

**Midwest Incubator Kitchen Collaborative
Conference Call Minutes: Wednesday August 21, 2013**

Members on the call:

Brian Gwin - Program Manager at Agroecosystems Management Program OARDC
 Paul Keida – Cleveland Crops
 Chris Yurick – Cleveland Crops
 Devita Davidson – Detroit Kitchen Connect
 Chet Bowling – OSU Extension/Lorain Incubator Kitchen Cooperative
 Kevin Williams - Coit Rd Market in Cleveland, Cultivate Cleveland Co-op

We decided that we would meet on the third Wednesday of the month at 9:30 AM.
 We laid out the meeting schedule for the next for months. They are as follows:

<u>Month</u>	<u>Organizer</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Subject</u>
September 18th	Detroit Kitchen Connect – Devita Davidson	Call	How can we use technology to improve the paperwork process from Intake to graduation?
October 16th	Cleveland Crops – Paul Keida and Chris Yurick	Call	What supplies/inputs can we collaboratively purchase/acquire?
November 20th	Local Roots – Brian Gwin	Face to face	How do we connect with fresh produce growers?
December 18th	Lake to River Cooperative – Ben Shapiro	Call	What insurance do we need?
January 15th			
February 19th			
March 19th			
April 16th			
May 21st			
June 18th			
July 16th			
August 20th			

If you are willing to organize one of the calls or a face to face meeting send that information to Chet Bowling (bowling.43@osu.edu). We said that we would meet face to face once a quarter so I suggest that the months of March, June, September, and November would be face to face meetings. The meeting organizer gets to

choose the topic, send out a reminder about the call (we can use the same call in number (712) 432-1500 and participant code 661543# every time), lead the conversation, and send out minutes from the call. If every kitchen will take a month no one will have to do all the work.

The last part of the call we spent hearing updates from the kitchens that were on the call:

Detroit Kitchen Connect – Devita Davidson

On July 27th they launched their network of three kitchens. They received 15 applications and accepted 7. Three are working out of one kitchen and four out of another. They received a \$1,000,000 grant from the Michigan Economic Development Corporation which will be coupled with an additional \$1,000,000 and used to build a \$2,000,000 kitchen facility in the Eastern Market which will open in the 1st quarter of 2014.

Cleveland Crops – Paul Keida and Chris Yurick

They are currently under construction. The “dry” side of the kitchen will be finished first. The equipment is arriving today and they will be open to process crops from this season. They have a 2000 member CSA. Their CSA members will also be their first processed foods customers. They have a sales manager who helps them decide what to grow on their farms (around 60 acres) and what to process.

Local Roots – Brian Gwin

Nathan has left for DC. The kitchen is being wrapped up. They have hired a kitchen manager and are advertising for Food Processing Entrepreneurs, who are people who would work with area farms on the processing/preserving end.

Lake to River Cooperative

They have made great progress. The front of their facility which houses the food coop is finished and they are currently working on the kitchen facility which is in the back.

Lorain Incubator Kitchen Cooperative

They are in the process of choosing a site from three available. Each site has its advantages and disadvantages.