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| Please use this form to clearly and concisely report on project progress. The information included should reflect quantifiable results that can be used to evaluate and measure project success. Comments should be limited to the designated boxes. Technical reports, no longer than 4 pages, may be attached to this summary report. | |
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| Project Title: | Expanding Potential Market Demand for and Access to Whole Soy Foods through Nutrition Education |
| Organization: | University of Arkansas Division of Agriculture and subcontracting to University of Missouri |
| Principal Investigator Name: | Leigh Ann Bullington, Instructor – FCS Educator |
| Report Period: | April – June, 2025 |
| Project Status: Year 1 First Quarter | |
| March 31, 2025 – Notified of grant approval from MSSB, Mid-South Soybean Board Research Funding Agreement Extension returned for slight modification by UADA legal. May 19, 2025 – UADA Assoc. AVP for Finance and Admin signed and approved. May 29, 2025 – MSSB Executive Director signed and approved.  June 9, 2025 – Notified on Award set up in UADA system for use.  Correspondence with Sarah Wood- University of Missouri notification of grant approval from the Mid-South Soybean Board. Proceeding with finance set-up and planning discussions on the exact sub-contract with MU.  Objective 1 – **Increase awareness about soy milk and whole / minimally processed (w/mp) soy foods in school and early childcare centers through a multipronged intervention involving taste tests and work with educational influencers.**  AR - The identification process of six school districts in six counties began for tasting activities.  MU – Currently teaching lessons on growing soy and eating soy foods in 4 different summer school classes with edamame seeds to plant with the kids and some whole beans to make into soy nut butter.  Objective 2 - **Improve access to soy milk and (soy foods in school and early childcare centers**.  AR - Discussion with Early Childhood Extension Specialist concerning the possibility of soy nutrition education being included in BestCare (early childhood educator training) lessons.  MU – No work this quarter.  Objective 3 - **Increase the availability of soy foods in local food systems while exploring viable connections between producers and consumers**.  AR – No work this quarter.  MU – Not worked on this quarter  Objective 4 - **Increase appeal and demand for soy foods through education that includes local demonstrations for consumers and producers.**  AR - Discussed summer FCS dietetic interns’ availability to research information for a fact sheet to be used with educational displays for producer meetings. Began selection of additional counties to host soy food demonstrations and staff displays for consumers and producers.  MU – Planning the annual Norborne Soybean Festival to include cooking demos and a challenge for community members to submit their recipes to be selected to compete against Extension specialist in a cooking competition in front of the community. Three recipes will be selected, with two spots designated for youth. Planning to make soy smoothies with blender bikes. | |