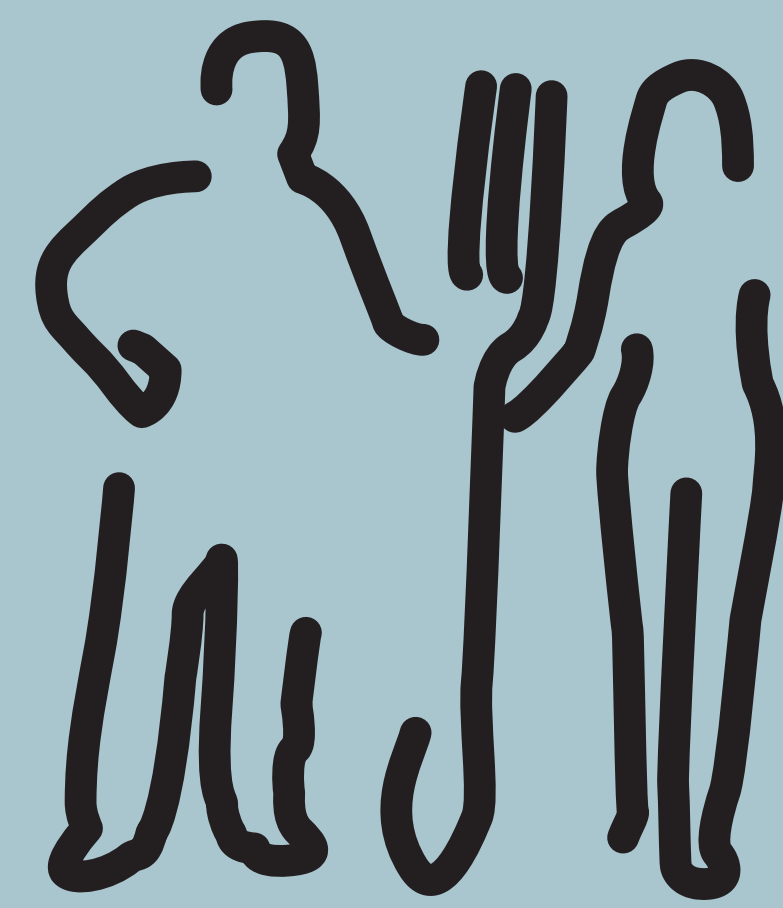


# Regional Food Systems Working Group



Value Chain  
Partnerships

An Iowa-Based Network for Food  
and Agriculture Working Groups

## Our Mission

To support education, conduct research and facilitate partnership to increase investment and support of community-based, sustainable and environmentally responsible regional food enterprises.

## Our Objectives

**Identify** key elements found in specific geographical areas that create a vibrant and sustainable food system

**Work** with leaders in food businesses to identify key elements that are not yet developed

**Help** identify and measure key changes in different regions to determine whether there is positive change

**Develop** and implement a continuous learning process across Iowa to determine what it takes to make a regional food system more vibrant and sustainable

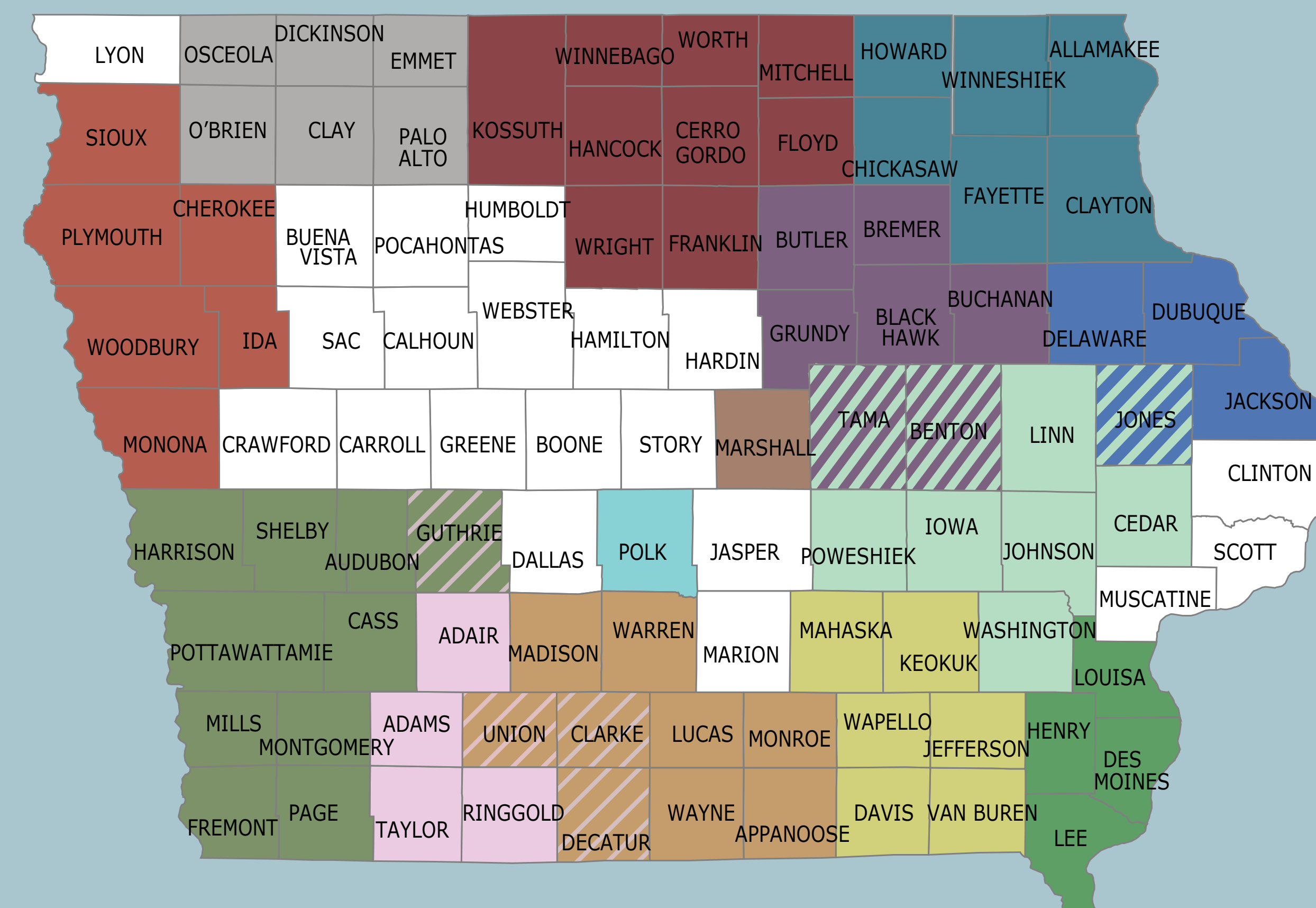
## Our Background

The Regional Food Systems Working Group is part of Value Chain Partnerships led by the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, with partners from Iowa State University and Practical Farmers of Iowa. The group supports farmer-led food and fiber enterprises that follow sustainable practices.



## Where Is Our Work?

- Northern Iowa Food and Farm Partnership:** Working in Benton, Blackhawk, Bremer, Butler, Grundy and Tama counties
- Northeast Iowa Food and Farm Coalition:** Working in Allamakee, Chickasaw, Clayton, Howard, Fayette and Winneshiek counties
- Southwest Iowa Food and Farm Initiative:** Working in Adair, Adams, Audubon, Cass, Harrison, Mills, Montgomery, Pottawattamie and Shelby counties
- Hometown Harvest of Southeast Iowa:** Working in Davis, Jefferson, Keokuk, Mahaska, Van Buren and Wapello counties
- Flavors of Northwest Iowa:** Working in Cherokee, Ida, Monona, Plymouth, Sioux and Woodbury counties
- County of Marshall Initiative for Diversified Agriculture (COMIDA):** Working in Marshall County



## Who Are We?

Our members represent more than 25 organizations, farmers and community leaders who meet quarterly to discuss and coordinate efforts to build a more vibrant regional food system.

- Dubuque Eats Well:** Working in Delaware, Dubuque, Jackson and Jones counties
- Iowa Corridor Food and Agriculture Coalition:** Working in Benton, Cedar, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Linn, Poweshiek, Tama and Washington counties
- North Central Iowa Local Food Partnership:** Working in Cerro Gordo, Floyd, Franklin, Hancock, Kossuth, Mitchell, Winnebago, Worth and Wright counties
- Healthy Urban Food and Farming Group:** Working in Polk county
- Great River Food Alliance of Southeast Iowa, Inc.:** Working in Des Moines, Henry, Lee and Louisa counties
- Iowa Great Lakes Local Foods Network:** Working in Clay, Dickinson, Emmet, O'Brien, Osceola and Palo Alto counties
- Southern Iowa Regional Food Systems:** Working in Adair, Adams, Clarke, Decatur, Guthrie, Ringgold, Taylor and Union counties
- South-Central Iowa Area Partnership:** Working in Appanoose, Clarke, Decatur, Lucas, Madison, Monroe, Union, Warren and Wayne counties

## Would You Like To Participate?

Contact Rich Pirog, Working Group Leader:  
(515) 294-1854 or [rspirog@iastate.edu](mailto:rspirog@iastate.edu)

Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture  
209 Curtiss Hall, Iowa State University  
Ames, IA 50011

