

# Strategies for Procuring Produce

## Michigan Harvest of the Month™ Training

### School Teams' Tips for Success!



- ✓ Obtain from school gardens
- ✓ Apply for grants
  - o MSU Grant \$2000 of Fresh Fruit
  - o MSU Extension Program
- ✓ Collaborate with Gleaners/food pantries
- ✓ Find farms to work with
- ✓ Work with food service director
- ✓ Investigate Farm to School program
- ✓ Hoop Houses for Health

### Challenges

- ✓ Funding/expense
- ✓ Locations
- ✓ Where to get a variety of affordable produce
  - o Solution: talk to school food service team
  - o Hoop house gardens
- ✓ Storage
- ✓ Outsourcing
- ✓ Seasonal issues
- ✓ Cost



### Successes

- ✓ Grants
- ✓ Field trips
- ✓ Food bank
- ✓ School provided
- ✓ Headstart preschools have fridges
- ✓ Farmers market
- ✓ Communication with farmers
- ✓ Food patty
- ✓ Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program for qualifying schools (MDE grant)
- ✓ Ask a local farmer
- ✓ Ask Parents
- ✓ Use produce from school garden
- ✓ Partner with a local grower
- ✓ Try canned or frozen to save money
- ✓ Buy in season to save



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