

SASA Food Service Work Group

January 7-9, 2015

Annual Meeting

Schools Represented:

Albany, Alfred, Binghamton, Brockport, Buffalo, Cobleskill, Cortland, Delhi, ESF, Fredonia, Geneseo, Morrisville New Paltz, Oneonta, Oswego and Potsdam

Agenda:

Finger Lakes Food Hub, located in Groton, NY and operated by Challenge Industries shared with the group some of the challenges that a food hub faces in establishing itself. In their specific case, they are struggling with working capital. Challenge Industries created the food hub to support their mission to provide physically and mentally challenged members of the Tompkins-Cortland County area with job training and employment. They were a vendor in the showcase and asked us to stop by and see and taste what they have to offer. They are being distributed widely through broad line and specialty food vendors. NYS Ag and Markets is actively assisting them as part of the Pride of New York.

Sustainability Presentation: Farms to Institutions – New York State (FINYS) Update on Grant Proposal presented by Christina Grace

Christina Grace shared with the group the results of the annual report and the first year with the grant. Report is attached.

Retail Pricing Strategies:

Different strategies were discussed through an open forum based on the request of group members prior to the conference.