Harvest Heroes

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Growing a Farm Education Program for U.S. Military Veterans

PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT PROCESS

Idaho Beginning Farmer Rancher Program 2015 -2018 had 10% U.S. Military Veterans



Showing of film Ground Operations + input sessions 2018 in Moscow & Boise



UI Student Intern/Veteran interested in farming program for veterans conducted 27 1:1 interviews 2018



Advisory Meetings + Seed grant of \$7,500 awarded to fund pilot program 2018



USDA-NIFA Beginning **Farmer Rancher** Development **Grant awarded** \$46,000 from 2019 - 2022











PROJECT RESULTS

Over 100 local veterans and family in Idaho members have participated in at least one Harvest Heroes program and many of these veterans have started farm businesses and are selling their farm goods at local farmers markets. Over half of participants who were already farming, or ranching implemented a new method such as cover cropping, or other sustainable land use technique. participants Program donated over 3,000 pounds of produce to local food banks each year.



