

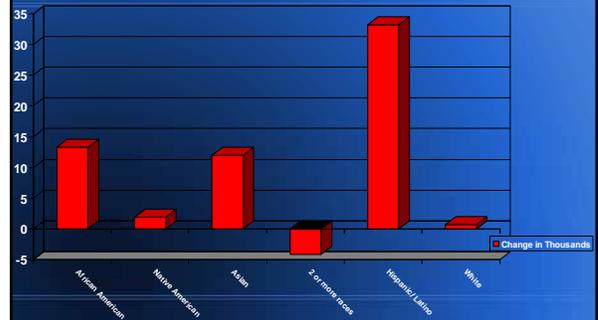
Empowerment of Latino Immigrants through Farming: A Community Capitals Approach



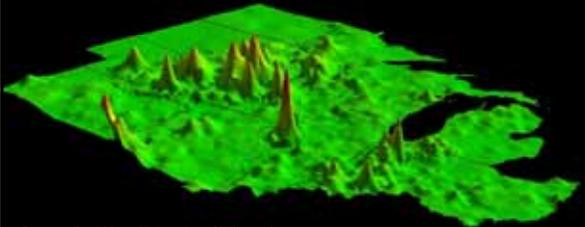
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Race/Hispanic Origin: Iowa % Change 2000-2006

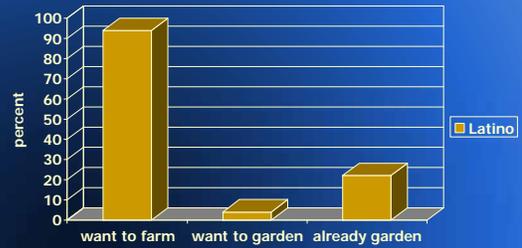


Percent Hispanic Population Change 1990-2000 (Omits counties with fewer than 50 Hispanic persons in 1990)



Source: Paul Voss, University of Wisconsin

Agricultural aspirations



Source: Hannah Lewis, MS GPSA Thesis, 2007

Community Capitals Framework



COMIDA



- Healthy ecosystems
- Vibrant regional economies
- Social equity & empowerment

The COMIDA project



- “Start your own diversified farm”
- The survey market
- Forming a cooperative
- Latino leader
- Mapping contribution and relationships among the actors

County of Marshall Investing in Diversified Agriculture (COMIDA)

- Collaborators:
 - Marshalltown Community College Entrepreneurial and Diversified Agriculture
 - ISU Extension and Sociology Extension
 - GPSA students
 - National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT)
 - Marshalltown Chamber of Commerce



Key elements in place in Marshall County

- Many farmers and resources to grow new farmers
- Farmers’ market
- Lots of independently owned food businesses; several with interests in local foods (Survey)
- Marshalltown Chamber “Target 5 Buy in” campaign to encourage local sourcing
- Local culture of interagency collaboration (example: Community plan for another possible ICE raid)
- Regional Food Systems Working Group (Leopold Center) and Prairie Rivers RC&D as support group
- Emerging intercultural network of farmers and eaters (Slow Foods movement beginnings)

“Start your own diversified farm”



“Empiece su propia granja diversificada”

- 8 weekly sessions of 3 hours
 - Graduation, March 8- 2009
 - 9 Anglo and 9 Latino students received their certification of completion
 - Farming teams
 - 12 students in 6 farming teams are going to farm in the MCC organic farm
 - 3 teams are going to sell their products as a cooperative in the Des Moines Farmers Market
 - Tomatoes, onion, lettuce, carrots, okra, peppers, squash, cabbage, cucumbers etc.

Curriculum



1. Introduction and goal setting
2. What resources do we have to work with?
3. Marketing planning
4. Production overview
5. Marketing Implementation and distribution
6. Production and plot planning
7. Record keeping
8. Financing

Instructors

- Professionals in collaboration with experienced farmers:
 - MCC faculty members
 - ISU Extension
 - Iowa Micro-Loan and USDA FSA officials
 - Private food business consultant
 - Practical Farmers of Iowa staff person
 - ISU Graduate Program in Sustainable Agriculture students



Market Research

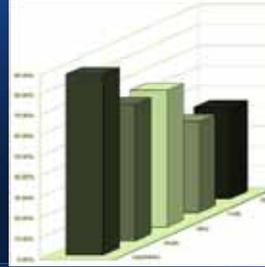


30 interviews (Institutions, Grocery Stores, Restaurants, and others) 9 of the businesses were Latino owned.

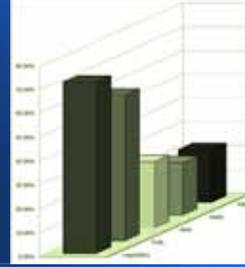
- The data indicates that there is high interest in buying food from a Marshall County or nearby farmer

WHAT WOULD BUSINESSES LIKE TO BUY?

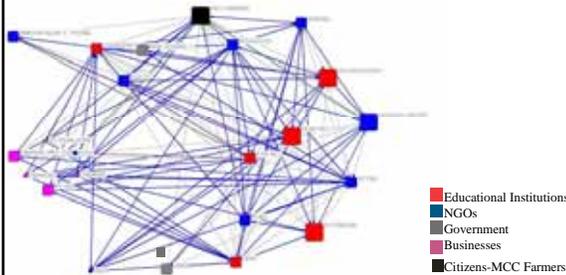
Latino Businesses



Anglo Businesses



Mapping contribution and relationships among the actors to success of the COMIDA



Expected Outcomes (Systemic Changes)

- Successful Latino farmers and local businesses engaged in local food systems
- Sustained institutional engagement in education and technical services in support of Latino farm families



Denison

- Scaling up from community gardens to market gardening/truck farming/diversified agriculture
- Partners
 - M&M Divide Resource Conservation and Development
 - Farmland Foods
 - ISU Extension -- Sociology, CED, and Crawford County
 - New Iowans Center
 - Chamber and Development Council of Crawford County



- Accomplishments:
 - Installed water hydrant at community gardens site
 - Questions added to c.g. application form
 - Three training sessions this season
 - List of potential participants in the local Farmer Market

Thanks!

Questions?

