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Hello, my name is Alexandra Epstein-Solfield and I am the Child Nutrition Director for Ellensburg School District in central Washington state. Our district is located in the heart of our state's agricultural region and we rely heavily on local produce, meats, and dairy products for our program. The products are generally more expensive than products provided by our board line supplier (US Foods) but we are dedicated to supporting our local producers, ranchers, and growers so we use whatever funding we can to make these purchases possible. It is often grant funding. With Farm to School programming, our students benefit by receiving a higher quality product and learning about where their food comes from. Farm to School is a critical component to our program and the recent loss of Farm to School funding is devastating to our students and our local producers.