

New Jersey USDA F2S Grant Awards

2013

West New York School District

West New York, New Jersey

Grant Type: Planning; \$44,449

The overarching goal of our project is to create a comprehensive plan that includes sustainable programs that serve food to West New York students that are as fresh and nutritious as possible; maximize the use of fresh, locally grown, produced and processed foods; and, educate students and the community about healthy eating habits through nutrition education, including using hands-on techniques to make the connections between farming and the foods that students consume. We will attain our goal by connecting with local farmers, fresh food cooperatives, state and county resources, and community organizations that will provide expert input through involvement with the district's wellness council. In many ways, through its involvement in the Alliance for a Healthier Generation, the district serves as a role model for other districts. The farm to school program will assist us with solidifying our constant efforts to provide nutritious meals and educate our students and community

2014

Bridgeton Public Schools

Bridgeton, New Jersey

Grant Type: Planning; \$44,997.00

Bridgeton Public School district stands behind a long established tradition of preparing school meals and snacks fresh in house with all students enjoying the health benefits of limited processing and packaging. In conjunction with the Grow Green Together Program, the District plans to expand and enhance current food services to include more locally sourced and seasonal produce items. In addition, the district sees the need to instill within students the knowledge garnered from cultivating their own food items. The program will plan to build sustainable school gardens, implement a district- wide food composting systems and delve deeper into greenhouse operations and hydroponic farming. Through the Grow Green Together Program, Bridgeton students will be exposed to a world of new foods, scientific processes and healthy lifestyles while the schools and community work together towards a greener future.

LEAP Academy University Charter School

Camden, New Jersey

Grant Type: Planning; \$44,460

LEAP Academy University Charter School, located in Camden, NJ, is seeking USDA Farm to School funding to plan activities that would allow our school district to implement a partnership with our current food vendor and local farms to meet our goals of using the freshest foods

possible into our daily school meals. The initiative also includes educational components for students and their parents.

Passaic Public Schools

Passaic, New Jersey

Grant Type: Planning; \$44,592

Passaic Public Schools is enthusiastic about developing a farm to school program in our schools and community. Farm to School Passaic will build upon efforts to provide nutrient rich, tasty, attractive food selections and to increase the procurement, serving, awareness and production of locally grown fresh fruits, vegetables, other foods. Passaic Public Schools has built capacity for this project through Fresh Fruits and Vegetable and Great American Salad Bar grants, awarded for strong leadership and higher education resources. Our planning year objectives are to identify local farmers, supply chain partners, and other stakeholders and mobilize a strong and effective Farm to School Passaic team to work collaboratively to increase procurement of regional foods by 20%; conduct a needs assessment to examine existing infrastructure, opportunities and challenges for farm to school activities and propose workable solutions to facilitate a 20% increase in farm to school purchases, storage, preparation, serving, and successful integration of farm to school nutrition- based education; and create a comprehensive farm to school implementation plan with objectives, activities, action steps, persons responsible and timetables to increase local procurement by 20%, raise nutrition awareness and encourage healthier eating.

2017

New Jersey Department of Agriculture

Trenton, New Jersey

Grant Type: Support Service; \$90,945

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Division of Food and Nutrition, will provide funding to FoodCorps service sites for taste tests and school garden start up or expansion at approximately thirty schools. The State Agency will host the Second Annual Farm to School Summit - a statewide summit to bring farmers, produce distributors/brokers, food service management companies, self-op programs, vendors, school business officials, administrators, educators and school boards together for networking and sharing on the benefits and best practices of farm to school, farm to summer and farm to preschool.

2018

Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Jersey

Hillsborough, New Jersey

Grant Type: Planning; \$39,467

The Northeast Organic Farming Association of New Jersey (NOFA NJ) will partner with West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District to develop a farm to school program that leverages an existing and successful farm to school program. Cherry Valley Coop and Princeton

Montessori School will also serve as partners and will enable the development of a farm to school plan in a way that fits the local characteristics of Mercer County, New Jersey. NOFA NJ intends to leverage this plan to benefit other member farmers in its organization, to result in a more robust supplier database for West Windsor-Plainsboro Regional School District.

2019

Isles, Inc.

Trenton, New Jersey

Grant Type: Implementation; \$100,000

Isles, Inc., a community development and environmental social-profit organization, will work with the Trenton Public School District and community partners to expand and enhance experiential school garden education, increase classroom nutrition education, and expand classroom and cafeteria taste tests in order to increase consumption of and preference for fruits and vegetables. Isles will also provide curricular support in the form of teacher training and guide implementation of key nutrition components of the District Wellness Policy as well as increase the amount of local foods purchased by the school district.

2020

Greater Newark Conservancy

Newark, New Jersey

Grant Type: Implementation; \$100,000

Greater Newark Conservancy will team up with Avon Elementary School, Harriet Tubman Elementary School, Hawthorne Avenue Elementary School and Lincoln Elementary School in Newark, New Jersey, to deliver farm-to-school programming to up to 1,000 students during the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years. The Conservancy will also engage with food services managers and suppliers of local produce to connect local students to locally grown fruits and vegetables through farm-to-school education and improved food literacy. An increased knowledge base among students, teachers and food services managers about the benefits of consuming locally grown fruits and vegetables will increase demand for local produce and attract more suppliers to sell to public schools in Newark.

2021

John P. Holland Charter School

Woodland Park, New Jersey

Grant Type: Turnkey; Award Amount Pending

John P. Holland Charter School (JPHCS) will benefit 520+ students in K-8 grades and the surrounding community in an Opportunity Zone in Paterson, NJ. The hydroponic garden will enhance the current curriculum by providing students with a hands-on, farm-to-school connection steeped in foundational engineering and design principles. Active learning with the garden -- through a critical partnership with New York Sun Works -- promises to improve problem solving skills, assist with content retention and build a powerful STEM-based

curriculum that is collaborative, student-centered, and relevant to the students' lives. Additionally, they believe their edible garden will strengthen students' knowledge and attitudes towards urban agriculture, increasing health and learning outcomes by connecting their students and the surrounding community to urban farming in an area with well-documented health challenges and disparities.