

ABOUT OUR WORK

Current Project & Activities



FARM TO CAMPUS

The Farm & Sea to Campus Project aims to increase the amount of local food served in colleges and universities.

Currently, our efforts are focused on planning convenings for 2016, facilitating connections between producers and colleges, and developing seafood case studies.

We're also building the New England Farm & Sea to Campus Network, which is a community of higher education and food systems stakeholders. To join the network, contact Riley at riley@farmtoinstitution.org.

Are you a dining director or chef at an institution? Check out our recipe series that we developed to help you use more local and regional food: www.farmtoinstitution.org/recipes.

Learn more: www.farmtoinstitution.org/farm-college



UMAINE PROJECT

The Maine Food for the UMaine System Project is a collaborative initiative that involves many organizations and hundreds of farmers, students, faculty and others.

We're working with Maine Farmland Trust, Real Food Challenge and Environment Maine to coordinate the project, with the goal of getting more local and regional food into the public universities in Maine.

In response to tremendous organizing and media attention, the University of Maine system put out a dining services request for proposals that called for 20% local food in campus dining halls by 2020 — this is a great start!

We are currently developing a series of short videos to build enthusiasm for regional food in Maine's public universities.

Learn more: www.farmtoinstitution.org/maine-food-umaine



SHARED METRICS

The Shared Metrics Project is a major data-driven snapshot of the farm to institution food market chain. The project covers all facets of the supply chain, from production to distribution and consumption.

We are currently developing a set of shared metrics for farm to institution in the region — a common set of key indicators showing the baseline of farm to institution initiatives. Our data comes from both primary and secondary sources for schools, colleges, hospitals, food distributors, food producers and more.

Highlights of the data are featured in a new interactive online dashboard, which you can visit at dashboard.farmtoinstitution.org (it's a work in progress!).

Learn more: www.farmtoinstitution.org/metrics



FOOD SERVICE

The Food Service Action Project is a multi-year effort that aims to increase the understanding of how food service management companies work. We also assist institutions in utilizing the request for proposal and contract negotiation processes to increase purchases of local foods.

In 2015, we published two reports on food service management company operations. We also conducted research on the role of food service management companies in meeting the values-based purchasing goals of institutions.

Findings of our research will be featured in an online toolkit that includes key recommendations for institutions and advocates — stay tuned for this resource!

Learn more: www.farmtoinstitution.org/food-service

ABOUT US

Farm to Institution New England (FINE) is a six-state network of nonprofit, public and private entities working collaboratively to strengthen our food system by increasing the amount of New England-grown and processed food served in our region's schools, hospitals, colleges and other institutions. Our vision is that every New England institution will preferentially purchase regionally produced food.

Our goal is to increase the use of New England-produced food by our region's institutions, which will lead to more viable food and farm enterprises, good jobs and a strong agricultural economy in New England. We work to support a robust regional supply chain infrastructure and consistent access to affordable, healthy, regionally grown foods for institutional consumers.

To learn more about FINE, visit www.farmtoinstitution.org/about

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ONGOING ACTIVITIES

CONVENINGS

We aim to build connections and community among various stakeholders involved in farm to institution efforts across the New England region by bringing people together for conferences, forums and meetings. The 2015 Farm to Institution Summit — our biggest and most significant event yet — drew over 600 people to UMass Amherst.

COLLABORATIVE DEVELOPMENT

We help other nonprofits in the FINE network raise money that supports their mission by identifying appropriate funding opportunities for their projects. We also issue a bi-monthly development newsletter with grant opportunities and award announcements.

COMMUNICATIONS

We facilitate connections, knowledge-sharing and communication between members of our network by providing tools and platforms that support collaboration. Here are some ways to get plugged in:

- Visit our website: www.farmtoinstitution.org
- Read our blog: www.farmtoinstitution.org/blog
- Subscribe to our newsletter: www.farmtoinstitution.org/newsletter
- Find us on social media! (links below)

FARM to INSTITUTION
NEW ENGLAND

GET EMAIL UPDATES: [▶](#) [in](#) [f](#) [p](#) [e](#) [t](#)

ABOUT STATES SECTORS PARTNERS PROGRAMS ACT TOOLS BLOG

IN AUGUST 2015, WE RELEASED TWO NEW GUIDES ON WORKING WITH FOOD SERVICE MANAGEMENT COMPANIES TO GET MORE LOCAL FOOD INTO INSTITUTIONS

GET THE GUIDES

Our Vision
We envision that every New England institution will preferentially purchase healthy, regionally-grown food.
DO YOUR PART

Who We Are
We're a network of nonprofits, government agencies and others working to strengthen our regional food system.
MEET THE NETWORK

CONNECT WITH US:

Facebook: www.facebook.com/FarmtoInstitutionNewEngland

Twitter: twitter.com/Farm2Inst

Flickr: www.flickr.com/photos/farm2institution

Pinterest: www.pinterest.com/farm2cafeteria

