South Dakota Beginning Farmer Training, Mentoring, Networking and Market Support Project

Eowyn Corral
Frank James
Dakota Rural Action
Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program Award No 2015-70017-23894
Project Audience

• Farm Beginnings Participants
  – South Dakotans
  – Majority of participants are socially disadvantaged
  – Beginning farmers & ranchers
  – First 10 years
Partners/Collaborators

• Team Players
  – Frank James, Dakota Rural Action, PD
  – Eowyn Corral, Dakota Rural Action, Program Admin
  – Matt West, Dakota Rural Action, Farm Beginnings Coordinator

• Collaborators
  LSP, Farmer Veteran Coalition, SDSU Extension, NPSAS
Key Approach(es)

10 month program using core curriculum developed by Land Steward Project
Peer to Peer, Farmer & Rancher led
10 Classroom sessions, 3 months of on farm training
Apprenticeships, Mentorship
Curriculum changes according to participants
Farmer Network
Overall Target Outcome

By the end of this project, we will have helped: 50 people (including 50+% women owned, veterans, and Native Americans) in program 120+ graduated participants, 75+% actively farming
What do you have to share?

Peer to Peer training really works
Rural food production models
What do you hope to learn from other projects?

Reporting out, data collection
Food hub models for rural communities
Marketing/Branding for rural environments
Consumer education for local foods
Keep in touch!

eowync@dakotarural.org
fejames@dakotarural.org
mwest@dakotarural.org
dakotarural.org