

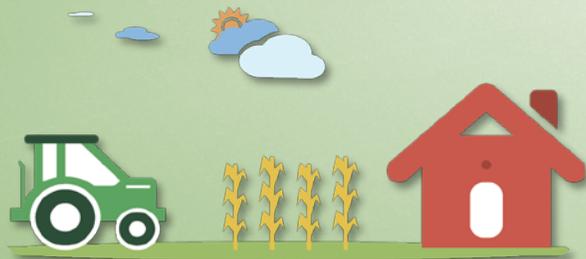
# Urban Agriculture Innovative Production Grant Program

# U of I Extension Agreement for Services

Kane County Agriculture Committee

January 18, 2024

Matt Tansley, Planner



# Program Overview

## The Kane County Food and Agriculture Accelerator

A pilot program with the goal of supporting the growth of urban area farms and agriculture technology companies, while improving local food access in Low-Income, Low-Access (LILA) communities.

### Focus Areas

1. Business development training for growers
2. Improve local food access in LILA communities
3. Technical assistance for local agriculture technology firms



USDA awarded \$299K in Urban Agriculture Innovative Production (UAIP) grant funds to Kane County

# Vendor Procurement

- ▶ Kane County issued a Request for Proposals (RFP23-055) to solicit qualified service providers to fulfill one or more of the core program deliverables.
- ▶ The County received one program proposal from the University of Illinois Extension.
- ▶ The proposal was reviewed and scored by a staff evaluation panel, and is being recommended for contract approval per resolution: **Authorizing a Contract with University of Illinois Extension to Provide Farm Business Training Services for Kane County Food Growers**



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# University of Illinois Proposal

## Master Urban Farmer Training Program

- ▶ A training program for farm operators serving urban markets
- ▶ Developed for Cook County in 2016
- ▶ Topics (partial):
  - ▶ Adopting systems & standardized practices to increase production
  - ▶ Business plan development
  - ▶ Financial management

## Kane County Food and Agriculture Accelerator Goals

1. Training for growers 
2. Improve LILA community access 
3. Support for Ag. Tech. 

# University of Illinois Proposal Cont.

## Additional Program Elements

- ▶ At least 2 training cohorts
- ▶ Up to 35 total grower participants

## Agreement Terms

- ▶ Proposed program budget: **\$219,253**
- ▶ Contract not-to-exceed amount: **\$299,185**

Once executed, the service contract with U of I Extension will remain in effect until **September 2025**