

## What is SARE?

Since 1988, the Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education (SARE) program has been the go-to USDA grants and outreach program for farmers, ranchers, researchers and educators who want to develop innovations that improve farm profitability, protect water and land, and revitalize communities. To date, SARE has awarded over \$9.1 million to more than 219 initiatives [1].

### SARE is grassroots with far-reaching impact

Four regional councils of expert practitioners set priorities and make grants in every state and island protectorate.

### SARE communicates results

SARE shares project results by requiring grantees to conduct outreach and grower engagement; and by maintaining an online library of practical publications, grantee-produced information products and other educational materials.

# SARE: Advancing the Frontier of Sustainable Agriculture in...

# Indiana

Project Highlight: *Bringing Nutritious Options to Food Deserts in Indiana*

Urban areas with limited access to fresh and affordable food, commonly known as food deserts, are typically located in historically marginalized communities. Residents in these areas often have poorer health outcomes and may lack knowledge about food nutrition and preparation. Legacy Taste of the Garden is a Black-owned, multi-generational farm occupying four acres across three Indiana locations. To address these food access and information needs, Legacy secured a Farmer/Rancher grant to promote and offer fresh and local food, educate their community about traditional farming and gardening methods, and close the gap between producers and consumers.

Legacy Taste of the Garden Operations Director John Jamerson partnered with two other area farms to educate youth and adults about urban farming practices and business opportunities. Participants learned about Legacy's farming methods, such as hoop houses and bucket systems, and direct marketing models like community-supported agriculture (CSA). Legacy Taste of the Garden improved local food access and generated enthusiasm for sustainable agriculture and nutritious whole foods. Specific impacts include:

**Increased availability of fresh food:** Community members gained access to fresh produce thanks to Legacy's decision to grow food across three separate food-desert locations.

**Local outreach:** Legacy Taste of the Garden provided education on sustainable agriculture practices and conducted workshops, 4-H programs, and virtual cooking demonstrations.

**Community engagement:** The project led to partnerships with local organizations, libraries, churches, and farmers. Social media efforts and a website connected food producers with consumers through information on events, markets, and crop availability.

For more information on this project, see [sare.org/projects](http://sare.org/projects) and search for project number [FNC19-1169](https://www.sare.org/projects/1169).

## SARE in Indiana

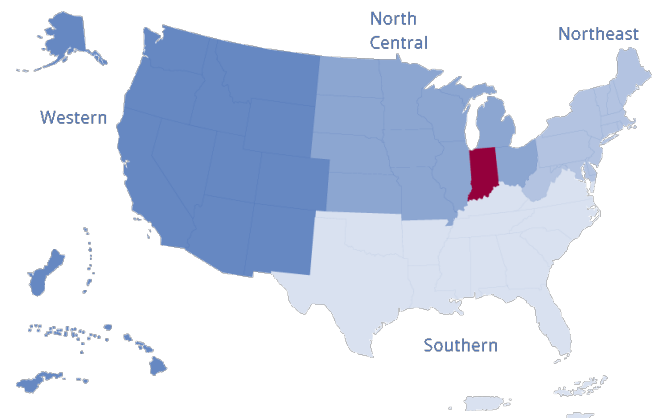
[northcentral.sare.org/state-profiles/indiana/](http://northcentral.sare.org/state-profiles/indiana/)

**\$9,072,578**  
**in total funding**

**219 grant projects**

(since 1988 [1])

For a complete list of Indiana grant projects, go to [projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/](http://projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/)



[1] These totals reflect available data; complete information may not be available for all grant programs prior to 2016.

# SARE in Indiana, 2020-2025

This is a summary of recent SARE-funded activities and impacts in the state. To search all SARE projects visit [projects.sare.org](https://projects.sare.org). For a list of all projects in Indiana visit [projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/](https://projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/).

## Grants awarded

Total awards: **78 grants**

- 25 Farmer/Rancher
- 11 Research and Education
- 8 Professional Development Program
- 8 On Farm Research/Partnership
- 14 Graduate Student
- 9 Youth Educator
- 3 PDP State Program [2]

Total funding: **\$4,837,777**

- \$417,260 Farmer/Rancher
- \$2,724,328 Research and Education
- \$708,763 Professional Development Program
- \$308,117 On Farm Research/Partnership
- \$221,718 Graduate Student
- \$47,591 Youth Educator
- \$410,000 PDP State Program [2]

[2] The Professional Development Program (PDP) State Program is a non-competitive award that funds the activities of the state coordinator(s). See more below.

For a complete list of Indiana awards, visit: [projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/](https://projects.sare.org/state-fact-sheets/)

## Farmer and rancher impacts

SARE grantees have reported the following impacts from their projects:

**17,378 farmers participated in a SARE-funded project**

**870 farmers reported a change in knowledge, awareness, skills or attitude**

**224 farmers changed a practice**



Photo credit: Marie Flanagan

Learn about local impacts at: [northcentral.sare.org/state-programs/indiana/](https://northcentral.sare.org/state-programs/indiana/)

## Contact Your SARE State Coordinator

SARE sustainable ag coordinators run state-level educational programs for Extension and other ag professionals, and many help grant applicants and recipients with planning and outreach. Visit [northcentral.sare.org/state-profiles/indiana/](https://northcentral.sare.org/state-profiles/indiana/) to learn more.

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