



Farm to Fork

It's tempting to think that Farm to School efforts slow down when the school year ends, but nothing could be further from the truth! In fact, our districts have accomplished a lot in the last few months and are planning for a summer filled with local produce and learning activities. Read on to learn more about the ways in which UHC funding is creating lasting, measurable change in the way our children eat and our communities connect with local farmers.

The Year of Gear: The Right Tools Make All the Difference!

In our 2016-17 sustainability efforts, we tasked participating school districts to generate funding requests based on their Farm to School Action Plans. One of the biggest lessons learned is that local produce and effective farm to school lessons require the right equipment.

Grant funds in 2016-17 were used to purchase a 5-Way Slicer (Pulaski), an Immersion Blender (Howard-Suamico), a Hydroponic Salad Table (Howard-Suamico) and even a Worm Factory (West De Pere).

Local Food Procurement



One of the consequences of our northern latitude is that the period of greatest abundance for local produce occurs during the summer. To best utilize the summer bounty, Food Service Managers in Pulaski and Unified School District of De Pere both have plans to work with a local farmer to put local produce on the plate. In the case of Unified School District of De Pere, they'll be spending more than \$1,200 in new local produce purchases for their first summer student feeding program.

"We will be using Ledgeview Gardens for the summer feeding program lunch menu every Wednesday as our Wisconsin Wednesday feature!"

~ Stephanie Sticka, Assistant Food Service Director, Unified School District of De Pere

"Summer is when we work with the largest volume of local produce. We plan to use fresh product and don't ever stick to a set schedule. Our district purchased a 5-Way Slicer which will save us a lot of time by making it quicker and easier to process the whole fruits and vegetables that are purchased locally."

~ Caitlin Harrison, Director of Food Service, Pulaski Community School District .



Quarter Three: By The Numbers

3250

Farm to School
Video Views

421

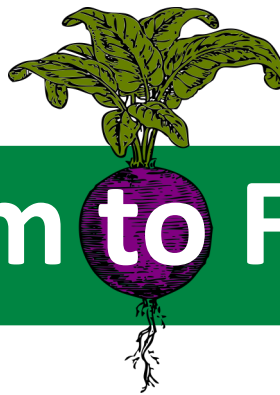
Total Video Engagements
(Shares, Retweets, Comments,
Like, Reactions)

131

Classrooms
Teaching Lessons

6

Districts That Shared Farm to
School Videos With Administra-
tion, School Boards or PTOs



Farm to Fork

Nutrition Education: Video Spotlights



This year, our Farm to School lessons touched a total of 131 classrooms in five districts: Wrightstown, Unified District of De Pere, West De Pere, Pulaski and Ashwaubenon. As our sustainability model predicted, the lessons looked different in every district! In West De Pere, Farm to School was integrated into the 5th grade science curriculum. [This video](#) shows West De Pere teacher Peggy Loritz and her kids using gardens for science, math and, most of all, fun.

In Ashwaubenon, the lessons were taught by Food Service workers. [Watch this video](#) to see the impact of bringing the food service workers into the classroom!

Howard-Suamico School District used funding to purchase a Hydroponic Salad Table so that students at Suamico Elementary School could garden year-round, in any weather.

In East De Pere, Darren Vollmar of Ledgeview Gardens helped [third graders plant beet, radish and popcorn sprouts](#). Teacher Donell Bonnetti was actually Darren’s teacher when he was in school! When our schools and community support our local farms, we retain young, talented and committed individuals like Darren in our community!

UnitedHealthcare In The Community

The Ashwaubenon and West De Pere Farm to School videos and Danz Elementary Hot Pepper Contest video collectively reached over 11,000 people, with more than 3,000 views, and over 400 engagements with the content. Dr. Health E. Hound made a visit to Danz Elementary for the school’s [Hot Pepper Jump Rope Contest Finals!](#) We’re also excited to be nearing the rollout of the 2017-2018 Farm to School Calendar, featuring UHC’s Chris Setter from the Farm to School Kick-Off video. It will be distributed to every teacher that hosted Farm to School lessons as well as to participating district Food Service Directors so they can share their successes with their administration, school board and parent groups. Recipe cards based on the Farm to School Calendar will be printed and distributed at local farmers markets and other farm-to-school events. This calendar represents a comprehensive strategy for maximizing and amplifying the Farm to School funds received from UnitedHealthcare with video footage repurposed into both calendar and recipe cards.



Looking Ahead

Live54218 is excited to share that Farm to School is continuing to gain traction in our local schools! In June, Pulaski Food Service Director Caitlin Harrison shared Live54218’s video showing the local food purchasing relationship with Twin Elm Gardens with the Pulaski School Board. [This video](#) will be shared in community later this month. Live54218 has been invited to provide brief Farm to School overviews in the Unified School District of De Pere Fall 2017 PTO meetings.

This summer, Live54218 will be focused on creating “Year End Report Cards” for all our districts that highlight their local purchasing, classroom lesson and garden efforts in a comprehensive package that can be sent to school boards, administration, PTOs and families!

