



Greetings from the board of the Oneota Co-op and the Iowa Food Hub,

We are writing with an exciting opportunity for you to support vibrant local food webs, economies, and ecosystems in Northeast Iowa. After launching the **Grow the Good** grant program last year, we raised **\$14,000 for local food and farm businesses!** We are eager to continue building our local food web and creating avenues for community members to engage with that development.

In 2025, farms, food businesses, and individuals who produce, process, or distribute community-based food within 50 miles of Decorah, Iowa, will be able to apply for these grants. Individual grants will range from \$1,000 to \$4,000. We're raising funds to support local food businesses; find out how you can get involved by exploring our funding tiers below!

Seed

\$10-\$99



Soil

\$100-\$499



Water

\$500-\$1999



Sun

\$2000+



Sponsor Benefits

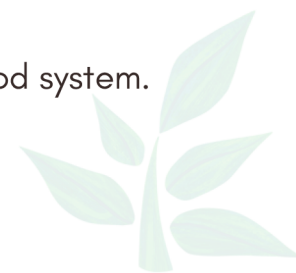
- Media highlights by the **Oneota Community Food Cooperative** and the **Iowa Food Hub**
- Celebrated in-person at the annual meeting of the **Oneota Community Food Cooperative** in April

Become a Sponsor!

Sponsorship payments can be sent to **Iowa Food Hub, PO Box 195, Decorah, Iowa 52101**. Please indicate Grow the Good Grant Program in the memo line of your check. Sponsorships will be accepted through March 1, 2025.

Inquiries regarding sponsorship and/or application should be directed to Piper Wood, board president, oneotawood@gmail.com. Please cc your inquiry to Hannah Breckbill, board treasurer, oneotabreckbill@gmail.com as well.

Thank you for your consideration and for your role in our local community and food system. With gratitude,
Iowa Food Hub Board of Directors
Oneota Community Food Cooperative Board of Directors





Grow the Good Grant Program

Resourcing producers for a vibrant local food supply



Grow the Good is a grant program facilitated by the Iowa Food Hub, Oneota Community Food Cooperative Board of Directors, and local community partners. Established in 2024, this grant program supports local food businesses and is guided by three of the Oneota Community Food Cooperative's organizational ends:

End #2. We support building thriving local food systems and encourage the expansion of locally-grown food sources.

End #4. Our organization promotes and exemplifies cooperative principles of business.

End #7. Our members are diverse and engaged, working together and sharing time, energy, and resources to build a resilient and thriving local community.

Who can apply?

Farms, food businesses, and individuals who produce, process, or distribute community-based food within 50 miles of Decorah, Iowa, our local foodshed. Our purpose is to strengthen partnership relationships between small producers and local food outlets.

Priority consideration will be given to producers with:

- Gross sales up to \$100,000
- Proposals with total project cost of up to \$20,000
- Local producers or entities that support local producers who sell via the Decorah Farmers Market, Oneota Co-op, or Iowa Food Hub.

Grow the Good Application Timeline

Application Opens: Mid-January 2025

Applications Due: Saturday, March 1st, 2025

Grantees Selected: Tuesday, April 1st, 2025

Grants Dispersed: End of April, 2025

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What projects can be funded?

Grant awards may range from \$1,000 to \$4,000.

Projects must include food grown or raised in the Oneota Co-op's hyper-local foodshed

Applicants must demonstrate how their project meets at least one of the following grant goals:

- Oneota Co-op members and the local community have more opportunities to access community-based food
- Farm and food businesses grow, process, cook, or distribute more community-based products
- Farm and food businesses add consistency and resilience to their product offerings
- Farm and food businesses move our community towards a more equitable local food system

Projects could include:

- *Equipment and supplies for growing, processing, storing, and distributing food (e.g. a walk-in cooler)*
- *Seed money for start-up labor for a specific project (e.g. a local salsa brand)*
- *Business support (administrative, legal, and licensing fees; education costs)*
- *And more! Feel free to inquire. We will give preference to projects where our scale of funding can make a significant impact.*



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