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## **PRESS RELEASE**



## Montana Food Hub Cooperative Incorporation Approved

## **Coming Soon to Great Falls**

MCDC is pleased to announce the approval of the MT Food Hub incorporation, marking a significant milestone in our commitment to the people of Montana. This achievement underscores our unwavering dedication to addressing critical needs through localized solutions. We firmly believe that the road to resilient food systems requires diverse and innovative approaches. The approval of the MT Food Hub incorporation represents a pivotal step in this journey.

Committee chair Lyndsay Laursen said "This is the first of many milestones in a project this size, but we're excited to be moving it forward". Committee member Sara Mayben further expanded on the excitement in Great Falls with "I'm excited about connecting local producers with consumers."

Montana Food Hub will act first as a distribution point for local food, connecting growers in Montana to restaurants, food businesses, institutions and consumers, initially through an online platform. They aim to be a hub not only for food, but for knowledge and resources around food as well. Future expansions will also include value added production space, and food business incubator opportunities.

Montana's agricultural landscape is rich and diverse, yet producers often encounter obstacles in reaching consumers and wholesalers, MT Food Hub's mission is to empower producers while satisfying consumer demand for fresh, locally grown foods. The Montana Food Hub represents a pivotal step towards a more resilient and sustainable food system.

Public meetings will begin soon so that interested parties can learn more. For more information about the Montana Food Hub and its initiatives, go to <a href="https://www.MontanaFoodHub.com">www.MontanaFoodHub.com</a> or @mtfoodhub on Facebook and Instagram

Montana Cooperative Development Center is the statewide economic development organization dedicated to utilizing the cooperative business model to address communities' economic and social needs. MCDC serves all 56 counties and the Tribal Nations within Montana. MCDC is currently working with over 30 community groups across the State who are exploring cooperative solutions. For more information or to set up an appointment visit <a href="www.mcdc.coop">www.mcdc.coop</a> or follow on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/mcdc.coop.