

In November 2020, partners with the Iowa Farm to School and Early Care Coalition were awarded a Farm to Early Care and Education Implementation Grant (FIG) from the Association of State Public Health Nutritionists (ASPHN). With this funding, the Iowa team launched a local food incentive pilot program called "Local Food Makes Cents: For Iowa Kids and Farmers" that offers \$43,000 in cost reimbursement to encourage early care and education (ECE) providers to buy and serve local foods.

Demand for this program greatly exceeded the funding available. Nearly 200 ECEs applied to participate in this pilot program in January 2021 and funds will be made available to selected participants from April through September 2021. Participants will source local foods from local farmers, farmers markets or food hubs, with technical assistance from food system partners.

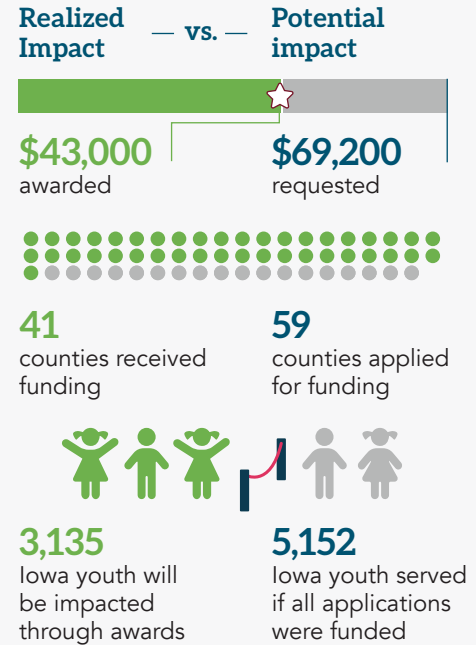
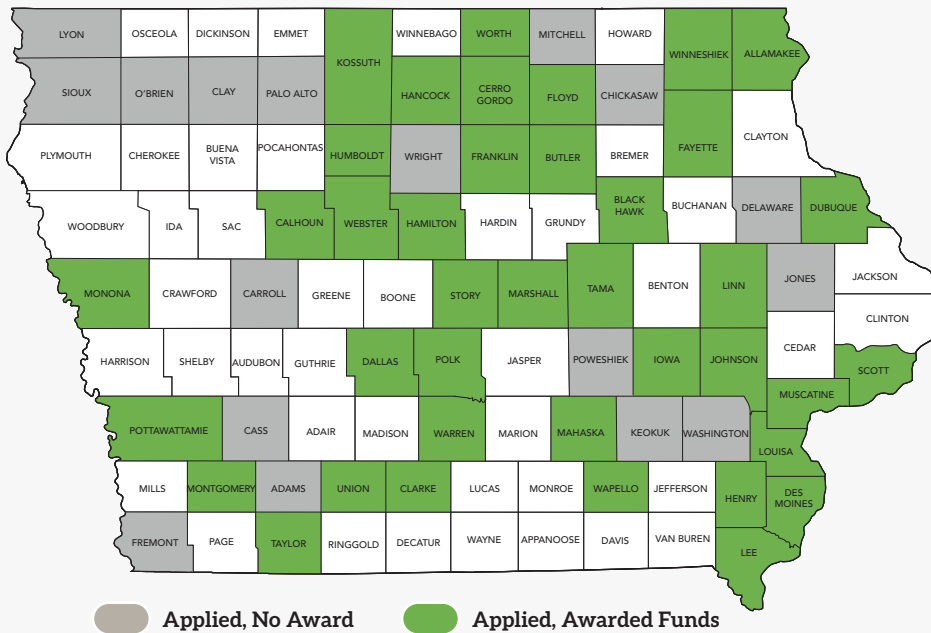
Unmet Demand For Support To Purchase Local Foods

281 child care centers/homes/sponsors started an application

198 of those providers submitted a complete application

112 contracts were awarded

"Local Food Makes Cents" Applicants and Grantees by County



Demographics Of Applicants

- 32** applications from child care centers.
- 166** applications from child care homes.
- 100%** of applicants participate in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP).
- 72%** of applicants serve children receiving Child Care Assistance (CCA) subsidies.
- 65%** of applicants serve children of color who traditionally lack access to local foods.
- 83%** of applicants have served and purchased local foods previously.
- 77%** of applicants **have not participated** in any Iowa Farm to School and Early Care Trainings before.



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www.iowafarmtoschoolearlycare.org | www.extension.iastate.edu/ffed/local-food-makes-cents