



Livestock Working Group Coordinator

Berkshire Grown is hiring a Livestock Working Group Coordinator to facilitate a livestock working group based in the general Berkshire/ Taconic region. Livestock Working Group members include project stakeholders and regional livestock farmers, as well as other enterprises in the livestock supply chain. This position is a part of a three-year USDA-funded grant program overseen by Berkshire Agricultural Ventures, in partnership with Berkshire Grown, of which the first year is complete. More information on the [Local Meat Processing Support Program is available here](#).

Role of the Livestock Working Group Coordinator

The purpose of the Livestock Working Group is to improve communication between producers, processors, and service provider organizations in the region while identifying next steps for long-term solutions. The Livestock Working Group Coordinator will manage and facilitate the Livestock Working Group, as well as value-chain development and opportunity research, as part of the Local Meat Processing Support. The Livestock Working Group Coordinator will serve as liaison between Berkshire Grown, Berkshire Agricultural Ventures, and project stakeholders, including for-profit, non-profit, and other organizations as well as livestock farmers and other enterprises in the livestock supply chain.

Goals of the Livestock Working Group

- Build a sustainable and active network of supply chain stakeholders and service providers to support regional meat processing improvement and capacity growth;
- Research and prioritize next steps for supply chain and shared infrastructure investments, such as cold storage for producers and processors;
- Research possible development of a regional marketing and branding initiative;
- Engage farmer and supply chain partners to grow the working group during the project period;
- Provide input and support on relevant funding and grant opportunities.

Staff from partnership organizations (including BAV, Berkshire Grown, and Kitchen Table Consultants) will participate in working group sessions as needed.

Responsibilities of the Livestock Working Group Coordinator

In a series of six meetings/year, lead discussions that will assess regional needs for livestock slaughter and meat processing, including the current slaughter and processing status, the short- and long-term needs of livestock farmers, and possible long-term solutions.

Facilitate Working Group Meetings:

- Manage communications with the Livestock Working Group, Berkshire Agricultural Ventures, and Berkshire Grown;
- Facilitate Working Group meetings
 - With input from BAV and BG, set meeting agendas
 - Facilitate productive, respectful meetings with clear goals and opportunities for discussion;

- Manage Livestock Working Group data, keep minutes and report back to BAV, BG and KTC;

Research and Follow-up to support Livestock Working Group Discussions:

- As a result of Livestock Working Group discussions, research and prioritize next steps for supply chain and shared infrastructure investments, such as cold storage needs for producers and processors;
 - Assess the current status of supply chain and storage services in the region;
 - Research other slaughter, processing, and storage facilities across the US;
 - Create report to be shared with Livestock Working Group, BAV, BG;
- Research possible development of regional marketing and branding initiative;
 - Research other similar initiatives.

Build a sustainable and active network of supply chain stakeholders

- Engage farmer and supply chain partners to grow the working group during the project period;
 - Research regional livestock farmers as possible LWG members;
 - With guidance/input from BG and BAV, contact above producers to inquire about interest and introduce them to LWG;
- Promote and facilitate Livestock Working Group discussions that will address questions and solutions in regard to regional meat processing improvement and capacity growth.

Skills and Qualifications

- 3+ years work experience in livestock sector either as a producer, processor, or other supply chain business, and/ or experience with food system planning a plus;
- Relevant experience facilitating groups of farmers and other individuals with overlapping business concerns;
- Strong in-person and remote communication skills with individuals from disparate backgrounds;
- Demonstrated experience with independent research;
- Solid writing skills;
- Organized and reliable;
- Ideal candidate lives in the Berkshire/ Taconic geographical region;
- Skilled with Microsoft Office, Google Suite.
- Ability to work flexible hours when evening and weekend work is required;
- A valid driver's license and a road-worthy vehicle.

The **Livestock Working Group Coordinator** is a part-time, grant-funded consultant position without benefits. Competitive pay rate commensurate with experience, in the range of \$25,000 - \$27,000 annually for 20 hours/week. The Livestock Working Group Coordinator reports to the Executive Director of Berkshire Grown and to the Local Meat Processing Support Program Manager at Berkshire Agricultural Ventures.

To apply

Please email a current resume and a cover letter describing how your experience qualifies you for the job to jobs@bershiregrown.org. No phone calls please.

Berkshire Grown is an equal opportunity employer and all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability status, protected veteran status, or any other characteristic protected by law.