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## **Keown-Bomar hired as WFU Executive Director**

**CHIPPEWA FALLS** – Wisconsin Farmers Union is pleased to welcome Julie Keown-Bomar as executive director. Keown-Bomar brings to the role a strong background in organizational development and civic engagement as well as practical experience working with farmers and farm organizations. She has served in UW-Extension roles since 2005, including as a family living educator, Northwest Wisconsin regional director and, most recently, as co-director for Wisconsin's State 4-H program.

Julie grew up in the Rocky Mountains of Wyoming. She has Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees in International Studies from the University of Wyoming and a Doctorate in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. Much of her work has been with refugees and immigrants, running international training projects and creating culturally relevant programming.

Keown-Bomar and her husband, Charles, live in Menomonie, where he serves as dean of the College of Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics and Management at UW-Stout. They have two daughters.

"Julie has a breadth of experience in administration and program development," said retiring Executive Director Tom Quinn. "She has a strong commitment to our WFU values and looks forward to a position that allows her to advocate them."

"I'm thrilled to join the Wisconsin Farmers Union team," Keown-Bomar said. "I've long been a supporter, following their progressive, grassroots approach to sustain family farms, protect land and water and create fair policies. The staff is smart, dedicated and has excellent skills. I feel lucky to have this opportunity at this time."

Keown-Bomar began her duties on June 18. She can be reached at [jbomar@wisconsinfarmersunion.com](mailto:jbomar@wisconsinfarmersunion.com).

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