



FoodHub in the News

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Deborah Kane lands federal farm-to-school post

PORTLAND – Deborah Kane, former Ecotrust vice president and founder of the group's FoodHub initiative, was named today head of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Farm to School initiative.

According to the USDA, Kane will work with U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan on the national farm-to-school program, which is designed to increase school children's access to locally grown healthy foods.

Kane, who oversaw the food and farms program at Ecotrust, left the nonprofit in December after a year that had her visiting the White House as a "Champion of Change."

"We're thrilled to see Deborah take the work of building robust regional food systems to the national level," said Spencer Beebe, Ecotrust's president, in a statement. "We know that putting fresh local produce on kids' lunch trays makes for healthier students and supports regional farmers and food economies."

Farm to School activities are fast gaining momentum, Ecotrust officials said, with the federal government to offer \$5 million in grants this year for programs nationwide.

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