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NEWS RELEASE November 15, 2022 Media please contact: Heather Lansdowne 785-564-6706 AgMedia@ks.gov

Kansas Local Food Purchase Assistance Program Now Accepting Applications from Producers

MANHATTAN, Kansas — The Kansas Department of Agriculture is now accepting applications from producers to participate in the Kansas Local Food Purchase Assistance (LFPA) Program. The Kansas LFPA Program will strengthen the state's local food system by providing expanded wholesale market access to Kansas' food producers and increasing access to locally sourced food in rural and urban counties impacted by food insecurity.

KDA was awarded a \$2,500,000 cooperative agreement under the U.S. Department of Agriculture Agricultural Marketing Service's Local Food Purchase Assistance Cooperative Agreement Program. Funds will be used to purchase and distribute Kansas grown and processed foods to underserved communities and families across Kansas through the state's existing distribution network of food banks.

Kansas producers are encouraged to apply to participate in the Kansas LFPA Program in order to sell their products to the food banks serving the state. Products eligible for sale under the program include produce, dairy, meat, eggs, honey, and processed foods. Products must be grown or processed local to Kansas to be eligible for sale under the program.

Applications are due to KDA no later than 5:00 p.m. CST on February 15, 2023. For more information, please visit <u>agriculture.ks.gov/LFPA</u> or contact KDA grants coordinator Brittney Grother at <u>Brittney.Grother@ks.gov</u> or 785-564-6797.

The vision of the Kansas Department of Agriculture is to provide an ideal environment for long-term, sustainable agricultural prosperity and statewide economic growth. Helping expand market access and making local food available to underserved communities helps to achieve this vision.