Growing Together: Building The Capacity And Skills Of Low-Resource Beginning Farmers And Agricultural Service Providers In Maine

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Project Audience

- New American farmers in Maine
- Currently all growing diversified vegetables
- Four cohorts of beginning farmer “stages” (From exploring to 1st year to years 7-9)
Partners/Collaborators

- **VISIONS, Inc** – National experts providing a three-day professional development training to service providers in the state regarding building skills to better serve diversifying demographics
Key Approaches

- Work statewide to highlight the need for service providers to better serve diversifying demographics – organize a 3-day professional development training
- Include farmers’ voices by supporting farmers in speaking at statewide events
Outcomes

- Support 90 farmers at all points on the spectrum
- 90% of farmers demonstrate a change in actions
- 75% of farmers demonstrate an increase in revenue
- 80% of service providers attending training express planned change in actions
What do you have to share?

- 1-3 Key resources or areas of expertise you can share with other projects

We have lots of specific curricula to share and thoughts on developing effective curricula for non-Native English speakers!
• Hoping to learn from other service providers: What kind of support do you need to better serve diverse audiences?
• Hoping to learn from other projects: How are you navigating/working with/working around the external constraints around land availability and markets that BFs face?
Keep in touch!

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