## Member Spotlight: Central Rivers Farmshed



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Our goals are two-fold:

- 1) Expand our programs to ensure everyone in our community can choose healthy locally grown food.
- 2) Ensure more farm-to-table farms and small food based businesses thrive in central Wisconsin.

Farmshed's mission: grow a resilient local food economy



# Sib Pab "Helping Hands"

- The Sib Pab (she-pa) program started in 2020 as a response to the pandemic Through a United Way grant, they provide culturally relevant meals to Hmong elders and those with disabilities.
- In 2021, Sib Pab expanded the meal program to include culturally school meals. With the support of the Stevens Point Area School District, the program piloted at the high school and started with 35 meals per week, then increased to 50 by the second semester because of the interest.
- In 2022, Farmshed received Badger Boxes and started distributing them throughout the community.
- Farmshed's response to food security came naturally as the Sib Pab program started to grow and prioritized culturally relevant food procurement.
- In 2023, the Farm, Fresh & Free food program was created under Sib Pab. The focus of this food security programming was to reduce barriers to culturally relevant produce and make it more readily available to community members in need.





#### Farm, Fresh & Free



Over \$100k in produce was secured in 2023 through LFPA

Received a grant in 2024 with over \$125k allocated to purchasing locally grown/produced products, emphasis on culturally relevant products

Food + Farm Exploration Center produce





#### **Collaborations**



Department of Public Institution

Wisconsin Food Hub Cooperative

DATCP

USDA 2501(Groundswell Conservancy, UW Extension & Fairshare Coalition CSA

Food + Farm Exploration Center









### The Farmshed Community Kitchen

If you are an aspiring food business entrepreneur that would like to start a business rooted in the use of local foods, Farmshed can offer commercial kitchen space so that you can acquire your licensing and start producing your artisan food.







New location, new opportunities, Farm to School networking, student involvement



**Questions?** 



