation

Purchase of select equipment

Value chain / supply chain coordination & innovation

Product development

Marketing

Supply chain analysis

Strategic planning in the aforementioned areas

● CREA Community Hub

1

Developing online business development courses and resources that will remain available following the length of the grant's term.

2

Organizing an opt-in service provider directory for regional producers and food businesses to find access to support easier and more effectively.

3

Connecting grant seekers to a resource hub of ongoing and future external federal and state funding opportunities.

4

Launching the Community Hub in mid-summer 2024, in coordination with the launch of applications for technical assistance provider awards.



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