

Coombs Farmers' Institute
RDN NCED Application
2019 – Here We Grow School
Schedule B

List any Measurable Economic Benefits or other Outcomes that will result from this Project

1. Supporting community members in learning the skills related to self reliance and self sufficiency helps to create stronger communities.
2. Growing and storing fruits and vegetables, for household use, saves money. Those saved dollars can improve a family's economic circumstances, or circulate back into the community.
3. Consumers will realize they can produce food in their backyard or community garden, or purchase from local farmers, those items not manageable in a back yard.
4. Farmers, with their products on display, will be a prime focus of our Fall Apple Pressing Event. Attendees will have an opportunity to engage in discussion with many local producers, all gathered together, at an entertaining community function.
5. When farmers experience the increasing interest in local food, they will gain confidence to increase production.
6. At the Apple Pressing, thousands of pounds of local fruit, (18,000 pounds in 2018) usually not used because of overabundance, makes it way back into the food economy. Windfall apples are cleaned up, no longer serving as bear attractant.
7. Local Gleaning Societies and their clients benefit by knowing the Fruit Press will be in a central location (Coombs Fairgrounds) at a dependable time, to make the most of the fruit (mostly apple and pear) harvest.
8. For those who choose to 'grow their own', local businesses that carry agricultural supplies will be the logical suppliers of seeds, plants, soil, tools, etc.
9. Students of our classes and workshops may gain an income from becoming 'smallholder market gardeners' in their own communities.
10. Unused, fallowed, arable land may be put to use to produce local food (like the UK 'allotment' system)
11. A broad network of small, diversified, non mechanized food growing spaces, would provide a measure of food security, from the threats of inflation and uncertain supply. (Trade disputes, drought, earthquake)