

Food and Ag Development Centers MISSION WEST SECURES \$3 MILLION HFFI GRANT SUCCESS STORY

The Project

This summer, USDA awarded **Mission West Community Development Partners a** three-year, \$3 million grant under the Reinvestment **Fund's Healthy Food Financing** Initiative (HFFI) to provide technical assistance and credit enhancement services to improve food access for underserved rural communities in Montana. Under this initiative, Mission West will collaborate with Hopa Mountain and the **Montana Department of** Agriculture to launch the **Montana Local Food Financing** Fund Partnership.

This partnership will address funding gaps and financing barriers by providing grants, collateral support, and interest rate reduction services to food hubs and other retail supply chain businesses.

For More Info:

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Mission West will leverage its extensive background in food hub development and coordinate through the Montana Food and **Agriculture Development Center Network to identify** high-impact projects and tailor financial packages to meet the needs of local businesses. Some of the funding will be eligible to use as match for the MDA **Growth Through Agriculture** program. The program rollout is now underway, coinciding with the launch of fifteen other HFFI-funded

MISSION WEST COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

partnerships to increase equitable access to healthy foods all across the country.

Funded by and in partnership with:

MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE