

# **LINC Foods Value-Added Membership Agreement**

## **LINC Foods Value-added food guidance**

### **General Guidance:**

- Must be made by farmers or processors with appropriate processor license.
- Ingredients will be organic if available and manageable.
- Examples of organic ingredients: coconut, many seeds, rice, dried fruits, sweeteners except honey, extracts, flours, oats, olive oil, coconut oil, canola oil.
- Examples of non-organic ingredients: pectin, peanut-free tree nuts, dates, honey, certified GF oats, certified GF flours, vinegar, grapeseed oil.
- Avoid GMO products.

### **Flours:**

No bleached or GMO flour.

### **Produce:**

Fresh produce must be organically grown and local. Dried produce ingredients must be organic and through LINC where practical.

### **Sweeteners:**

Sugars and syrups must be organic. Honey must be local and raw (never heated above 120 degrees).

### **Animals:**

If using animal or animal products in a value-added item, use only non-cloned animals that have not been treated with medicines or hormones, etc. Ensure animals are treated humanely and raised in an organic manner.

### **Flavorings and colors:**

Use only "pure", "natural", or "organic compliant" flavorings and colors. No artificial flavorings or colors.

### **Fats:**

No trans fats or artificial fats (for example Olestra).

The VA Guild will review recipes and a copy will be on file. VA non-producers must source where practical through LINC Foods members, unless none are available, then all ingredients must meet LINC Foods standards.

I/we, \_\_\_\_\_, LINC Foods member(s), have read and understand that products that I/we produce are done within state and Health Department guidelines and licensing. I further understand that wherever possible I/we have used local, organically grown and or made ingredients. I/we also have used organically grown and natural products even if not able to source locally.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_