

Oregon USDA Farm to School Grant Awards

2013

Willamette Farm and Food Coalition

Eugene, Oregon

Grant Type: Implementation; \$92,244

Willamette Farm and Food Coalition (WFFC) will offer its comprehensive farm to school education program to students in six schools in Lane County, Oregon. Activities include farm field trips, cooking activities, garden sessions, tasting tables and nutrition lessons. We will provide families at these schools with locally grown fruits and vegetables, coupons for use at farmers markets or farm stands, and flyers educating them about the opportunity to use their Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits at these sites. Families will participate in field trips to local farms or farmers markets and will receive Oregon Harvest for Schools Family Newsletters. WFFC will also work with nutrition services staff in the four school districts to incorporate more locally grown food into school meals and highlight these products district-wide through a Harvest of the Month program.

School District 1J Multnomah County

Portland, Oregon

Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,961

Portland Public Schools' Fresh Start Farm to School Breakfast will build on the momentum of five years of successful farm to school programs. The project expands purchasing and promotion of regionally-sourced foods to include breakfast and addresses three primary goals: expand farm to school partnerships to increase purchases of regionally sourced foods that support local agricultural producers and processors; develop new student-approved breakfast foods featuring local ingredients to meet the 2013-2014 USDA school breakfast program meal patterns; and, connect low-income elementary students to their regional food system and change knowledge and behaviors through hands-on gardening, harvesting produce for school cafeterias, experiencing farm field trips and including nutrition lessons in the classroom. The Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act introduces new school breakfast program meal pattern standards for the 2013-14 school year and PPS is uniquely qualified to create a replicable model through Fresh Start Farm to School Breakfast. This Fresh Start model will include regionally sourced, student-tested foods that are conducive to the grab and go "no mess" format of Breakfast After-the-Bell programs. Sharing of this model for replication will be facilitated via Ecotrust's Farm to School Network and through School Food FOCUS partnerships with districts serving over 40,000 students.

2014

Ecotrust

Portland, Oregon

Grant Type: Support Service; \$99,507

“Comprehensive Systems to Understand Oregon’s Farm to School Needs, Opportunities, and Successes” will build on existing data collection efforts (e.g., USDA’s Farm to School Census) to develop practical and sustainable systems to collect data and establish a baseline for farm to school and school garden activity in Oregon. The project will develop dynamic systems to display and share this data so that programs, agencies, organizations, school districts, and other partners are able to see and effectively respond to the strengths and needs of Oregon’s programs; set realistic and ambitious goals; and track progress. The project will help boost Oregon’s farm to school movement to the next level by responding to the Oregon Farm to School and School Garden Network’s stated need for effective tracking systems for farm to school activities. Once in place, these systems will not only help individual districts to set goals and measure progress, but also inform the efforts of the statewide Network, helping it to target resources most effectively. The systems developed and data collected via this project will also benefit. Oregon Farm to School policy advocates are working to expand a current farm to school grants pilot to a statewide program.

2015

Corvallis Environmental Center

Corvallis, Oregon

Grant Type: Support Service; \$99,112

The Corvallis Farm to School Program is working to provide the Corvallis School District with the input and support needed to institutionalize a sustainable farm to school program within the district that focuses on procurement of local foods, integrated education programs, and outreach to students and families. Initiated in 2011, the Corvallis Farm to School Program increases the use of local foods, encourages children to make healthy eating choices and supports regional farmers.

2016

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.

2017

Lane County School District #52 – Bethel

Eugene, Oregon

Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,976

Bethel School District will expand and strengthen its existing farm to school program by anchoring its developing program to the new district-owned farm. Strong collaborations with community partners will allow for district-wide integration of science based garden education, nutrition education, and cooking classes. Innovative procurement strategies will increase cafeteria offerings of local foods. Preservation and processing techniques will result in increased use of produce grown on the farm in all child nutrition program meals.

2018

Oregon Department of Education

Salem, Oregon

Grant Type: Implementation; \$98,761

The Oregon Department of Education will improve their statewide network to provide more region-specific support and expand online resources to better equip Oregon's school food service directors with access to buy local products that work best for their menus and regions. The project will focus on 131 school districts in Oregon and will include key project partners such as the Oregon Farm to School and School Garden Network, Ecotrust, and the Oregon Department of Agriculture.

2019

Alliance for a Healthier Generation

Portland, Oregon

Grant Type: Training; \$49,231

The Alliance for a Healthier Generation will provide Farm to School trainings to Louisiana and Tennessee school districts and OST providers across the two states. These trainings will be designed to build capacity of these districts and communities to utilize and implement Farm to School initiatives. They will offer a multi-level training model that includes one in-person training per state and two state level live virtual trainings. Three on demand trainings will be developed for all schools, districts and Out-of-School Time organizations across the country. They will work with regional USDA Farm to School staff, Department of Education, School Nutrition Association State Associations, state Out of School Network Coalitions and Farm to School Networks throughout the project.

Food Roots

Tillamook, Oregon

Grant Type: Implementation; \$95,164

This project will increase the health, nutrition, and well-being of children in Tillamook County by expanding Food Roots' Farm to School programming capacity. Food Roots will increase Farm to School education capacity in Tillamook County by launching a new professional learning community to train teachers in a comprehensive, 20-lesson track, K-6 Garden Education

Curriculum which provides high-quality, garden-based education aligned with Next Generation Science Standards. This Garden Education Curriculum will then be available for independent implementation in area schools. Food Roots will also expand local food procurement in Tillamook County schools with the piloting and launch of a locally-sourced salad bar initiative in 2-4 schools in which salad bar greens will be direct-sourced from local, North Oregon Coast farms.

Growing Gardens

Portland, Oregon

Grant Type: Implementation; \$91,678

Growing Gardens will increase access to fresh local foods, specifically from the school gardens, and inspire over 4,000 children to eat local foods at 9 schools in 4 school districts. This will be accomplished through meal planning and production planning with Nutrition Services staff, engaging students at the K6 level in meaningful hands-on school garden lessons, and training Nutrition Services staff at each participating school about the benefits of a Farm to School approach.

Klamath County School District

Klamath Falls, Oregon

Grant Type: Implementation; \$96,538

Klamath County School District Farm-to-School: Feeding our Students, Farmers and Economy project will partner with Oregon State University-Klamath Basin Research and Extension Center to establish purchase requisitions (aka contracts) and a supply chain with area farmers and producers, procure food for school meal programs, provide needed training to farmers and food service staff, and expand an existing Farm-to-School educational and food-tasting program.

2020

Corvallis Environmental Center

Corvallis, Oregon

Grant Type: Implementation; \$100,000

Planting the Seed: Connecting Youth and Food in Benton County will expand the Corvallis Farm to School program within the Corvallis School District and to surrounding rural communities to encourage children to make healthy food choices, promote outdoor learning utilizing school gardens, and support regional farms and producers. The project will implement a comprehensive, culturally diverse, and multifaceted Farm to School program that integrates food, garden and agriculture experiences into the fabric of our schools and the lives of our students and their families.

Friends of Zenger Farm

Portland, Oregon

Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,562

Zenger Farm in collaboration with David Douglas School District and the Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization SUN Community School at Gilbert Park and Earl Boyles will increase student preference for and consumption of locally grown vegetables and fruits through hands-on farm based agricultural education, school based local produce tastings, and school and farm based family programming. Family programming includes cooking demonstrations at school events and food parties, farm work parties, and Family Farm Day Open houses. The project sustainably addresses parents and/or caretaker's desire to feed their children less-processed, culturally relevant foods that are locally sourced.

Grow Portland

Portland, Oregon

Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,235

Grow Portland will continue its partnership within three school districts, expanding to 16 public schools including monthly garden and environmental science education for all students along with curriculum and evaluation development. Grow Portland will expand and solidify partnerships with district nutrition services and school cafeterias, increasing the on-site harvests of local food served directly to students. Simultaneously, Grow Portland will seek to expand its community engagement, tabling at events, developing technical resources and support, and rolling out individual and business donor programs.

2021

Bethel School District # 52

Eugene, Oregon

Grant Type: Implementation; \$98,497

The Bethel Farm to School Project will expand and enhance programming for students at multiple elementary schools and Kalapuya High School in the Bethel School District. Kalapuya High School students will enroll in Sustainable Agriculture and Nutrition courses, which will culminate in students leading spring and fall field trips for neighboring elementary students, becoming farm leaders for the day as they mentor elementary students at different agricultural stations. Kalapuya students will also actively manage the apiary and farm throughout the year – and can apply to become paid summer agricultural interns on the farm. Families will access farm activities, community cooking and nutrition classes, and multi-cultural events, co-hosted with Huerto de la Familia on the farm. Finally, the farm will be able to provide organic produce to the school district nutrition program and will supply a drive-through food pantry that has exponentially more need during this pandemic.

Lane County, Oregon

Eugene, Oregon

Grant Type: Implementation; \$93,173

Lane County Youth Services' (LCYS) mission includes reducing juvenile crime through coordinated prevention and intervention programs and safeguarding their communities. As part of LCYS, the MLK Education Center serves adjudicated students who are currently assessed as being high-risk to re-offend and have an active case with LCYS. Their mission is to provide students with opportunities to develop skills needed to be successful in school, work and their community. The MLK Phoenix Garden Project will provide roughly 120 youth high school credit. The project will connect youth with a unique blend of classroom education and hands on learning in the 2-acre garden, orchard & industrial kitchen. They have set a goal of providing 2,700 hours of farm to school curriculum during the grant period.

Lincoln County School District

Newport, Oregon

Grant Type: Implementation; \$80,081

Lincoln County School District will provide agricultural, garden, and nutrition education to K-2nd grade students at Yaquina View Elementary and 6th-8th grade students at Newport Middle School. With help from a School Garden Coordinator, teachers will participate in lesson modeling and co-teaching lessons in the garden in order to integrate the garden into their regular curriculum in the following years. The Garden Coordinator will also provide direct instruction and partner with OSU Extension Master Gardener Volunteers to provide additional hands on activities and education. This will complement an expanding local procurement program, giving all students greater access to local foods.

Rogue Valley Farm to School

Ashland, Oregon

Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,770

The Rogue Valley Farm to School Collaborative School Partnership brings together nonprofit organizations and schools to dramatically increase the breadth and scope of farm to school education programs and procurement efforts in the Rogue Valley, helping to alleviate food insecurity, improve access to healthy food for all children, increase local farm sales to schools and build a culture of health within schools that provides children with a strong foundation of good nutrition through experiential farm and garden education programs.

Tigard-Tualatin School District

Tigard, Oregon

Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,449

Through this project, Tigard-Tualatin School District will partner with Supa Fresh Youth Farm to expand and increase food production by students in the Sustainable Agricultural Career and Technical Education Program for use in school meals, by the community, and in educational events in local elementary schools. This project will serve as a learning space in which students gain life skills and achieve self-sufficiency while learning about sustainable agricultural practices

and environmental stewardship, and develop entrepreneurial, marketing, leadership, and teamwork skills.