Plan Overview

A Data Management Plan created using DMPTool

Title: Four Winds Harvest Collaborative: Building networks to advance women, gender non-conforming, and BIPOC farmers and ranchers (FWHC)

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Affiliation: Women Food and Agriculture Network (wfan.org)

Funder: United States Department of Agriculture (usda.gov)

Funding opportunity number: USDA-NIFA-BFR-009021

Template: USDA-NIFA: National Institute of Food and Agriculture

Project abstract:
Women and gender non-conforming people (WGNC), and Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC) are underrepresented in agriculture due in part to barriers accessing land, information, and resources. The Four Winds Harvest Collaborative was created to expand support for beginning WGNC and BIPOC producers in Iowa, Colorado, New Mexico, and Ohio.

The project goals are to: 1. Increase the number of WGNC and BIPOC people who decide to pursue farming or ranching as a livelihood; 2. Increase the number of successful beginning farmers and ranchers who self-identify with a marginalized gender, racial, and/or ethnic group; and 3) Ensure participants are fully trained after three years and equipped with resources to sustainably operate a farm or ranch business.

We will achieve these goals by: 1. Building the capacity of experienced WGNC and BIPOC farmers/ranchers to mentor new WGNC and BIPOC farmers/ranchers; 2. Providing mentorships and learning opportunities for aspiring WGNC and BIPOC farmers/ranchers; 3. Connecting aspiring WGNC and BIPOC farmers/ranchers to longer-term training opportunities; 4. Providing in-depth training programs in which WGNC and BIPOC farmers feel safe and included; 5. Ensuring beginning WGNC and BIPOC farmers/ranchers have ongoing access to the resources they need to strengthen their operations; 6. Increasing racial and gender equity within all aspects of the project; and 7. Connecting beginning farmers/ranchers to local consumers.

Key activities include tailored technical training and stipend-supported one-on-one mentorships. 100% of total federal funds requested are allocated to NGOs/CBOs to serve socially disadvantaged audiences.

Start date: 09-15-2022

End date: 09-14-2025

Last modified: 05-16-2022

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Expected Data Type

Describe the type of data (e.g. digital, non-digital), how it will be generated, and whether the data are primary or metadata.

- Research examples include: lab work, field work and surveys.
- Education examples include: number of students enrolled/participated, degrees granted, curriculum, and training products.
- Extension examples include: outreach materials, number of stakeholders reached, number of activities, and assessment questionnaires.

Please note that Women, Food & Agriculture Network (WFAN) and Four Winds Harvest Collaborative (FWHC), including project partners GoFarm and Agri-Cultura Network are NOT applying for this funding as a Research or Educational grantee. However, all participants in the FWHC are cognizant that all projects will generate data, and is committed to maintaining the integrity and security of that data. Data will be both digital and non-digital and will include online program participant registrations, outreach materials, project activity tracking and assessment questionnaires.

Data are both primary - such as program participant registrations and feedback and metadata - generated by the project evaluators from collaborating organizations, WFAN, GoFarm (GF) and Agri-Cultura Network (AGN).

Data Format

For scientific data to be readily accessible and usable it is critical to use an appropriate community-recognized standard and machine readable formats when they exist. If the data will be managed in domain-specific workspaces or submitted to public databases, indicate that their required formats will be followed. Regardless of the format used, the data set must contain enough information to allow independent use (understand, validate and use) of the data.

Data will be managed in domain-specific workspaces. Expected data management tools include cloud-based storage via Google Drive and within Google Docs, as well as on secured desktops utilizing Microsoft Office (.xls), Tableau (.jpg/.gif), and - as appropriate - other GIS mapping and/or data analysis tools. Program participant data will be stored in our secure cloud database, Powerbase. Formats and programs were selected with staff expertise (Google Docs/Office) and preference of open-source databases (Powerbase).

Data Storage and Preservation

Data must be stored in a safe environment with adequate measures taken for its long-term preservation. Applicants must describe plans for storing and preserving their data during and after the project and specify the data repositories, if they exist. Databases or data repositories for long-term preservation may be the same that are used to provide Data Sharing and Public Access. Estimate how much data will be preserved and state the planned retention period. Include any strategies, tools, and contingency plans that will be used to avoid data loss, degradation, or damage.

The FWHC anticipates that less than 1TB of data will be generated over the course of the project. As noted above, all data is securely stored in cloud-based repositories. Any data generated or manipulated on secured desktops is stored long-term in cloud-based repositories. No personally-identifying information (PID) such as social security numbers, birthdays, or banking/financial information for program participants will be collected nor stored. Program participant contact information will be housed in the secure cloud-based database program, Powerbase. Any downloads of participant contact information will be housed in the cloud-based repository (Google Drive) with limited, secure access.

Data Sharing and Public Access

Describe your data access and sharing procedures during and after the grant. Name specific repositories and catalogs as appropriate. include a statement, when applicable, of plans to protect confidentiality, personal privacy, proprietary interests, business confidential information, and intellectual property rights. Outline any restrictions such as copyright, confidentiality, patent, appropriate credit, disclaimers, or conditions for use of the data by other parties.

Program participant confidentiality will be maintained, and no data will be shared beyond FWHC members without express permission of program participants. Photo, recording, and written content releases are obtained for evaluative and outcome sharing.

Data will be shared by PD and Key Staff through password protected cloud-based accounts.

Roles and Responsibilities

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Who will ensure DMP implementation? This is particularly important for multi-investigator and multi-institutional projects. Provide a contingency plan in case key personnel leave the project. Also, what resources will be needed for the DMP? If funds are needed, have they been added to the budget request and budget narrative? Projects must budget sufficient resources to develop and implement the proposed DMP.

Co-PD, Juliann Salinas - WFAN's Executive Director - will ensure DMP implementation in collaboration with PD Stephanie Enloe. She will also be responsible for dissemination of the DMP to all key staff and contributors. DMP policies and protocols will be shared with WFAN Executive Team staff, Key FWHC staff and WFAN's Board Governance Committee to ensure redundancy and accessibility in the unlikely event of Ms. Salinas' departure from the project. The funds necessary to develop and implement the DMP have been included in both this project's budget as well as overall agency planning budgets.