



NEWS RELEASE

Pathfinders Resource Conservation and Development • 304 South Maple • Suite 101
Fairfield, IA 52556 • Phone: (641) 472-6177 • Web: www.PathfindersRCD.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact:

Jan Swinton, Local Food Coordinator

Phone: 641/472-6177 Email: jan@pathfindersrcd.org

New Local Food Coordinator for Pathfinders RC&D/Hometown Harvest

Jan Swinton is jumping into her new position as Local Food Coordinator working for Pathfinders RC&D and developing the Hometown Harvest of SE Iowa local food system. The Hometown Harvest area includes Davis, Jefferson, Keokuk, Mahaska, Van Buren and Wapello counties. Jan comes to Fairfield from Marshalltown, Iowa, where she was a food system project coordinator for 3 years.

Jan grew up in northwest Iowa where her three brothers still farm together with their families. Rural development is Jan's passion. She spent most of her adult life raising her 4 children in rural Africa. From her first visit to Uganda while still in college at Iowa State University, to her 10 years of work in Sierra Leone, West Africa to her 3 year stint in Zimbabwe, Southern Africa, she never lost her passion for agriculture and sustainable development. She worked in several public health research projects, and found that food and nutrition education is essential to healthy communities.

“Food Systems encompass everything from growers to processors to individuals and institutions that cook and feed us. It even includes waste management and the nutrition needs of specialty diets,” Swinton says.

Jan has worked on Farm to School projects and Farmers Market Promotions and will be teaching a weekend course on Regional Food System Management at Drake University in Des Moines this winter.

Jan loves networking with local service organizations to energize the community. She is a Master Gardener, and has been Garden Club president. Jan is eager to connect with local farmers, local food buyers such as schools, restaurants and grocery stores and those interested in growing the local economy.

To learn more about Jan's work in southeast Iowa, or to schedule her to speak to your service organization, contact Pathfinders at 641-472-6177 or jan@pathfindersrcd.org

###

Suggested text for photo: Jan Swinton is the new Local Food Coordinator for Pathfinders RC&D serving the Hometown Harvest of SE Iowa local food region.

Jan Swinton is also available for interviews. Contact Jan at 641-472-6177 or jan@pathfindersrcd.org