Nearly $12 million of CARES Act funding was earmarked for the Securing Local Food Systems grant program to increase capacity of Kansas’ local food systems. The Kansas Department of Agriculture and Kansas Department of Commerce awarded grants this fall to locally owned agriculture and food related businesses and individuals across Kansas to support projects that will expand their capability to respond to the food supply needs in their communities.

The Securing Local Food Systems grant funds were used by these local recipients for a wide scope of capital expenses related to increasing the capacity of these food-related businesses, including things like expansion or rental of buildings, facilities, or equipment; technology that improves business resilience; facility reconfiguration to meet social distancing guidelines; costs associated with sanitation or worker safety; and more. Projects funded by this grant program are already making an impact across the state.

**BY THE NUMBERS**

**GRANTS**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>257</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>257 Grants were offered to food- and agriculture-based businesses and individuals</td>
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**KANSAS COUNTIES**

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<td><strong>80</strong></td>
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<td>80 Kansas counties received funds that will support food supply needs in their communities.</td>
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**TOTAL AMOUNT**

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<td><strong>$11,664,278</strong></td>
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<td>Over $11.6 million was distributed to grantees.</td>
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**BY CATEGORY**

- **Slaughter and Processing Facility**: 55 for a total of $4,504,000
- **Direct-to-Consumer Producer/Grower/Vendor**: 79 for a total of $2,919,200
- **Dairy, Food and Meat Processing**: 33 for a total of $1,753,000
- **Grocery Store**: 26 for a total of $1,112,500
- **Food Bank, Pantry or Soup Kitchen**: 54 for a total of $995,578
- **Registered Farmers’ Market**: 6 for a total of $162,500
- **Other**: 4 for a total of $217,500

**STATEWIDE DISTRIBUTION**

**Total Dollar Amount Awarded**

**EXPENSES FUNDED BY SLFS GRANTS**

- Capital improvements to expand capacity
- Rental of buildings, facilities and/or equipment necessary to expand capacity or facilitate social distancing
- Technology that allows increased capacity or business resilience
- Facility reconfiguration to meet social distancing guidelines
- Costs associated with:
  - COVID-19 sanitation and worker safety supplies
  - Employer-provided COVID-19 testing
  - Increased inspections
- Wages and hazard pay
- Livestock intake and storage equipment
- Packaging and handling equipment
- Processing and manufacturing equipment
- Upgrades to utilities
- Warehouse equipment
- Water treatment/management equipment
- Other business adaptation and diversification activities