

Funding Opportunities for Arden Garden Farmers Market



March 6, 2013

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Government Grant Opportunities

Grant Program: Federal State Marketing Improvement Program (FSMIP)
Agency/Organization: US Department of Agriculture
Website: http://www.ams.usda.gov/FSIMP
Maximum Award: Grants typically average about \$50,000 each, although in recent years, grants have ranged from \$25,000 to \$135,000
Matching Requirement: 1:1
Other Requirements: Eligible applicants are State departments of agriculture, State agricultural experiment stations, and other appropriate State agencies. State agencies should assume the lead role in FSMIP projects and use cooperative or contractual linkages as needed to carry out the proposed work.
Summary: The Federal-State Marketing Improvement Program (FSMIP) provides matching funds on a competitive basis to assist in exploring new market opportunities for U.S. food and agricultural products, and to encourage research and innovation aimed at improving the efficiency and performance of the U.S. marketing system.
Example of a Funded Project: Nevada - \$45,747 to the Nevada Department of Agriculture, in cooperation with Hungry Mother Organics, to assess demand for locally grown fruits and vegetables in the Hispanic community of northern Nevada, and provide insights to Nevada growers seeking to improve their effectiveness in marketing to diverse consumers.

Grant Program: Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP)
Agency/Organization: US Department of Agriculture
Website: http://www.ams.usda.gov/FMPP
Maximum Award: \$100,000
Matching Requirement: No
Other Requirements: Under the FMPP, eligible entities include: 1) agricultural cooperative, 2) producer network, 3) producer association, 4) local government, 5) non-profit corporation, 6) public benefit corporation, 7) economic development corporation, 8) regional farmers market authority, or 9) Tribal Government.
Summary: The Farmers Market Promotion Program provides non construction grants that target improvements and expansion of domestic farmers' markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture programs, agri-tourism activities, and other direct producer to-consumer market opportunities.
Example of a Funded Project: \$84,778 to East Stanislaus Resource Conservation District, Modesto, CA, to expand the season of operation for its West Modesto Farmers Market to a year-round farmers market, create a marketing campaign and website, purchase signage, and make public service announcements to promote Stanislaus County farms, farmers, farm products, and residents.
Grant Program: Wholesale Markets and Facility Design
Agency/Organization: US Department of Agriculture
Website: http://www.ams.usda.gov/wholesaleandfarmersmarkets
Maximum Award: In-kind
Matching Requirement: None
Other Requirements: None
Summary: The Wholesale Market and Facility Design team provides technical assistance and support to customers regarding the construction of new structures or the remodeling of existing ones. These facilities include wholesale market, farmers markets, public markets and food hubs, all of which are important parts of the national food distribution network. The facilities may be indoors or outdoors, a single building or an industrial complex. Our support provides guidance to create the next generation of LEED certified market facilities. Services include assistance in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of environmental issues • Site selection • Initial design concept • Building cost study • Coordination with local design professionals • Third party design reviews
Example of a Funded Project: None

Grant Program: Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP)
Agency/Organization: California Department of Agriculture (US Department of Agriculture)
Website: http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/Specialty_Crop_Competitiveness_Grants/
Maximum Award: \$400,000
Matching Requirement: Not required.
Other Requirements: Non-profit and for-profit organizations; local, state and federal government entities, including tribal governments; and public, private colleges and universities are eligible to apply.
Summary: The purpose of the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program (SCBGP) is to solely enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops. Specialty crops are defined as “fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture, and nursery crops.” States have supported urban farmer’s market programs with funds provided by USDA.
Example of a Funded Project: Partner with the County of San Joaquin to facilitate three free field days and a periodic farmers’ markets that solely enhances eligible specialty crops where specialty crop farmers, producers, and volunteers educate third graders from around 140 schools about the benefits of locally-grown specialty crops.

Grant Program: Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program (CFPCGP)
Agency/Organization: US Department of Agriculture
Website: http://www.nifa.usda.gov
Maximum Award: Projects are funded from \$10,000 to \$300,000 and from 1 to 3 years.
Matching Requirement: 1:1
Other Requirements: Only private, nonprofit entities meeting the following three requirements are eligible to receive a CFP or PP grant: (a) have experience in the area of (i) community food work, particularly concerning small and medium-size farms, including the provision of food to people in low-income communities and the development of new markets in low-income communities for agricultural producers; or (ii) job training and business development activities for food-related activities in low-income communities; (b) demonstrate competency to implement a project, provide fiscal accountability, collect data, and prepare reports and other necessary documentation; and (c) demonstrate a willingness to share information with researchers, evaluators, practitioners, and other interested parties, including a plan for dissemination of results.
Summary: Community Food Projects should be designed to (1): (A) meet the food needs of low-income people; (B) increase the self-reliance of communities in providing for their own food needs; and (C) promote comprehensive responses to local food, farm, and nutrition issues; and/or (2) meet specific state, local, or neighborhood food and agriculture needs for (A) infrastructure improvement and development; (B) planning for long-term solutions; or (C) the creation of innovative marketing activities that mutually benefit agricultural producers and low-income consumers.
Example of a Funded Project: To establish an innovative farmers' market and business incubator project to increase access to high quality foodstuffs for area residents, generate new food based businesses from an existing commercial kitchen, assist low-income refugee and immigrant entrepreneurs in opening new food businesses, provide micro-loans and small grants to entrepreneurs, and provide comprehensive small business technical assistance.

Grant Program: Hunger-Free Communities Grant
Agency/Organization: US Department of Agriculture
Website: http://www.fns.usda.gov
Maximum Award: None
Matching Requirement: None
Other Requirements: None
Summary: The Hunger-Free Communities Grants are aimed at helping communities increase food access by promoting coordination and partnerships between public, private and non-profit partners.
<p>Example of a Funded Project: 1. Centro del Obrera Fronterizo - El Paso, TX (\$110,065)</p> <p>The Chamizal neighborhood, also known as South Central El Paso, is one of the poorest urban areas in the nation (The Enduring Challenge of Concentrated Poverty in America, 2008). Almost 60% of the area's residents live below the poverty line, about 56% of them women. The median income is \$11,362, and almost one in five residents of the Chamizal neighborhood is unemployed. La Mujer Obrera will leverage its community-operated Mexican marketplace, Mercado Mayapán, to increase access to fresh, affordable foods; administer a culturally relevant nutrition education campaign for food service workers and families; and, increase coordination among organizations with a stake in the local food system through improved referrals and the establishment of a Food Policy Council. Specifically, La Mujer Obrera will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Increase access to fresh produce by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Engaging with local farmers to increase produce items at Mercado Mayapán. b. Addressing transportation barriers through neighborhood mobile markets. c. Incentivizing participation in nutrition education programs. 2. Increase Latino youth, single-parent families, and seniors' nutrition knowledge and food preparation self-efficacy by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Offering culturally appropriate nutrition education that builds on the assets of the traditional Mesoamerican diet. b. Conducting nutrition education by leveraging existing community events at Mercado Mayapán. 3. Build long term community capacity to address hunger and strengthen the local food system by: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Providing workforce training to employees of food service programs serving low income Chamizal residents to enhance food-purchasing and preparation skills. b. Serving as a local site for referrals and application assistance to increase participation in existing nutrition assistance programs. c. Establishing a Food Policy Council, whose first year efforts will be piloted in the Chamizal neighborhood as the foundation for a region-wide council.

Grant Program: Economic Development Administration
Agency/Organization: US Department of Commerce
Website: www.commerce.gov
Maximum Award: In 2010, the average investment was \$1.7 million; investments ranged from \$500,000 to \$2 million. This average is informational only and is not intended to restrict the size of future awards.
Matching Requirement: 1:1
Other Requirements: District organizations; Indian tribes or a consortium of Indian tribes; State, city, or other political subdivision of a State, including a special purpose unit of a State or local government engaged in economic or infrastructure development activities, and consortiums of political subdivisions; institutions of higher education or consortiums of institutions of higher education; and public or private nonprofit organizations or associations acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State.
Summary: Supports the construction or rehabilitation of essential public infrastructure and facilities to help communities and regions leverage their resources and strengths to create new and better jobs, drive innovation, become centers of competition in the global economy, and ensure resilient economies. Projects include investments in water and sewer systems, broadband, industrial access roads, industrial and business parks, port facilities, rail spurs, skill-training facilities, business incubator facilities, and brownfield redevelopment.
Example of a Funded Project: In FY 2009, EDA invested \$4 million (a portion of which was public works funding) to fund the construction of the Central Wisconsin Agricultural Innovation Center, a multi-purpose building to promote collaboration between governmental, institutional, and private-sector agribusiness stakeholders and to provide space for incubator tenants to test agricultural product innovations.

Grant Program: New Market Tax Credit Program
Agency/Organization: US Department of Treasury
Website: www.treasury.gov
Maximum Award/Matching Requirement/Other Requirements: \$250 million in authority for the NMTC and \$25 million for financial assistance to CDFIs devoted to helping finance healthy food options. The NMTC credit is taken over a 7-year period and equals 39 percent of the amount of original investment. The credit rate is 5 percent of the original investment amount in each of the first 3 years and 6 percent of the original investment amount in each of the final 4 years.
Summary: The New Markets Tax Credit program makes allocations to financial entities called Community Development Entities (CDEs). CDEs use the tax credits to raise capital, which is then invested in projects as debt or equity. Individuals trying to fund specific projects should work with CDEs that received allocations, rather than apply directly to the CDFI Fund.
Example of a Funded Project: Carver Community Development Corporation in New York was allocated \$25 million in 2010 to provide capital for the development, renovation, or acquisition of commercial real estate that will create or maintain jobs and increase wages for low income persons or residents of low income communities. Carver finances businesses that provide child care, community facilities, fresh food, health care, education, or other benefits to low-income persons or residents of low-income communities.

Grant Program: Healthy Food Financing Initiative

Agency/Organization: US Department of Health and Human Services

Website: www.hhs.gov/grants

Summary: HHS will dedicate up to \$20 million in Community Economic Development program funds to the Healthy Food Financing Initiative. Through the CED program, HHS will award competitive grants to Community Development Corporations to support projects that finance grocery stores, farmers markets, and other sources of fresh nutritious food. These projects will serve the dual purposes of facilitating access to healthy food options while creating job and business development opportunities in low-income communities, particularly since grocery stores often serve as anchor institutions in commercial centers.

Foundation Grant Opportunities

Grant Program: National Grassroots Grant Program
Agency/Organization: Ben and Jerry's Foundation
Website: www.benandjerrysfoundation.org/what-we-do
Maximum Award: Up to \$15,000 for a 1-year period
Other Requirements: Nonprofits, generally organizations with budgets of \$500,000 or less, specifically grassroots, constituent-led organizations that are using community-organizing strategies to accomplish their goals and organizations that provide technical support and/or capacity building resources to such groups.
Summary: Broad interests in social justice, environmental protection, and sustainable food systems protection, and sustainable food systems

Grant Program: Sustainable Agriculture; Environmental Education; Environmental Health
Agency/Organization: Cedar Tree Foundation
Website: www.cedartreefound.org
Maximum Award: Generally \$10,000–\$100,000
Summary: Focus on environmental justice, and conservation, with a particular interest in urban agriculture

Grant Program: Special Project Fund
Agency/Organization: Claneil
Website: www.claneilfoundation.org
Maximum Award: \$30,000–\$100,000
Other Requirements: Emerging nonprofits, or new projects of established organizations that have the potential for transformative change
Summary: Hunger and nutrition, food systems; health and human services; education; environment. Particularly interested in cutting-edge approaches that are timely, demonstrate potential for significant impact, and can serve as a model for others.

Grant Program: Environment and Health
Agency/Organization: Clarence E. Heller Charitable Foundation
Website: www.cehcf.org/env_health.html
Maximum Award: \$5,000– \$600,000
Other Requirements: Nonprofit organizations. Priority is given to proposals from California organizations.
Summary: To promote the long-term good health and viability of communities and regions by supporting programs to prevent harm to human health from toxic substances and other environmental hazards; by encouraging planning and development at the regional level, aimed at integrating economic and social goals with sound environmental policies; and by supporting initiatives for sustainability in agriculture and food systems.

Agency/Organization: GRACE Communications Foundation

Website: www.gracelinks.com

Summary: The development of sustainable, community-based food production and regional food distribution networks; Public awareness of how sustainable agriculture contributes to social, environmental, economic and personal health; Policies that promote sustainable use of water resources for energy and food production; Policies that protect and promote clean drinking water; The development of small-scale distributed renewable energy systems; Increased public awareness of how individuals can improve their physical and emotional health.

Grant Program: Health
Agency/Organization: Kresge
Website: www.kresge.org/programs/health
Maximum Award: Previous grants are between \$60,000 and \$1.2 million
Other Requirements: Nonprofits and government entities
Summary: Reducing health disparities among children and adults living in the United States

Agency/Organization: Organic Valley's Farmers Advocating for Organics (FAFO) fund
Website: www.organicvalley.coop/about-us/donations/fafo-fund
Maximum Award: \$5,000–\$50,000 per year, plus small grants less than \$5,000
Other Requirements: Individuals, universities, public/private schools, NGOs, farmers, and consumers
Summary: Programs dedicated to furthering organic education, organic farming or product research, and organic advocacy.

Grant Program: Environment; sustainable development; 11th hour project
Agency/Organization: Schmidt Family Foundation
Website: www.theschmidt.org
Maximum Award: \$15,000–\$1.25 million
Summary: The Schmidt Family Foundation supports efforts, using best expert information, to help transform the world’s environmental and energy practices in the 21st century.

Grant Program: Sustainable Environments and Strong Local Economies
Agency/Organization: Surdna Foundation
Website: www.surdna.org
Summary: Reducing greenhouse gasses, creating green businesses that are pathways out of poverty for underserved communities. Creating jobs and job training in sustainable businesses.

Grant Program: Healthy Kids
Agency/Organization: W.K. Kellogg Foundation
Website: www.wkkf.org/what-we-support/healthy-kids.aspx
Maximum Award: \$5,000–\$3 million
Summary: Improve food systems by engaging local leaders in communities and schools (parents and other stakeholders) to deliver healthier foods to all children and achieve related policy changes. Transform food deserts into food oases by increasing engagement of local communities in all aspects of food production and delivery, including related research and policy changes.

Grant Program: Healthy Food Commerce Initiative (HFCI)

Agency/Organization: Wholesome Wave Foundation

Website: www.wholesomewave.org/hfci

Summary: Using a combination of grassroots food systems experience and elite business strategy training, the HFCI business team will begin by helping 15 food hub enterprises become investment-ready.

Grant Program: Community Impact Grants
Agency/Organization: ConAgra Foods
Website: http://www.conagrafoods.com/our-company/our-commitment/foundation
Maximum Award: Grant awards will range from \$10,000-\$75,000 with an average grant size of \$35,000.
Other Requirements: All grant recipients must be non-profit, charitable organizations tax-exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
Summary: The Foundation seeks to partner with impactful, grassroots organizations that leverage innovation and creativity to address childhood hunger and nutrition needs in local communities across the country. Nearly 17 million children remain at risk of not knowing where they will get their next meal. This puts increased demand for services on the many nonprofit organizations across the country that seeks to provide food assistance and meal support to kids throughout the year. We understand how important it is to put effective solutions to child hunger and nutrition education within reach of the children who need them most. The Foundation is committed to partnering with high quality organizations to close service gaps and increase children's access to food and nutrition resources so they can live happy, healthful lives.

Grant Program: California Fresh Works Fund
Agency/Organization: California Fresh
Website: http://www.cafreshworks.com
Maximum Award: Traditional business loans are available at competitive rates. Loans range from \$250,000 to \$8,750,000.
Summary: The FreshWorks Fund is designed to provide financing to supermarket operators, grocers, community markets, food distributors, nonprofits, commercial developers, corner store owners, entrepreneurs, and other food innovators who seek to expand access to healthy food in California.