**F. Project Manager Qualifications and Organization Description**

**Kathryn Draeger, Ph.D., Principal Investigator**

*Statewide Director, UMN Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships*

*Adjunct Professor and member of the Graduate Faculty, Dept. Agronomy and Plant Genetics*

Dr. Draeger is a recognized community-engaged scholar at the University of Minnesota with a strong background in interdisciplinary research and outreach. Her academic research has focused on the intersections of agriculture, food systems, rural grocery stores, wholesale markets, supply chains, as well as specialty crop production and marketing. She will be responsible for overall project management, regular filing of project reports, and project financial oversight. She will develop clear work expectations, monitor the completion of project tasks, analyze any difficulties around task completion, and facilitate readjustment to any difficulties that arise. Dr. Draeger will lead the extension objectives and ensure that there is integration of the research and extension components. She will work closely with external and internal stakeholders to ensure they are fully engaged in the project.

**University of Minnesota Extension, Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships**

The Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships (RSDP) is a program of the University of Minnesota Extension that connects Greater Minnesota communities to the University in order to identify new opportunities and solve problems in sustainability. The Partnerships leverage University knowledge and seed funding with local talent and resources in four areas: agriculture and food systems, tourism and resilient communities, natural resources, and clean energy. RSDP is composed of a statewide office and five partnerships working in Greater Minnesota.