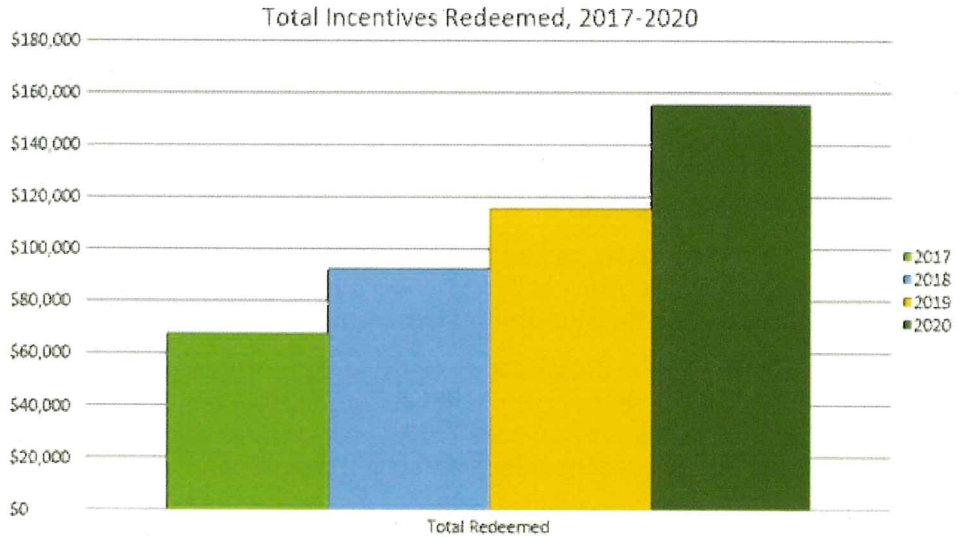


# THE IMPACT

From the creation of the Farms to Food Banks Program in 2011 to the Kentucky Double Dollars Program and others, Kentucky NGOs, state agencies, and Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) have worked together to address low-income Kentuckians' lack of access to healthy food. Through these incentive programs, low-income families gain more access to locally grown produce which has increased sales for Kentucky farmers. Stabilizing support for these solutions through the Healthy Farm & Food Fund is good for Kentucky farmers, families, communities, and the economy.

- Farmers:** These programs help farmers grow their businesses through increased sales from new and repeating customers who otherwise would not be able to afford locally-grown food. Increasing capacity for matched federal dollars increases profits for farmers.
- Families:** By increasing the accessibility of healthy locally-grown foods, the Healthy Farm & Food Fund will decrease household food insecurity and simultaneously improve the dietary health outcomes of Kentucky's children and their families.
- Communities:** With more Kentuckians gaining access to locally-raised fresh produce, meat, eggs, and dairy, the Healthy Farm & Food Fund builds healthier communities across the Commonwealth.
- Economy:** This fund will bring more federal dollars flowing into the state, which will raise the percentage of families' grocery budgets spent on Kentucky-grown foods, increasing the amount of money in Kentucky farmers' pockets and keeping more dollars local. Economists estimate that every \$1 a household redeems through SNAP generates about \$1.70 in economic activity.



*This graph depicts the amount of money redeemed through local food incentive programs from 2017—2020 at Kentucky farmers markets, community markets, and retail stores.*



## THE FACTS

- 61% of Kentucky's public school children participate the free or reduced priced meals at school and 22% of Kentucky's children live below the poverty threshold.<sup>iv</sup>
- Too many parents have to choose between paying for food and paying for utilities or heating fuel; in fact 35% of food bank clients report having to face this tough decision.<sup>v</sup>

iv. <https://kyyouth.org/kentucky-kids-count/data/>  
v. <https://www.feedingamerica.org/hunger-in-america/kentucky>