



2020 Mentorship Program Informational Sheet

Why 1:1 Mentorship?

Farmers have reported feeling isolated, both geographically and socially. Small farmers acting in isolation are unable to achieve the scale necessary to access institutional markets and resources. In order to combat this isolation, create stronger social networks, build commercial networks necessary to achieve scale, create resilience, and create sustainable farms, food systems, and communities - a mentorship program has been implemented as a part of FARRMS' programming.

Goals:

- Farmers build lasting peer relationships
- Farmers report feeling less isolated
- Farmers know where to turn when they have questions
- Social networks develop
- Commercial networks develop
- Farmer's enterprises are more successful and sustainable

In order to meet the above goals, FARRMS has create a system in which farmers choose to participate in mentorship, either as a mentor or mentee. *Mentees* will complete their mentorship and have more tools and greater training than before the program, to build lasting relationship and grow in skills and knowledge. *Mentors* will complete their mentorship, grow in interpersonal and educational skills after having participated in FARRMS' professional development material and after having guided a mentee in learning for one calendar year.

Do you have knowledge within agriculture, sustainability and operating a business that you would like to share? Do you enjoy investing in people and the development of their farming dreams? Start a 12- month experience mentoring the beginning farmers in North Dakota.

In this position you will:

- Be matched with a beginning farmer pursuing an enterprise that you have experience working with.
- Have a total of 15 hours of contact with your mentee via phone, e-mail, and *one* on farm visit.
- Be available for questions that your mentee may have.
- Be given a \$400 stipend for your time spent mentoring, plus mileage reimbursement for any travel incurred in association with the mentorship program.
- Be given conference scholarships for professional development.
- Be offered workshops to grow in your mentorship skills.

Apply for one of these cycles of mentorship:

- January 1st - December 31st
- April 1st - March 31st
- September 1st - August 31st

You will be notified one month prior to mentorship cycle start with whom you have been matched to mentor.