

South Dakota SARE Professional Development Program
Travel Scholarship and Mini-grant Post Event Survey (6-12 months)

Applicant Information

Name: Kim Brannen, South Dakota Specialty Producers Association Phone: (605) 354-7115

Address: 43249 SD Hwy 50

City: Yankton State: SD Zip: 57078

Name of Event: "2017 South Dakota Local Foods Conference"

Survey Questions: *We actually saw these benefits and activities in action during the conference and in topical meetings held at times during the conference period. There is great benefit from bringing resource & influential people together in a longer-term setting with those who will directly benefit from the interactions.*

- 1) How did you use the information you learned in the conference / event? Check all that are applicable.

answered client questions. *Presenters were able to provide real-time information to participants, and presenters learned from other sessions at the conference*

developed new contacts and partners for work. *Expanding partnerships with professional chefs, who also learned from the producers about specialty foods & crops; training received by several new partners including SD Dept of Tourism and Southeast Technical Institute staffs*

incorporated new ideas and information into regular programming. *Plans made by SD agritourism working group for future training sessions to provide to SD local foods growers, producers, and processors to expand the industry and knowledge base across the state – especially in food safety curricula*

developed special programming on this topic. *Plans made by SD agritourism working group for future training sessions to provide to SD local foods growers, producers, and processors to expand the industry and knowledge base across the state - adding new workshops to the 2nd annual SD Spring Partnership gathering in Oacoma, SD March 1-2, 2018*

used in newsletters and / or newspaper columns / radio shows. *SDSPA continues to promote, support, and build on the educational efforts at the conferences through further train-the-trainer info sharing as well in regular member- and public-based activities including summer field tours.*

used in farm planning. *Session in farm & ranch business planning resulted in at least 2 planned farm followups with participants; results from this same session during the 2016 conference included planned work with the Rosebud Sioux Tribe's special youth business Honey Lodge Honey.*

Other: *provided info to resource partners regarding specialty foods production challenges, especially in the meat goats, poultry, small meats, and specialty meats ag sector in SD.*

- 2) If you conducted workshop(s), field day(s), tour(s), etc. as a result of what you learned (in addition to your mini-grant if you received one), please indicate how many of each group attended. (Note: this survey response lists estimated numbers of professionals who received training at the SD Local Foods Conference. We can provide additional response info through the year as requested).

14 Extension service field staff (educators / field staff)

5 State specialists

South Dakota SARE Professional Development Program
Travel Scholarship and Mini-grant Post Event Survey (6-12 months)

- _5_ Other University / college
- _19_ Non-profit / non-governmental organizations
- _18_ Agriculture consultants / for-profit
- _90_ Farmers / ranchers (*SD resource people are frequently involved with their own ag operations too*)
- _15_ State / federal / tribal agencies
- _2_ NRCS
- _11_ Other: Professional chefs

3) Please share any additional comments about your experience with this travel scholarship, mini-grant, or any SARE program.

SARE program mini-grants provide critical support for professional development training in a very timely manner. Applications are thorough but not onerous; the grants support a wide range of target audience trainees who often work in partnership for their own educational program delivery; and benefits from these training grants can often be put on-the-ground immediately and serve the public across the state of South Dakota. We greatly appreciate the program support to the SD Local Foods Conference and to South Dakota Specialty Producers Association's, and the overall SARE support to South Dakota's specialty ag sector and the people who work to create successes in urban and rural areas across the state.