

Kansas USDA Farm to School Grant Awards

2014

Kansas Department of Agriculture

Topeka, Kansas

Grant Type: Support Service; \$100,000

The Kansas Department of Agriculture will operate a pilot project in eight school districts to help to develop food procurement pathways to increase the amount of local food served through school meal programs; embed nutrition- based education activities into the school curriculum; and provide community- based partnerships, technical assistance, and capacity building support to the eight pilot school districts. Eight sub- grants of \$12,500 will be awarded to schools with an agriculture education program, through an application and selection committee review. The project director will work with each school recipient to ensure that the following sub- grant objectives are met: establish or expand upon an agriculture education school garden program; serve a minimum of two locally produced food items in the school cafeteria per month; create a farm to school educational kit for K- 12 students; and, host one community GAP training workshop.

2015

Kansas State Department of Education

Topeka, Kansas

Grant Type: Conference and Event – State; \$24,990

The Kansas State Department of Education Child Nutrition and Wellness Team will host four farm to school networking and training workshops throughout the state to increase the availability of quality local foods in the school cafeteria by strengthening local farm to school supply chain networks, knowledge of food safety requirements, and school based procurement processes. The regional workshops will plant the idea to move beyond fruits and vegetables and explore options and opportunities across the school breakfast and lunch tray. Workshops will address the need for production, processing, and handling safety, and provide networking opportunities for local producers and school personnel.

2016

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.

2017

Lawrence Unified School District

Lawrence, Kansas

Grant Type: Planning; \$44,976

Lawrence Public Schools (USD497) will lead Douglas County in a planning phase aimed at developing a successful farm to school program. The planning team will: (1) survey current practices, successes, and gaps in existing programming, (2) bring county-wide stakeholders together to identify and address barriers and challenges, (3) form stronger partnerships with local food producers, (4) train kitchen staff to handle local produce, (5) craft a sustainable marketing campaign to create excitement around programming in each district, and (6) develop a targeted farm to school curriculum scope and sequence.

2019

KC Healthy Kids (Formerly Hartwig Legacy Foundation)

Kansas City, Kansas

Grant Type: Implementation; \$83,494

Through its Farm to School Academy, KC Healthy Kids will work with four school districts in the Kansas City Metropolitan Area to scale up and further develop their farm to school programs. Included are two urban districts (Kansas City, Kansas, Public Schools and Kansas City, Missouri, Public Schools) and two suburban districts (Gardner Edgerton and Lee's Summit R-7 School Districts). The Farm to School Academy will provide technical assistance and support for the districts and select schools to develop farm to school action plans, increase their local food purchasing, and implement curriculum and food and garden-based activities for students, parents, school staff and neighborhoods. Key partners include the four districts, Kansas City Community Gardens, University of Missouri and Kansas State University Extension services, and Kansas City Food Hub.

Sunrise Project

Lawrence, Kansas

Grant Type: Implementation; \$83,728

Sunrise Project, in partnership with USD 497 Farm to School staff and volunteers, will provide farm to school programming for three Lawrence, KS elementary schools for the 2019-2020 and 2020-2021 school years. Students at Kennedy, New York, and Cordley Elementary will engage in gardening, cooking and lunchtime "farmer's markets." Students at each school will also host School Lunch "Farmer's Markets" with weekly taste tests and distribution of fresh garden produce during the growing season. In addition, Sunrise will provide hands-on cooking experiences for 3rd, 4th and 5th grade classes at each school while establishing a gardening program at Kennedy Elementary and supporting the established gardens at New York and Cordley. Additionally, students will take scheduled field trips to the Sunrise Project Community Garden to learn about the food system. As a result of this project, over 750 students in the

Lawrence community will grow, cook, and eat fresh produce as part of their school day experience.

2020

Fresh Farm HQ Cooperative Association

Kansas City, Kansas

Grant Type: Planning; \$47,216

The Fresh Farm HQ Cooperative Association (DBA: Kansas City Food Hub) is a cooperative association of seventeen small and medium-sized farms aggregating produce, protein and value-added goods to meet the needs of the metro's restaurants and institutions. Kansas City Food will work with sub-grantee, KC Farm School at Gibbs Road to develop a comprehensive Farm to School to Farm Action Plan and Roadmap for producers and purchasers. The collaboration will lead to the creation of a replicable model that includes on-farm agricultural education curriculum and the development of a roadmap for others to use for marketing and communication to secure local food procurement agreements.

Kansas Rural Center

Topeka, Kansas

Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,863

The Kansas Rural Center and its farm to school partners, through workshops, community gatherings, and storytelling, will provide educational programs and training. The project will strengthen: 1.) Farmers' knowledge of how to produce food safely for schools and the market opportunities, and how to work with school food programs through training; 2.) Community involvement and understanding of farm to school programs and specific needs or opportunities through town halls and success stories; and 3.) Youth understanding of where and how food is grown through farm visits and increased access to local food in school meal programs.

Kansas State Department of Education

Topeka, Kansas

Grant Type: State Agency; \$96,648

KSDE will work with Kansas Farm Bureau and Kansas State Research and Extension to improve access to local foods in Child Nutrition Programs (CNP) by supporting comprehensive farm to CNP programming that includes local procurement and agricultural education efforts. KSDE will award sub-grants through a competitive application process to support CNPs in increasing the amount of local food served, as part of CNPs. Priority will be given to CNPs that serve at least 40% of children eligible for free or reduced priced meals. KSDE will also enhance its traveling educational Body Venture exhibit for students in K-5 to include agricultural education, with a Farm to Plate focus.