

FY 2016 USDA Farm to School Grant Awards

The Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010 authorized and funded USDA to establish a Farm to School Program in order to assist eligible entities, through grants and technical assistance, in implementing farm to school programs that improve access to local foods in eligible schools. USDA is pleased announce fiscal year 2016 grantees. The descriptions below were adapted from grant applications. In some cases they have been edited by USDA staff. Award amounts are subject to change.

Alabama

Food Bank of North Alabama

Huntsville, Alabama

Grant Type: Support Service; \$100,000

The Food Bank of North Alabama will increase the volume and diversity of locally grown produce served in over 1,500 school cafeterias and 13 summer feeding programs. The project includes sales coordination on a local and statewide basis, succession planting planning and harvest coordination, product testing, GAP train-the-trainer training for cooperative extension agents, GAP certification assistance for farmers, marketing services, and cafeteria staff training and networking opportunities.

Alaska

Alaska Gateway School District

Tok, Alaska

Grant Type: Implementation; \$95,231

The district will execute a strategic plan developed with a USDA Farm to School planning grant with the goal of increasing local food use to at least 20% in the Alaska Gateway school nutrition programs. This project will focus on developing the central district production greenhouse as a food production and educational facility, and equipping the associated food processing facility.

Arizona

Tucson Unified School District, Tucson

Tucson, Arizona

Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,958

Tucson Unified School District will secure a multi-vendor produce bid to increase local produce

purchases and identify traditional fruits and vegetables for service at 86 schools, two preschool sites, three At-Risk Supper Programs, and 63 Summer Food Service Program sites. The project will also provide garden training for food service staff.

Arkansas

Conway School District

Conway, Arkansas

Grant Type: Planning; \$44,927

Conway School District will design a local food processing kitchen program in a centralized school kitchen facility that will allow the district's schools to serve nutritious local produce throughout the school year.

The Wallace Center at Winrock International

Little Rock, Arkansas

Grant Type: Training - Regional; \$47,646

Winrock International will conduct trainings for small and mid-size producers and enterprises in food safety certifications, targeting states across the Deep South: Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Tennessee and Kentucky.

California

Center for Ecoliteracy

Berkeley, California

Grant Type: Support Service; \$100,000

"California Thursdays" is a collaboration between the Center for Ecoliteracy and a network of school districts to serve freshly prepared school meals made from California-grown food. The network includes 42 districts that collectively serve over 250 million meals annually. This project will implement two new efforts: (1) a two-day training program to build capacity and provide technical expertise to nutrition services leaders, and (2) a robust website that features a public interface to improve communications and access to resources among the network.

County of Sonoma Department of Health Services

Santa Rosa, California

Grant Type: Support Service; \$94,580

The County of Sonoma Department of Health Services in California will work with key partners to expand farm to preschool programs at fifteen school-based pre-kindergarten sites serving low income families throughout Sonoma County. Activities will include Harvest of the Month educational tasting kits of farm fresh produce; procurement of locally grown foods into pre-kindergarten meal programs; increased hands-on learning in on-site gardens; and the development of comprehensive wellness policies that include farm to preschool language.

Konocti Unified School District

Lower Lake, California

Grant Type: Planning; \$45,000

Konocti Unified School District will increase the use of locally-grown foods in school meals, and the number of students that participate in those meals, by embedding farm to school best practices into school culture. Strategies include working with multiple schools, increasing local foods in summer meals, revising policies to facilitate local procurement, increasing school vegetable production, aligning experiential education with Common Core state standards, and engaging the community through marketing and promotion.

National Farm to School Network

San Francisco, California

Grant Type: Training – National; \$49,665

The National Farm to School Network will conduct advanced trainings to support school food service/nutrition directors and farmers/producers in sustaining and expanding their farm to school work. Trainings will be held in conjunction with the 8th National Farm to Cafeteria Conference happening June 2 through 4, 2016, in Madison, WI.

Pasadena Unified School District

Pasadena, California

Grant Type: Implementation; \$100,000

Pasadena Unified School District, previously a FY 2014 USDA Farm to School planning grantee, will systematically link fresh food procurement and preparation through staff and teacher training; classroom curriculum; and experiential activities for students in cafeterias, school gardens, and field trips to create an integrated, well-coordinated, and district-wide farm to school approach.

Plumas Unified School District

Quincy, California

Grant Type: Planning; \$45,000

Plumas Unified School District will develop a five year plan to expand the existing school gardens and production greenhouse to all 13 prekindergarten-12th grade public schools. Teachers, ranchers, farmers, social service agencies, and interested community members will be invited to provide input in developing a sustainable garden education and local procurement plan. Representatives from the three neighboring counties will be included to explore a regional approach.

Sacramento City Unified School District

Sacramento, California

Grant Type: Implementation; \$100,000

Sacramento City Unified School District, in partnership with the Food Literacy Center and Soil Born Farms, designed a farm to school project to include procurement of fresh vegetables, garden education, and nutrition education. This project will introduce a new vegetable each month to students in three pilot elementary schools and then to students throughout the district.

The Edible Schoolyard Project

Berkeley, California

Grant Type: Training – National; \$45,050

This project will pilot a new Edible Schoolyard Intensive professional development program for farm to school practitioners from across the country to increase the ability of maturing farm to school programs to sustain long-term success by educating participants about how to forge strong relationships between school food service staff, school leaders, and classroom, garden, and kitchen educators.

Yolo County Department of Agriculture

Woodland, California

Grant Type: Support Service; \$93,500

Building on the last three years of operating a successful farm to school program focused on procurement, this project will engage with local school districts to (1) acquire data on the quantity and frequency of foods being served through the meal programs, (2) track crop data for translation into yield for local farms, (3) provide training and writing services with farms to

obtain their Good Agricultural Practices certification, and (4) provide services such as curated farm tours, farm availability listings, and business guidance for producers.

Colorado

Chef Ann Foundation

Boulder, Colorado

Grant Type: Support Service; \$95,656

The Chef Ann Foundation will create free, accessible tools to support school district implementation and expansion of farm to school practices. This national project will support scratch cooking, local procurement, nutrition education, and other farm to school operations. The Chef Ann Foundation will develop scalable farm to school recipes and menu cycles for preschool and K-12 age groups.

Colorado Farm to School Task Force

Denver, Colorado

Grant Type: Training – State; \$25,000

The Colorado Farm to School Task Force, in partnership with the Colorado Foundation for Public Health and the Environment, will conduct trainings to increase the number of Colorado's fruit and vegetable producers available to sell to Colorado schools. The training consists of a Producers' Intensive Farm to School Getting Started training and a farm to school mentorship program that matches seasoned producers currently selling to schools with producers interested in selling to schools.

Connecticut

End Hunger, CT!

Hartford, Connecticut

Grant Type: Support Service - Volunteer Service Project; \$98,649

End Hunger CT!, a statewide non-profit food security and nutrition organization, seeks a Farm-to-School Service Support grant to enhance and expand the reach of FoodCorps, a volunteer service project of AmeriCorps, throughout thirteen school districts and communities. Funding through this program will support the launch a new Farm-to-Summer Meals initiative, featuring strategies to procure locally for Summer Meals, ingredient and recipe testing, and enrichment activities to boost participation in Summer Meals. The goal is to build a stronger and more diverse FoodCorps CT.

Florida

School Board of Alachua County

Gainesville, Florida

Grant Type: Implementation; \$80,179

Alachua County Public Schools, formerly an FY 2014 USDA Farm to School planning grantee, will increase the amount of locally produced foods served in school and summer meals, expand nutrition and wellness curriculum, and provide hands-on learning experiences for students. The project will collaborate with the district's Exceptional Student Education Department to expand the Alachua Farm to School to Work Hub, which grows, aggregates, and processes locally grown foods for distribution to district schools.

Georgia

Food Bank of Northeast Georgia

Athens, Georgia

Grant Type: Support Service; \$96,580

The Food Bank of Northeast Georgia will reduce barriers to large-scale procurement, empower local leadership, stage program expansion, engage in summer feeding programs, and innovate in nutrition education. The project will position the farm to school program for long-term sustainability while maximizing impact and reach.

Hawaii

Kona Pacific Public Charter School

Kealahou, Hawaii

Grant Type: Planning; \$41,785

Kona Pacific Public Charter School will conduct an audit of existing farm to school activities and develop a farm to school action plan that incorporates on-site farm and student educational activities. The project will restructure all components into an integrated system that will ensure a flourishing and sustainable farm to school program.

Idaho

Salmon School District 291

Salmon, Idaho

Grant Type: Planning; \$44,878

Salmon School District 291 will develop a school-based garden and corresponding farm to school program. The program will be designed to establish long-term education goals and to provide access to healthy, affordable food for students, families and the community.

Illinois

Seven Generations Ahead

Oak Park, Illinois

Grant Type: Support Service; \$85,767

Seven Generations Ahead and the Kane County Health Department will increase local food distribution, access, and education within Kane County schools while building a sub-regional Kane County farm to school network. The project will support school districts with classroom and cafeteria promotions of healthy eating and locally grown food, and will implement fruit and vegetable promotional events that coincide with National Farm to School Month in October.

Iowa

Des Moines Independent Community School District

Des Moines, Iowa

Grant Type: Planning; \$45,000

Des Moines Independent Community School District will conduct a needs assessment of schools and stakeholders to develop important policies and procedures to ensure a strategic farm to school plan for the district. This strategic plan will encompass local food procurement, school gardens, curriculum integration goals, and collaboration with snack and summer food service stakeholders.

Kansas

KC Healthy Kids

Kansas City, Kansas

Grant Type: Support Service; \$97,108

KC Healthy Kids will expand the operations of its Farm to School Academy from six school districts to

approximately 22 in the Greater Kansas City region. Participating school districts will receive support in the form of trainings, peer networking, newsletters, leadership development, summer procurement strategies, and tools and resources.

Kentucky

Perry County School District

Hazard, Kentucky

Grant Type: Implementation; \$97,047

A 2014 USDA Farm to School planning grant recipient, Perry County Schools will now develop a full-scale, county-wide farm to school program. The project has three key goals: use a summer processing facility to process large quantities of local food to freeze and store for use in winter months; provide engaging agriculture and nutrition education in all 10 schools; and support the economic development of agricultural businesses in Perry County.

Maine

Auburn School Department

Auburn, Maine

Grant Type: Planning; \$45,000

The Auburn School District in Maine will formalize the Androscoggin Farm to School Network as a coordinating body; conduct research and analysis to identify current initiatives, best practices, needs, challenges, and strategies to alleviate or reduce barriers to farm to school activities; foster local procurement relationships between school personnel and producers; and continue the operation of school garden programs to develop models for sustainability.

Massachusetts

Massachusetts Farm to School, Project Bread – The Walk for Hunger

Amherst, Massachusetts

Grant Type: Training – State; \$25,000

The Massachusetts Farm to School conference will provide a forum for individuals working in a variety of roles in the farm to school movement to come together across disciplines to learn best practices, network, and advance farm to school efforts in Massachusetts. The goal of the training is to promote

effective procurement, menuing, and promotion of locally grown foods in school year and summer food service meal programs.

Quincy Public Schools

Quincy, Massachusetts

Grant Type: Implementation; \$71,958

Quincy Public Schools will expand and strengthen the existing farm to school program to increase the amount of local fruits and vegetables available in school cafeterias, embed farm to school nutrition-based experiential activities into the curriculum district-wide, promote economic development for local farmers and providers, and provide students with healthy, locally-grown food.

Somerville Public Schools

Somerville, Massachusetts

Grant Type: Implementation; \$100,000

Building on the momentum of a 2014 USDA Farm to School planning grant, Somerville Public Schools will ramp up the alignment, implementation, and expansion of programs to increase the use of local food products in school menus and increase the use of nutrition education in prekindergarten classrooms. Additionally, the project will result in the development of a Somerville School Garden Network, a Massachusetts Farm to School Stakeholder Network, local procurement bid templates, and memorandums of understanding to deepen community partnerships.

The Open Door

Gloucester, Massachusetts

Grant Type: Support Service; \$100,000

This community collaboration of local nonprofits and a public school district will increase student access to fresh fruits and vegetables through the National School Lunch Program, summer meals, preschool, and after school suppers through salad bars, taste tests, nutrition education, school gardens, and local produce acquisition.

Michigan

Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Laker School District

Pigeon, Michigan

Grant Type: Planning; \$43,688

The Elkton-Pigeon-Bay Port Laker School District will form a collaborative team with the local hospital,

local farms, pre-kindergarten through grade 12 schools, and a local greenhouse. While school districts in this area are primarily in rural, agricultural areas, no local food is currently incorporated into the school meal programs. This project will change that by creating a pathway between local producers and schools.

The City of Muskegon Public Schools

Muskegon, Michigan

Grant Type: Planning; \$43,500

The City of Muskegon Public Schools efforts will engage youth and community stakeholders in capacity building and action plan development for farm to school initiatives in four Muskegon County school districts, ultimately connecting local food to school cafeterias.

Minnesota

Park Rapids Schools ISD 309

Park Rapids, Minnesota

Grant Type: Planning; \$45,000

Park Rapids and Laporte School Districts will work with community partners to work through barriers to using farm to school foods in school nutrition programs and teach children and families about adopting more nutritious diets. The project will engage students in field trips to local farms and taste testing locally grown menu items.

Mississippi

Oxford School District

Oxford, Mississippi

Grant Type: Implementation; \$79,596

The Oxford School District, which previously received a USDA Farm to School planning grant, will take part in a city-wide food hub collaboration with the Oxford City Market and turn garden projects into self-sustaining educational programs. Since receiving their initial grant in 2013, the project has served as an example to schools around the state and will continue to lead the way for farm to school projects in the coming years.

Missouri

Ferguson-Florissant School District

Florissant, Missouri

Grant Type: Implementation; \$91,500

The Ferguson-Florissant School District will partner with St. Louis University and local farms to expand and integrate its farm to school program through the HELP (Healthy Eating with Local Produce) project. Through HELP, student employees will use preservation techniques to make local produce available to all 24 schools in the district year round, even outside of regular harvest seasons. HELP will offer high school students culinary training, hands-on experience with local produce, and food production skills while providing employment.

School District of Springfield R-12

Springfield, Missouri

Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,488

The Springfield Public School District will build upon the momentum of an FY 2014 USDA Farm to School planning grant to increase student access to locally sourced products in six of the district's schools; strengthen student and community knowledge about food and nutrition; and increase market opportunities for local farmers, distributors, and food co-ops.

Montana

Montana Office of Public Instruction

Helena, Montana

Grant Type: Training – State; \$25,000

The Montana Office of Public Instruction, through the Montana Team Nutrition Program, will host a Montana farm to school conference. The conference will provide training and partnership building sessions for the core elements of farm to school—procurement, school gardens, and education—for pre-kindergarten through grade 12 school programs and key stakeholders in Montana.

National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT)

Butte, Montana

Grant Type: Support Service - Volunteer Service Project, \$99,848

NCAT's Healthy Foods and Communities Initiative is working to combat childhood obesity and reduce hunger, while supporting vibrant local farms and ranches. NCAT's Initiative encompasses multiple

projects that work together to bring healthy, local foods to people across Arkansas, Mississippi, and Montana. This initiative combines FoodCorps/AmeriCorps service members, making change on the ground, with farm to school outreach and education activities.

Nebraska

Center for Rural Affairs

Lyons, Nebraska

Grant Type: Training – Regional; \$42,300

The Center for Rural Affairs will partner with Missouri Extension and the Iowa Department of Agriculture to host a Tri-State Farm to School Conference. This conference will bring together a wide range of stakeholders, including farmers, school food service personnel and other school staff, food aggregators, food distributors, and community members. The training will include a variety of training sessions, demonstrations, networking opportunities, and other activities that will help stakeholders succeed in operating farm to school programs.

Lincoln Public Schools

Lincoln, Nebraska

Grant Type: Planning; \$45,000

Lincoln Public Schools will identify farmers and producers to provide more locally grown foods through the district's school meal programs. The district will leverage partnerships to develop food safety standards and implement a pilot in five elementary schools, including preschools, before scaling up to the whole district.

Nevada

Urban Roots and the Nevada Department of Agriculture

Sparks, Nevada

Grant Type: Training – State; \$19,666

Urban Roots and the Nevada Department of Agriculture will host a Nevada farm to school conference focused on procurement training, defining local, food safety, curriculum integration, farm to school activities, and local champions. A field trip and networking session will promote networking and highlight farm to school activities occurring regionally and state wide.

New Hampshire

Portsmouth School Department

Portsmouth, New Hampshire

Grant Type: Implementation; \$100,000

As a recipient of a USDA Farm to School Planning grant in 2013, Portsmouth schools are poised to focus on personal, community, and environmental wellness as part of the farm to school experience and education. The program's vision is to provide district graduates with a comprehensive experience and education that positions them to partake in farm to table efforts as healthy, thoughtful, responsible citizens.

Seabrook School District

Hampton, New Hampshire

Grant Type: Planning; \$42,376

Seabrook School District will engage in seven strategies to increase access to local foods for pre-kindergarten through 8th grade students: 1) secure resources; 2) collect data; 3) build school-wide buy-in; 4) increase academic capacity; 5) develop an innovative procurement plan; 6) raise funds and plan for sustainability; and, 7) develop an inclusive, comprehensive farm to school action plan.

New Mexico

Farm to Table, Inc.

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Grant Type: Support Service; \$98,958

Farm to Table will work with diverse rural and tribal communities to collaborate across geographies, cultures, and sectors to design a community-based approach to strengthen and deepen farm to school programs. Program areas include farmer engagement, nutrition education, kitchen and staff capacity, farm to preschool activities, and farm to summer meal program integration opportunities.

First Nations Development Institute

Albuquerque, New Mexico

Grant Type: Training – State; \$23,342

The First Nations Development Institute will convene Native American food producers and leaders from schools with primarily Native American student bodies for a two-day training. The event will facilitate connections between schools and producers, showcase best practices, present resources available to

initiate and further develop farm to school programs, and provide an open forum to discuss the unique challenges and opportunities for farm to school programs in Native communities.

New Mexico Community Foundation

Santa Fe, New Mexico

Grant Type: Support Service - Volunteer Service Project; \$100,000

FoodCorps New Mexico develops statewide collaboration and facilitates critical analysis of New Mexico's health needs through farm to school programming, service, professional development, strategic planning, and coalition building. With this project FoodCorps New Mexico will increase its number of school partners and administer programming with their students, administration, and community partners.

New York

Brentwood Union Free School District

Brentwood, New York

Grant Type: Planning; \$44,361

Brentwood Unified Free School District aims increase student consumption of and appreciation for locally grown and produced food. Through partnerships, the district will identify and plan innovative procurement strategies. All 17 pre-kindergarten through grade 12 schools in the district will participate to plan and develop school gardens, learn the science of healthy growing and nutrition, and build community partnerships to further the district's farm to school efforts.

Foodlink, Inc.

Rochester, New York

Grant Type: Support Service; \$100,000

Foodlink will purchase equipment needed to increase production of value-added processing commodities for local schools, work to increase the amount of produce purchased from local farms, and subsequently increase processing and distribution directly to schools in desirable forms/quantities for school food service.

The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets

Albany, New York

Grant Type: Support Service; \$99,793

The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets will build on a successful pilot program to provide local procurement, food safety, culinary skills, and capacity building trainings for districts. The

department will identify and work with interested local growers to facilitate market-readiness trainings that will encompass step-by-step preparation on how to connect with schools. The department will also provide guidance for producers looking to shift from other markets to school and institutional sales.

Niagara Falls City School District

Niagara Falls, New York

Grant Type: Planning; \$44,028

Niagara Falls City School District will develop a network of local farmers to provide produce, dairy and meat products to the district's food service program. The project will enable the district to develop relationships with local producers, create a plan to integrate local products into district curricula, and develop a student-driven marketing plan to encourage students to consume more local products.

Poughkeepsie Farm Project

Poughkeepsie, New York

Grant Type: Support Service; \$99,500

Poughkeepsie Farm Project's farm to school program will foster Poughkeepsie City School District students' understanding of the local food system and help develop their affinity for the array of fresh produce in the region during in-class cooking workshops focused on vegetables, through taste tests in the school cafeterias, and engagement in experiential learning on field trips to its 12-acre urban farm. Poughkeepsie Farm Project will also train and support district educators in school gardening through its professional development program.

Wayne-Finger Lakes Board of Cooperative Educational Services

Newark, New York

Grant Type: Planning; \$22,544

Wayne-Finger Lakes Board of Cooperative Educational Services and its partners have formed the Finger Lakes Consortium. The districts in the consortium have 4,748 students enrolled in 11 elementary, middle, and high schools in rural, upstate New York. The consortium will develop effective distribution processes for available local foods, provide training to food service personnel, and create a unique curriculum for a farm to table program for students.

North Carolina

Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project

Asheville, North Carolina

Grant Type: Training – Region, \$26,150

The Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project’s conference will build connections and capacity in supply chain relationships and enhance existing farm to school networks. Training topics include experiential activities, sharing successes and best practices from the region, sharing information about the USDA’s Farm to School Program, and promoting farm to preschool. The conference will serve eight Southeastern states: North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Tennessee, Kentucky, Georgia, Alabama, and Mississippi.

North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services

Raleigh, North Carolina

Grant Type: Training – State; \$24,790

The North Carolina Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services will host two three-day sessions of the “North Carolina Produce Safety Academy,” a statewide training for school nutrition staff. The Academy will focus on food safety related to fresh produce throughout the food system from farm to front serving line.

North Dakota

North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

Bismarck, North Dakota

Grant Type: Training – State; \$15,177

The North Dakota Department of Public Instruction will host a “Put Our State on Your Plate” conference aimed at increasing food service professionals’ capacity to purchase local foods and producers’ knowledge around marketing products to schools, child care centers, and Summer Food Program sponsors. Topics will include discovering the variety of local foods available, procurement methods, food safety, food presentation, classroom activities, developing adventurous tasters for childcare centers, and demonstrations on how to use online marketing tools to develop connections between producers and schools.

Ohio

Cuyahoga County District Board of Health

Parma, Ohio

Grant Type: Support Service; \$100,000

The Cuyahoga County District Board of Health will engage multiple school districts in an effort to expand their farm to school programs. The project will facilitate connections and leverage partnerships across the supply chain to improve access to healthy, locally grown foods and to strengthen the regional food system's economy, enhance connections to the classroom, and create a Harvest of the Month program.

Oregon

FoodCorps

Portland, Oregon

Grant Type: Support Service, Volunteer Service Project; \$100,000

With support from USDA, FoodCorps will host a weeklong "National Orientation" farm to school training for 211 incoming service members. These AmeriCorps members will learn about successful community engagement strategies and FoodCorps' three pillars of farm to school programming (Knowledge, Engagement, Access), and will be positioned to succeed for their upcoming year of service in more than 600 schools across the country.

Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council

Bend, Oregon

Grant Type: Support Service; \$99,289

The Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council will collaboratively implement a project with three rural school districts (20 schools) and two schools in the tribal community of Warm Springs. The project will provide technical support and professional development trainings to nutrition staff on recipe development and fresh local food preparation. Support will be provided to improve faculty and student experiences with the integration of classroom and outdoor nutrition education.

Oregon Department of Agriculture

Salem, Oregon

Grant Type: Support Service - Volunteer Service Project; \$96,714

The purpose of this project is to move FoodCorps Oregon to the next stage of maturity in programming so we can fill gaps in service and expand FC to regions of need in Oregon. Our project will use a socio-

ecological approach to nurture a nation of children who succeed academically and lead healthy lives. Our project aims to: 1) Improve the school food environment to ensure successful transition of key FC elements to schools, 2) Improve skill and knowledge-base of FoodCorps Oregon cohort to better serve specific needs of their communities, and 3) Build the capacity of regional networks to sustain FoodCorps Oregon programming in the future.

South Lane School District 45j3

Cottage Grove, Oregon

Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,847

With strong support from community organizations, South Lane School District will implement a multifaceted farm to school program to serve all its students in grades K-12. The district will procure more locally grown food for student breakfast and lunch menus and implement the Harvest of the Month program to introduce seasonally available produce to students. Through a comprehensive experiential educational program, students will increase their connections of real-life working farms, where food comes from, and health benefits of fresh local foods

Willamette Farm and Food Coalition

Eugene, Oregon

Grant Type: Training – State; \$22,853

Willamette Farm and Food Coalition will convene the Oregon Farm to School and School Garden Summits for a statewide audience. The events will provide training in local food procurement and educational programming, connect local producers to school food buyers, build skills and connections, share resources, and provide inspiration to farm to school and school garden practitioners throughout Oregon, including those in preschool environments.

Pennsylvania

Pennsylvania Department of Education, Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, and Pennsylvania State University

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Grant Type: Training – State; \$25,000

The Pennsylvania Department of Education, the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, and Pennsylvania State University will host five statewide training sessions to bring together farmers and farmers markets with Summer Food Service Program, Child and Adult Care Food Program, and National School Lunch Program sponsors and administrators. Each training event will feature producer-buyer

meetings designed to facilitate cross learning and business connections, and support information-sharing and networking.

South Carolina

School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties

Irmo, South Carolina

Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,861

School District Five of Lexington and Richland Counties, a FY 2014 USDA Farm to School implementation grantee, will provide a continuum of integrated hands-on experiential learning opportunities for students from elementary to high school. The project will improve the wellness of students, families, and the community by raising and harvesting local produce at four of the district's schools, serving these foods at the district's 20 school cafeterias, and preserving surplus produce for later use at district-run Summer Food Service Program sites. The project will also expand relationships with local growers seeking licensed facilities in which to preserve and/or process their produce to market to schools and districts statewide.

South Carolina Department of Agriculture

Columbia, South Carolina

Grant Type: Support Service; \$74,938

The South Carolina Department of Agriculture will expand the capacity of farmers and distributors to supply locally grown produce to additional school districts, test the feasibility of a Value-Added Freezer Pilot Program using a local produce distributor and school district in the Lowcountry, and expand a Poultry Pilot Program to two additional school districts.

Tennessee

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools

Nashville, Tennessee

Grant Type: Planning; \$38,682

Metropolitan Nashville Public Schools will work with faculty, staff, and the community's School Nutrition Alignment Team to deepen the integration of locally grown foods, nutrition education, and health awareness at high-needs pilot schools. The project will also strengthen relationships with the farming community, draw on food education partnerships for collective impact, and evaluate best practices to develop a model that can be replicated throughout the district.

Texas

Elgin Independent School District

Elgin, Texas

Grant Type: Planning; \$44,948

Elgin Independent School District will develop, implement and evaluate a farm to school work plan, create a comprehensive needs assessment, engage families and students, and disseminate results. All five school campuses, including pre-kindergarten, will be involved in the farm to school program.

North East Independent School District

San Antonio, Texas

Grant Type: Planning; \$45,000

North East Independent School District will lay the foundation for a thriving farm to school program throughout the entire district of almost 68,000 students. The district will work to identify community partners and sources of fresh, local produce. Project goals include offering a farm to school training for community partners and creating a school garden how-to video and toolkit.

Sustainable Food Center

Austin, Texas

Grant Type: Training – State

Sustainable Food Center will organize a Texas Farm to School Training, which will combine a pre-conference event at the 2016 Texas Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association Conference, along with a track of at farm to school sessions during the conference. The training will be designed for small-scale and larger-scale farmers and ranchers, and for farm advocates and agencies that can support producers in farm to school efforts.

Vermont

Burlington School District (The Burlington School Food Project)

Burlington, Vermont

Grant Type: Implementation; \$100,000

The Burlington School Food Project will expand the availability of local beef in all Vermont schools; expand hands-on food and garden-based education for all Burlington schools; and provide better oversight and training to food service professionals in the district.

Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets

Montpelier, Vermont

Grant Type: Training – State; \$25,000

The Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets will conduct a two-day statewide farm to school training for Vermont supply chain partners to engage in agriculture development learning. Attendees will participate in network development around the five levers of farm to school system change: educational value, economic value, ease of use, policy demand, and innovation in production, processing and distribution.

Virginia

City Schoolyard Garden

Charlottesville, Virginia

Grant Type: Support Service; \$99,620

City Schoolyard Garden will build capacity in the Charlottesville school system to serve healthier and local food, both as snacks and as part of the regular menu. Food will be sourced from local growers and provided to all elementary school students, integrated into classroom lessons, and grown in school gardens. The project will train school kitchen staff, provide support for sourcing local products, and develop resources to share lessons learned to other school districts.

Loudoun County Public Schools

Ashburn, Virginia

Grant Type: Planning; \$44,961

Loudoun County Public Schools will conduct a pilot program targeting students in five elementary schools. The goals of the project are to provide education opportunities that increase awareness of the benefits of fresh foods and to form new partnerships with local farmers to increase locally grown produce on school menus.

Washington

Clark County Public Health

Vancouver, Washington

Grant Type: Support Service; \$100,000

The Clark County Public Health project will focus on increasing regionally sourced foods and expanding food system education opportunities for students in Vancouver Public Schools. Additionally,

Washington State Extension staff will create a “blue print” for farm field trips on the county-owned 79-acre educational farm, known as the 78th Street Heritage Farm.

Concrete School District

Concrete, Washington

Grant Type: Implementation; \$93,439

The Concrete School District, previously a FY 2014 USDA Farm to School planning grantee, will offer a series of 12 culinary skill development classes in Skagit and Whatcom counties that will teach kitchen staff to confidently cook food from scratch using fresh, local ingredients and increase the procurement and use of local produce.

Garden Raised Bounty

Olympia, Washington

Grant Type: Support Service; \$99,775

Garden Raised Bounty will launch a farm and nutrition-based education program in the Tumwater School District; plan farm and nutrition-based education programs in the Eatonville School District; create standards-based curriculum frameworks and toolkits; increase the amount of local produce in summer programs; and provide peer support for emerging projects throughout Washington.

North Olympic Peninsula Resource Conservation & Development Council

Port Townsend, Washington

Grant Type: Support Service; \$72,000

The North Olympic Peninsula Resource Conservation & Development Council will increase the amount of local, whole food served in the Port Townsend School District by upgrading equipment and facilities, training food service staff, and providing technical assistance to farmers to overcome barriers to institutional sales. The project will expand the school garden program, getting every elementary student in the district into the garden and learning to prepare and eat fresh, local food.

West Virginia

West Virginia Department of Education, Office of Child Nutrition

Charleston, West Virginia

Grant Type: Training – State; \$25,000

The West Virginia Department of Education will host a Junior Cast Iron–Cook Off and a state-wide farm to school conference. The Junior Cast Iron Cook Off will include teams from across the state

demonstrating culinary knowledge, skills, and creative abilities while featuring local ingredients. The first annual West Virginia Farm to School Conference will host National School Lunch sponsors, Summer Food Service Program sponsors, Child and Adult Care Food Program sponsors, farmers, teachers, and interested community members. Training topics include an overview of procurement policies and processes, incorporation of garden based learning into classroom curriculum, and networking opportunities for farmers and food service directors.

Wisconsin

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection

Madison, Wisconsin

Grant Type: Training – State; \$19,490

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade, and Consumer Protection will host farm to school trainings in each of the seven regions of Wisconsin. Participants will include food service professionals, farm to school advocates, producers, distributors, food hubs, and processors. Training will include targeted technical assistance around priority procurement topics and a facilitated buyer-supplier networking session.

Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction

Madison, Wisconsin

Grant Type: Support Service; \$97,100

The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction will increase the amount of traditional and local foods served through child nutrition programs by providing targeted technical assistance. Trainings at each of the Bureau of Indian Education schools in the state will include topics such as recipe development and analysis using traditional foods, how to maximize USDA Foods purchases and the DoD Fresh Program, establishing and maintaining school gardens, and competitive procurement of local foods.