LA PLATA FOOD BUSINESS FINDINGS



Income is one of the greatest barriers to food security so LPFEC is supporting food business owners to help them gain economic security to feed their families and our community.

We surveyed 58 food business entrepreneurs about the barriers, opportunities and resource gaps that exist for minority-owned businesses in La Plata County. Here's what we learned, and what the LPFEC's Food Business Workgroup is doing to drive solutions.

To learn more visit goodfoodcollective.org or email foodaccess@goodfoodcollective.org





Durango

27%

Durango Business

Improvement District

Durango



45% Southwest Colorado Small Business Development Center



22% Region 9 Economic Development District of S.W. Colorado



theChamber

36%

Durango Chamber of

Commerce



Durango Public Library Business Services

25% Local First La Plata



First Southwest Community Fund

*15% of participants were not familiar with any services listed above.





What food industry specific resources do you need to support your business journey? (Check all that apply)

Commercial kitchen place (commissary)	39%
Dry/cold storage access	35%
Food sourcing, procurement	33%
Marketing channels for my product(s)	28%
Food safety; understanding/complying with regulations	25%
Mobile/food truck station	23%
Brick and mortar location	21%
Equipment sourcing	21%
Overnight storage access	19%
Liquor licensing; understanding/complying with regulations	18%
Zoning; understanding/complying with local regulations	16%
Manufacturing space	14%
Warehouse access	14%
Cleaning and sanitation services	4%

Top 3 Preferred Ways to Receive Information:



Email



Speaking with a person 1:1



Online on a website & social media

Putting Solutions into Action

Food Business Directory - Online and printable bilingual directory of services in La Plata county to get entrepreneurs the resources they need to start and scale their businesses.

Communication & Events - Listserv promoting entrepreneur networking and education opportunities that address gaps in the food business ecosystem.

Shared Kitchen Inventory - Public list of rentable kitchens in La Plata

Education - county-wide workshop series for entrepreneurs, to help connect them with funding, know-how, and resources. Thank you City of Durango and City Inclusive Entrepreneurship for making this possible!

To get plugged in, access resources or learn more visit: goodfoodcollective.org/lpfec