



February 27, 2023

Dear Committee Members, in regards to S.F. 1927:

The Red Wing Area Farmers Market became a SNAP retailer in 2000 and we adopted the HEHAH matching dollars program offered through Hunger Solutions as soon as it became available. We offer Market Bucks and Produce Market Bucks at both our in-person market May-October markets and our online market as well.

This program strongly shares the mission of bringing healthy, affordable, culturally representative foods to the communities we serve. This program is helping low-income folks in our community participate in the farmers' market and obtain healthy, local food. The program is also helping our farmers. This is pass-through money that goes directly back to our farmers and represents sales that would likely not have happened without the support of HEHAH.

The administrative funds for markets through HEHAH are also critical to enable these programs to continue. There is significant paperwork necessary to correctly track the issuance, redemption, payout to farmers, and reporting back to Hunger Solutions on these forms of scrip. Administrative funds help us pay those people for their necessary time to make this program work.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sara George". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and a long, sweeping underline.

Sara George
Red Wing Farmers Market Manager
rwfarmersmarket@gmail.com
715-651-5046