

## California USDA Farm to School Grant Awards

2013

### **Community Alliance with Family Farmers**

*Davis, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$100,000*

The Community Alliance with Family Farmers (CAFF) proposes to expand the Sonoma County Farm to School Program by educating students about healthy eating, nutrition, and local agriculture and increasing access to healthy, locally-sourced across the county. As the largest district in the county, Santa Rosa City Schools (SRCS) will pilot the project and work with CAFF, the Sonoma County Food Systems Alliance, and other partners to create the systems that will allow a number of small districts and farmers throughout the county to participate. There are 40 small school districts in Sonoma County, and many of them are looking to SRCS and CAFF to set up the program. The project develops a Harvest of the Month Tasting Kit program (HOTM) that delivers packages of fresh, locally-sourced fruits and vegetables, farmer profiles, and agriculture curriculum, and works with a local distributor to create a local line of produce to make it easier for school districts to source locally. By the end of the project, over 9000 students will have received HOTM education, and SRCS will have increased local purchasing by 10%.

### **Ventura Unified School District**

*Ventura, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$90,289*

This project will implement a countywide school food purchasing and marketing program that increases the quantity and quality of fresh, seasonal, locally grown foods consumed by school children in Southern California and creates the organization, infrastructure and systems to sustain and expand the program as an economic enterprise for the long-term.

### **Julian Union School District**

*Julian, California*

*Grant Type: Planning; \$32,871*

Julian Union Elementary School District SFA serves two districts and four schools: Julian Elementary and Julian Junior High, of Julian Union, and Julian High and Ray Redding Continuation School, of Julian High School District. We have already implemented innovative programs that will support farm to school planning. We have a new school wellness policy which outlines specific goals, including sustainable school gardens, fresh fruits and vegetables daily, and nutrition education. Our school community enthusiastically supports farm to school; serving fresh, locally grown produce to our students at breakfast, lunch, and snack time is the next logical step for our districts, and has become an overarching goal for our current garden program.

**Chico Unified School District**

*Chico, California*

*Grant Type: Planning; \$44,555*

We are requesting funding to grow our existing farm to school resources and activities from a series of successful but disconnected and disparate activities into a comprehensive, integrated farm to school program. With grant funds, we will hire a coordinator who will convene a planning collaborative comprised of district educational and nutrition services personnel, California State University Chico's Center for Nutrition and Activity Promotion, local growers and vendors, teachers in high school agriculture and culinary arts programs, and other partners to be identified. We will assess existing resources and infrastructure as well as needs and gaps related to farm to school. We will also seek professional development and training related to best practices in farm to school and preparation of locally sourced foods, increase our outreach and promotional efforts to target families whose first language is not English, and pilot components of our eventual full-scale farm to school plan (e.g, grow several different crops in small quantities on our district's Henshaw Farm to see which might be the most feasible for eventually supplying food to the cafeteria, and pilot menus and recipes using locally sourced products in our cafeteria).

**Lemon Grove School District**

*Lemon Grove, California*

*Grant Type: Planning; \$43,920*

The Lemon Grove School District has already implemented policies and programs that support healthy nutrition and is well placed geographically for a farm to school program. San Diego County has 6,687 farms, more than any other county in the US. We participate on San Diego County's Farm to School Task Force and our efforts are congruent with the Counties Communities Putting Prevention to Work and a community Kaiser Healthy Eating Active Living grant. This fall we are opening a new middle school, which will be the pilot site for development of farm to school activities. Our Garden Club will be champions for information to be disseminated and displayed at school. They will develop posters and captions for the Principal's newsletter and menus, which along with student-produced broadcast segments will introduce new local produce to students. Our goal is to maximize use of local, minimally processed and fresh foods in school meals every day, first at the Academy and later throughout the District.

**Lynwood Unified School District (USD)**

*Lynwood, California*

*Grant Type: Planning; \$24,294*

Lynwood USD is in the initial stages of farm to school planning. The district has begun to undertake measures to improve overall health of its students by incorporating salad bars into all the elementary schools. The district has embarked on many activities to increase awareness of food quality, nutrition, and origin among students, parents, and community. The next step in this plan is to continue to impress the importance of local food procurement on educators and other

stakeholders by giving the district an opportunity to create a concrete plan for changing procurement strategy and nutrition education curriculum to reflect the importance of consuming locally.

2014

**Live Healthy**

*Grass Valley, California*

*Grant Type: Support Service; \$96,000*

Live Healthy is an organization dedicated to educating, inspiring, and connecting western Nevada County's families to fresh, local, seasonal foods. Our farm to cafeteria project includes two main programs: the expansion of our existing farm to school program from 11 to 15 schools and the establishment of an educational farm that will provide quality hands-on farm and kitchen based education while using sustainable practices to grow delicious food for school meals. The farm to school program includes a local produce stand at each school, a "Harvest of the Month" program, farm field trips, school garden consultations, and guest appearances by farmers, nutrition educators, and chefs. The educational farm will engage students in cultivating, tending, and selling vibrant, nutritious foods to schools. The two-acre farm will also serve as an outdoor classroom to teach science, math, literacy, and social skills through gardening and culinary activities. This outdoor classroom will build on each student's knowledge base from year to year, culminating in a generation fully equipped to envision and create an equitable, local, sustainable food system from seed to plate.

**Modesto City Schools**

*Modesto, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$90,751*

Modesto City Schools will implement a district-wide farm to school program aimed at increasing the quantity and variety of local and regional food items in school meals. We will also improve and expand our processing capabilities at the nutrition services in order to increase the capacity to for local food processing. We will conduct promotional activities and taste tests and samplings for students, and will work with nutrition staff on new recipe developments. We will expand experiential and agriculture-based learning opportunities for students by creating a school garden or orchard program at four new school sites.

**Oakland Unified School District**

*Oakland, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$100,000*

Oakland Unified School District will develop and implement an innovative new lunch program called "California Thursdays." Through this program, we intend to increase the amount of California-grown and processed products consumed by students and increase students' awareness of the origin and agricultural character of the food items on their plates. California

Thursdays will expand the district's local purchasing to include proteins and grains, as well as enhance current local produce purchasing from farms less than 500 acres.

### **Pasadena Unified School District**

*Pasadena, California*

*Grant Type: Planning; \$44,486*

Pasadena Unified School District will implement a farm to school program to benefit 18,965 students in a mid- size urban school district in Los Angeles County, California. Nearly 69% of students are eligible for free and reduced lunch, less than 30% meet the state's Physical Fitness Test minimum requirements, and over 20% are obese. While there is a growing interest in urban agriculture and locally grown organic food within the greater Pasadena area, many of these resources are not broadly reaching the low- income children and families served by its public schools. This grant will help us broaden this reach by convening stakeholders who will develop an implementation plan for increasing the accessibility, availability, quality, and consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables for our students and community. Key activities include establishing policies and practices that support procurement of locally grown fresh fruits and vegetables, providing training for food services staff to increase scratch cooking and use of local produce, developing farm to school curriculum, and conducting outreach and education efforts aimed at students, parents, and families.

### **Pittsburg Unified School District**

*Pittsburg, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$100,000*

Pittsburg Unified School District will implement a comprehensive farm to school program to serve all its students in grades K- 12. We will: increase student and parent knowledge of nutrition and healthy eating options; increase the percent of healthy, locally sourced foods (particularly fresh fruits and vegetables) procured for all school meal programs; decrease the negative health outcomes among students from poor nutrition and unhealthy food choices; develop and institutionalize a sustainable infrastructure that will enable Pittsburg Unified School District, in conjunction with other Contra Costa County school districts, to increase local produce purchasing power for the schools and increase market opportunities for local growers, processors, and distributors; and positively impact the economic viability of local communities.

### **Sweetwater Union High School District**

*Chula Vista, California*

*Grant Type: Planning; \$44,935*

Sweetwater Union High School serves over 41,000 students in grades 7-12 across four cities in San Diego County. Over 90% of students represent an ethnic minority, and over 55% of students are eligible for free or reduced lunch programs. With other one-third of students overweight or obese, we are in severe need of improving our school nutrition programs. Much work has already begun to incorporate local products in our breakfast and lunch menus, and to

teach students where their food comes from. We have conducted significant community outreach and have partnered with several local farms to begin farm to school activities in our District. The response from students and administration officials has been very supportive of our efforts thus far. We are well poised to connect the existing efforts of several schools and to provide resources for further expansion throughout the district.

2015

**Community Alliance with Family Farmers**

*Davis, California*

*Grant Type: Conference and Event – State; \$25,000*

The California Farm to School Network (CFSN), coordinated by the Community Alliance with Family Farmers and Urban and Environmental Policy Institute, is a statewide initiative and resource hub that unifies, aligns, and connects farm to school efforts across the state of California. CFSN's first annual conference will bring together 300 farm to school stakeholders with the intent of continuing to bridge connections across sectors and geographies over three days of conference activities and sessions.

**The National Farm to School Network, Tides Center**

*San Francisco, California*

*Grant Type: Conference and Event – State; \$ 49,987*

The National Farm to School Network will host a national conference, "Strengthening the Farm to School Supply Chain across the Nation." This conference will bring together farm to school leaders at the state, regional, and national levels, along with invited content experts, for targeted training, resource sharing and networking, with the primary objective of strengthening and expanding farm to school initiatives across the nation. This conference will provide consistent and up- to- date training, information, and resource sharing that can then be the basis for further outreach in all geographic regions of the United States. The two- day event will cover a variety of farm to school topics including procurement, food safety, program and impact evaluation, farm to school in Native American communities, partnerships for success, and farm to school in summer.

**Chico Unified School District**

*Chico, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation – \$99,973*

We will build on our strong farm to school foundation and partnerships to put into place the infrastructure and personnel for a comprehensive and fully sustainable farm to school program. Our project will result in an increase in the percentage of local products offered on cafeteria menus (our goal is to have 50% of our produce sourced locally within three years); an increase in the number and variety of experiential activities provided to students in all our schools, including "Chefs in the Classroom," school gardens, and "Farmer of the Month;" a strong and ongoing collaboration with community partners, agricultural producers, and farm to school

advocates; the capacity to sustain our program by establishing a central produce procurement kitchen, linking with local food hubs, and training site coordinators at each elementary school to act as a liaison with the districtwide farm to school program, and more readily assist teachers to implement farm to school activities.

### **Center for Ecoliteracy**

*Berkeley, California*

*Grant Type: Support Service; \$99,969*

The Center for Ecoliteracy (CEL) will help 15 partner school districts launch California Thursdays. California Thursdays is a “bite sized” implementation and marketing program designed to enable motivated school districts to start or extend school food innovations and farm to school efforts. CEL will create new resources for its California Thursday toolkit, including proven strategies and practical assets for linking schools with regional agriculture, menu development, nutrition staff training, communication and public relations efforts, and nutrition education. CEL will commence recruiting a new cohort of 15 additional partner districts at the California School Nutrition Association Conference in November 2014 to launch in spring 2015, expand the toolkit of resources, and establish an innovation network including pilot districts and allied organizations. Data reflecting California products served will be collected.

### **Community Health Improvement Partners**

*San Diego, California*

*Grant Type: Support Service; \$100,000*

Community Health Improvement Partners (CHIP) has worked with school districts from across San Diego County in adopting farm to school practices. CHIP will build upon past experience to accelerate and expand regional participation in farm to school. The San Diego County Farm to School Taskforce serves as the “go to” body for farm to school in San Diego County. CHIP will continue to promote collaboration and leverage activities through the Farm to School Taskforce. Activities will focus on shared product sourcing, best practice sharing, and collective problem solving related to farm to school. CHIP will recruit 20 new local and regional growers to support farm to school and provide direct one- on- one technical assistance to two districts in the development of three- year farm to school plans. To further support efforts, CHIP will host its local produce showcase and release its annual “State of Farm to School in San Diego County” report.

### **North Coast Opportunities, Inc.**

*Ukiah, California*

*Grant Type: Support Service; 100,000*

North Coast Opportunities (NCO) has made great strides toward developing a strong farm to school value chain. Now the greatest gaps lie in procuring local foods and increasing participation in school meals. NCO will work with four middle schools and three educational farms to promote and market the school meal program to students, parents, and the broader community. The project will develop stronger procurement channels while students and parents

learn where food comes from and meet the people that grow and cook it for school meals. Activities will include upgrading farm infrastructure to build farm to school production capacity; organizing farm field trips and family farm work days; delivering nutrition education and taste tests to students; working with student councils to develop contests and a marketing campaign; coordinating Meet the Farmers, Meet the Cooks tasting events for parents; organizing networking for food service directors; hosting a food forum for schools and farmers; and conducting a community- wide marketing campaign.

**Mt. Diablo Unified School District, California**

*Concord, California*

*Grant Type: Planning; \$45,000*

Mount Diablo Unified School District (MDUSD) is partnering with community organizations to increase procurement of local foods for school meals and adopt comprehensive elementary health and nutrition education that satisfies the goals of the MDUSD's Student Wellness Policy. A key part of this planning phase is adapting and developing elementary curriculum that aligns with Common Core State Standards and Next Generation Science Standards. Such curriculum may benefit school districts across the country in the 45 states that have adopted Common Core State Standards and the 26 plus states that support the Next Generation Science Standards.

**Mid Klamath Watershed Council, California**

*Orleans, California*

*Grant Type: Support Service; \$99,728*

The Klamath Roots Food Project is part of a Klamath Basin- wide effort to reverse trends of high rates of poverty, food insecurity, diabetes, obesity, and depression and develop a sustainable food system through education, community collaboration, and hands- on stewardship. The goals are to increase access to and consumption of traditional foods (fish, nuts, berries, and game) and fresh, locally grown, fruit and vegetables in the public schools and to increase youth engagement in their local food systems. The project involves approximately 330 underserved youth in seven rural schools, 84% of whom qualify for free or reduced price meals and approximately 62% of whom are Native American. The project is designed to nourish health, improve self- confidence, revitalize culture, improve the natural environment, and provide healthy meals to improve school performance.

2016

**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 8<sup>th</sup> 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 pre kindergarten-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.

2017

**Twin Rivers Unified School District**

*North Highlands, California*  
*Grant Type: Planning; \$44,906*

The Twin Rivers Unified School District (TRUSD) will create a farm to school committee that includes district staff, community-based organizations, local farmers, school administrators, and parents. The goal of this funding will be to create a comprehensive Farm to School Action Plan that includes the district's vision and mission for farm to school activities at each school site, identify roles and responsibilities of all partners, and provide a road map for TRUSD farm to school implementation.

**Tides Center/School Food Focus, a Project of Tides Center**

*San Francisco, California*  
*Grant Type: Support Service; \$98,871*

School Food Focus will increase school food demand for locally-sourced poultry products. Working in the Southeastern and the Western regions of the U.S., Focus will bring together four innovative school food service leaders and a range of small and mid-scale poultry producers, processors, and distributors to create mutually beneficial procurement pathways to better chicken and turkey products.

**Oakland Unified School District**

*Oakland, California*  
*Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,966*

Oakland Unified School District (OUSD) will develop and implement an innovative forward contract procurement system to dramatically increase local agricultural products served in the school meal program. This system will serve as a critical component in a strategy to prepare for opening the District's Central Kitchen and Instructional Farm in 2018. OUSD will create new market opportunities for small and minority owned local producers to sell their products directly and increase access to local agricultural products for 37,000 students in Oakland.

**New Visions Middle School**

*San Bernardino, California*  
*Grant Type: Planning; \$44,956*

REAL Journey Academies/New Visions Middle School will serve as the lead local education agency for a consortium of charter schools in Southern California. The Consortium's farm to school planning grant will embed known best practices into early design considerations, culminating in a comprehensive Farm to School Action Plan. The Farm to School Action Plan will include an implementation plan to increase regional food in school meals and expand the school garden programs, which include a fruit orchard and bee husbandry.

**Natomas Unified School District**

*Sacramento, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$79,626*

Natomas Unified School District will use grant funding to develop relationships with local farmers that are like minded, build two school gardens in the district, and create and offer professional development opportunities for food service personnel.

**Local Bounty DBA Real Good Fish**

*Moss Landing, California*

*Grant Type: Support Service; \$95,320*

Local Bounty DBA Real Good Fish will enable the farm to school program to grow sustainably and increase its impacts for students, schools, communities, fisherman, and the supply chain. They will do this by funding more fishermen visits to classrooms, developing a virtual fishing trip platform to allow fishermen to engage and teach while on the open sea, and giving children the thrill of experiencing a commercial fishing trip safely seated in their classroom. Additionally, they will increase capacity for districts to procure and prepare local seafood by providing professional development for nutrition services staff with Real Good Fish's resident chef, creating training videos on recipes, preparation, and serving methods for local seafood, and develop recipes and supporting materials.

**Karuk Tribe**

*Happy Camp, California*

*Grant Type: Support Service; \$100,000*

This project will enhance students' understanding of the connections between and the direct experience with traditional foods, physical health, and diet-related disease prevention. Karuk Tribe, with their partners, will expand and implement culturally relevant "Native Health" lesson plans and facilitate conventional and Native food cooking classes for a "hands-on" approach to their local food systems.

**Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission**

*Fresno, California*

*Grant Type: Support Service; \$100,000*

The FRESH initiative will develop a policy, which recommends a set percentage of Fresno Unified School District's (FUSD) food budget for local produce and will increase connections between local growers and FUSD. This will be achieved by convening farm to school Meet-and-Greet events that will introduce local farmers to FUSD Food Services. The FRESH initiative will educate students about the role of fruits and vegetables through six experiential nutrition education and taste testing events to 250 students.

**Food Bank of Santa Barbara County**

*Santa Barbara, California*

*Grant Type: Support Service; \$97,987*

The Food Bank of Santa Barbara County will provide fresh produce and nutrition education lessons to elementary-aged students in afterschool programs. Each lesson focuses on one special produce item and includes recipes, information about the ingredient, and a hands-on food demonstration in which children prepare and taste the recipe of the day. The lesson concludes with a mini farmer's market that includes the main ingredient as well as three other fresh produce items.

**California Department of Food and Agriculture Office of Farm to Fork**

*Sacramento, California*

*Grant Type: Support Service; \$90,966*

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) Office of Farm to Fork will transition the California Farm to School Network (CFSN) to the Office and strengthen the already robust statewide organization with a five-pronged approach, which will result in an increase in fresh California foods offered at school meals across the state and an increase in sales for California farmers.

2018

**Bakersfield City School District**

*Bakersfield, California*

*Grant Type: Planning; \$50,000*

Through partnership, collaboration, and engagement, Bakersfield City School District will create a comprehensive network that incorporates food production, processing, distribution, consumption, and waste recovery.

**Colusa County Office of Education**

*Colusa, California*

*Grant Type: Planning; \$45,000*

Colusa County Office of Education (CCOE) will actively partner with the Colusa Indian Community Hand In Hand Learning Center, Williams Unified School District, Colusa County Resource Conservation District, and the Center for Healthy Communities to develop a comprehensive plan to incorporate locally grown foods on student meal trays and at home. The CCOE garden site will include a greenhouse for seedlings, leafy greens and vegetables in raised beds, and a small orchard of nut and fruit trees. The garden sites will also include a laboratory pathway of native grasses, shrubs, and trees that may be used as a "science classroom" for programs working to implement the Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Future Farmers of America members from around the county will also be able to use the "science classroom" as a training site.

**Humboldt County Office of Education**

*Eureka, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$97,459*

Humboldt County Office of Education (HCOE) will develop a comprehensive farm to school program in after-school settings to increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables and improve food and agricultural literacy for low-income students. Currently, their after-school students participate in HCOE's Harvest of the Month (HOTM) culinary activities that feature local fruits and vegetables. This project will build on the HOTM framework by integrating hands-on gardening, experiential field trip opportunities, and local procurement for supper meals.

### **Los Molinos Unified School District**

*Los Molinos, California*

*Grant Type: Planning; \$50,000*

Los Molinos Unified School District will develop relationships with industry partners and programs to build a new greenhouse and utilize the Horticulture Pathway. The district will develop cross-curricular lessons in various career pathways while Los Molinos High School will plan which fruits and vegetables will be grown in the new greenhouse. Students will be involved in a work-based learning environment that consists of preparing the soil, growing seedlings, supporting vegetation, crop management, crop production, and food preparation. A soil center, shade house, and a grape orchard will be developed and include crops such as carrots, lettuce, broccoli, tomatoes, peppers, strawberries, celery, and grapes. The future intent is to provide these vegetables and fruits to all three schools within the Los Molinos Unified School District.

2019

### **The Abundant Table**

*Camarillo, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \* (award amount not yet finalized)*

The Ventura County Farm to School Collaborative will create a strategic plan and expand the coordination of local farm to school sourcing initiatives among Ventura County school districts. The Collaborative will work with the Center for Good Food Purchasing to assess current procurement models and create an action plan and trainings to use the collective buying power of multiple school districts to create a sustainable farm to school system and strategy. This project will benefit local farmers and students in Ventura County.

### **Center for Ecoliteracy**

*Berkeley, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,991*

The Center for Ecoliteracy will develop Abundant California 2.0 to teach students about the regions in California where school food is grown through experiential nutrition education activities in classrooms, gardens, and after-school programs. By engaging educators in curriculum development, the Center for Ecoliteracy will create high-quality resources optimized for multiple teaching environments. The Abundant California 2.0 curriculum is designed to be

shared broadly and integrated into the farm to school efforts of the 89 school districts participating in California Thursdays, a collaboration to serve students healthier, freshly-prepared school meals made from California-grown food. Abundant California 2.0 will enhance existing farm to school efforts, improve food literacy, and encourage the consumption of locally-grown food.

### **The Charlie Cart Project**

*Berkeley, California (conducted in Wyoming and Georgia)*

*Grant Type: Training; \$44,215*

The Charlie Cart Project (CCP) will work with the Wyoming Department of Education and Burke County School Nutrition Program (Georgia) to design and deliver 3 training events to empower FNSP as champions of farm to school programs. The goal of these trainings is to strengthen the impact of farm to school programs by increasing FNSP's openness to and understanding of farm to school efforts and awareness of and confidence in themselves as key players in farm to school efforts with the power to change children's lives.

### **City of Perris**

*Perris, California*

*Grant Type: Planning; \$50,000*

The Grow Perris Farm to School Initiative is a collaborative effort led by the City of Perris. The initiative will develop a Farm to School Framework and Action Plan and will recruit a pilot school district and at least four pilot schools. Through the initiative, participants will develop and deliver a Farm to School curriculum and produce a Farm to School campaign to broadly engage stakeholders from three school districts and 39 schools.

### **Community Health Improvement Partners**

*San Diego, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,930*

Community Health Improvement Partners (CHIP) will implement a SDC F2S Community Awareness and Education campaign with eight school districts serving low-income communities, significantly refining and expanding on a 2018-19 pilot campaign (the Farm to School Collective). The project will use the F2S Collective brand to create consistent messaging across school districts through promotion, educational events, and marketing support. CHIP will develop F2S advocates by actively engaging school district communities.

### **Community Action Partnership of Orange County**

*Garden Grove, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$100,000*

The Community Action Partnership of Orange County (CAP OC) will support increased academic performance and overall health of Westminster High School (WHS) students by

integrating healthy foods into their school meals and providing nutrition education that ultimately impacts eating habits at home with support from parents and family members. CAP OC, in partnership with Solutions for Urban Agriculture, the Orange County Farm Bureau, and the Agriculture Sciences Program at WHS, will utilize grant funds to increase crop yields at The Giving Farm, the largest remaining public school farm in Orange County.

### **Encinitas Union School District**

*Encinitas, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \* (award amount not yet finalized)*

Encinitas Union School District will increase participation in the school lunch program through student led menu development and promotional activities; enhance the rigorous garden-based curriculum at EUSD's organic school farm with the creation of an exploratory educational garden and garden-based lesson plans; increase online promotion of the Farm to School Program; develop and host a spring Farmer's Showcase to promote the fresh, local produce used in school lunches; and increase production yield through expansion of the farm acreage and planting fruit trees.

### **Napa County Office of Education**

*Napa, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$87,459*

Napa County Office of Education will establish an after-school wellness track at three high need elementary schools through Garden Enhanced Nutrition Education. The program will include implementation of quality curriculum, professional development for staff, the addition of student-grown produce to the supper program, and family outreach.<sup>1</sup> 351 students at high need elementary schools will benefit from the program. Key partners include Napa Valley Unified SD, Phillips, Shearer and Snow Elementary Schools, UC Master Gardeners of Napa County, and The School Garden Doctor.

### **North Coast Opportunities**

*Ukiah, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$98,365*

North Coast Opportunities will work with 28 schools in five large school districts in rural Lake and Mendocino Counties, as well several smaller districts, to expand and institutionalize the use of local produce in school meals, while working with farmers to develop the food supply chain. The project will build the capacity of 50 local farmers to market their crops to local schools by: compiling school purchasing data to facilitate regional production planning; providing training to farmers; organizing farm field trips for students; delivering classroom presentations by local farmers; and providing schools with recipes and meal plans using local produce.

### **Soil Born Farms Urban Agriculture and Education Project**

*Sacramento, California*

*Grant Type: Planning; \$45,672*

Soil Born Farms will work with Folsom-Cordova Unified School District to coordinate a farm to school planning process toward the three primary goals of; developing an agriculture education pathway for K12 students by connecting and expanding food/farming education programs facilitated by the schools and Soil Born Farms; providing students with experiences growing and harvesting food that they eat in school meals; and increasing the amount of locally-grown food served in school cafeterias.

### **Scott Valley Unified School District**

*Fort Jones, California*

*Grant Type: Planning; \$30,112*

Scott Valley Unified School District will establish a new Farm Resources for Education and Student Health (FRESH) Program. The focus will be on conducting feasibility studies for refreshing and rebuilding their current orchard and garden growing areas, researching egg farm feasibility, marketing the farm fresh idea, gathering information and educating themselves about implementation and sustainability. Their Team includes three community partners: Oakhill Gardens, Rockside Ranch, and Five Mary's Farms. The six schools that will be impacted are: Etna and Fort Jones Elementary, Scott Valley Junior High, Etna and Scott River High and Scott Valley Community Day. The goal is to enhance and integrate locally-grown foods into their district menu planning and to educate students and staff about food procurement and ultimately have a positive impact on their health and well-being.

### **Tides Center**

*San Francisco, California*

*Grant Type: Training; \$47,000*

The Tides Center will offer 10 experiential learning opportunities during the National Farm to School Network's 2020 National Farm to Cafeteria Conference. The pre-conference training day will allow attendees the chance to see farm to school efforts in action, network with farm to school stakeholders, and envision ideas for their own work based on real-world examples.

### **Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians**

*Thermal, California*

*Grant Type: Planning; \$48,000*

The Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians will create a Farm to School Plan to be approved via Resolution by the governing body and thereby memorialized and made official. The Farm to School Plan will guide the Tribe in cultivating and sharing produce with the local schools. It will also help continue and further collaboration to improve nutrition, health, and wellness among school, tribal, and community youth and their families.



**Upland Unified School District**

*Upland, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$87,224*

Upland Unified School District will collaborate with Nutrition Services, principals, teachers, students, Food Corps, Health Corps, and local universities to implement a teaching garden at all 14 school sites and expand the Farm to School program. A Wellness Champion at each school will serve as a garden liaison and will lead garden club activities with the students. Garden produce will be harvested and featured on the salad bar, as part of the entrée, in the cooking club, or in a school-wide taste test. Upland USD will provide training for individuals from Farm to School Advisory Council and Wellness Champions to ensure the confidence when working with students in a garden setting. Upland USD will also make the efforts to expand its' current selection of locally sourced foods.

2020

**Bishop Paiute Tribe**

*Bishop, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$100,000*

Building on already successful partnerships, the Bishop Paiute Tribe Farm-to-School Project will scale-up current farm-to-school activities and further strengthen existing collaborations between the Bishop Paiute Tribe Food Sovereignty Program (FSP) and Bishop Indian Head Start (BIHS). In order to improve access to local foods through local procurement and education efforts, the programs will work together to implement a food safety plan, develop an afterschool and summer garden education program through curriculum development and garden expansion. The project will further integrate traditional and culturally appropriate food in both school gardens and within the school menu, increase family cook nights, conduct a pilot project to explore methods to reduce excess food (that would become food waste), and provide farm-to-school produce stands to increase access to local produce and healthy foods for BIHS students and their families.

**Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo County Inc.**

*San Luis Obispo, California*

*Grant Type: Planning; \$50,000*

CAPSLO Santa Maria Farm to School Program will bring a systems approach to school nutrition that includes local farmers and food distributors working in collaboration with school staff, students, parents, and others. Schools will have agricultural education components in the curriculum, and local farmers and food distributors will be connected and aligned with the school's nutrition programs. Students and parents will have greater access to healthier foods,

making it easier for students to maintain healthier eating habits, thereby decreasing childhood obesity rates in the region.

### **Community Alliance with Family Farmers**

*Davis, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,973*

As demand for local food has increased dramatically, so too has the need for help with the procurement regulations and auditing processes for creating compliant bids. This project will support the development and piloting of an automated Bid Generator to be used by food service directors at 10 school districts in California. This automated web-based Bid Generator, coupled with direct technical assistance, will ease the procurement process for food service directors, thereby increasing the amount of locally sourced, farm fresh produce in school cafeterias.

### **Fiery Ginger Farm**

*West Sacramento, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$98,884*

Fiery Ginger Farm will work with 90 classrooms in Sacramento area schools to deliver in-class nutrition and food production lessons, host field trips and conduct taste tests at lunchtime. The project will also hold school-garden coordinator trainings and provide plants to gardens throughout the school year to help them connect to their kitchens and create a purpose driven environment for students. The result of all of this activity will be an increased interest in, and consumption of, local produce.

### **Leah's Pantry**

*La Jolla, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$92,500*

The Leah's Pantry Barrio Botany project will support San Diego Unified School District's Farm to School Program through on-site production of salad bar ingredients at school gardens in high poverty, low opportunity neighborhoods. Fruits and vegetables, grown by students, will be harvested for their school cafeterias as well as for instruction that improves local food consumption among students and enhances food and agricultural literacy.

### **Los Angeles Leadership Academy**

*Los Angeles, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$95,415*

The Los Angeles Leadership Academy (LALA) serves approximately 490 vulnerable and high-need students Grades 6-12 in an impoverished neighborhood of urban Los Angeles. The project activities will establish ongoing farming opportunities into the 2020-2021 school schedule, ensuring students Grades 6-12 engages in no less than one hour of hands-on agricultural

programming each week. Additionally, LALA Farm will be outfitted with the tools, supplies, and equipment necessary to ensure expanded operations well into the future.

### **Mt. Diablo Unified School District**

*Concord, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$100,000*

Mt. Diablo Unified School District's Farm to School (FTS) Program combines local food procurement with experiential garden, cooking and nutrition lessons for elementary students that are tied to core academic standards. MDUSD's FTS objectives include deepening educational experiences for students during the school day, including implementing a new in-school field trip to the cafeteria for all 4th grade students, and integrating current after-school garden, cooking, and nutrition lessons to the FTS program for the first time. The FTS project will deepen staff understanding of the importance of healthy food culture across different departments through six new "Growing Healthy Kids" workshops that will foster collaboration among Garden Educators, Lead Teachers, After-School Program and Food Services. The project will also provide eight half-day workshops to train classroom teachers in using garden, cooking and nutrition lessons to reinforce academic standards.

### **San Bernardino City Unified School District**

*San Bernardino, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,790*

The overall goal of the San Bernardino City Unified School District (SBCUSD) Farm to School Implementation program is to improve access of locally sourced foods while simultaneously expanding educational opportunities for students. The K-12 SBCUSD has been successful with USDA Farm to School strategies since 2016 through what is known as the "Harvest of the Month". The project will expend by leveraging the supply chain so the District can work first-hand in improving the procurement process with Local Farmers. The project will implement farmer trainings for Food Safety, GAP education, and an onboarding process for working with Nutrition Services. In addition, the project will strengthen the agricultural educational experience with Pilot Classrooms and identify local procurement Local Labor Market & Needs Assessment of Urban Agriculture for School Food Authorities (SFA) procurement.

2021

### **Boys & Girls Clubs of Oceanside**

*Oceanside, California*

*Grant Type: Turnkey; \$50,000*

Boys & Girls Clubs of Oceanside, (BGCO), is a youth development organization whose mission is to inspire, develop and enrich young people to reach their fullest potential as confident, responsible, caring members of society. With USDA Farm to School program funding, BGCO will expand and revamp their existing community garden and use it as a resource for fresh produce for Child and Adult Care Food Program and Summer Food Service Program meals,

which are prepared daily in BGCO's commercial Culinary Arts Teaching Kitchen. Produce grown in the garden will also be utilized as part of BGCO's educational program in the garden and in the classroom, as well as through their partnership with ProduceGood. ProduceGood educates Club youth about sustainability, food waste, and nutrition and provides up-cycled edible organics, donated through their network of San Diego farmers.

### **Campo Band of Mission Indians**

*Campo, California*

*Grant Type: Turnkey; \$47,950*

This project will reach students through one charter high school at the Campo Education Center and a public elementary and middle school in Campo. All three school sites receive Title I funding. The Campo Kumeyaay F2S Edible Garden Project will expand on current USDA programs by supporting an opportunity for the Kumeyaay children and youth to learn the traditional ways of growing food and managing the land, and building a garden ecosystem including growing local produce and Native foods to be incorporated into the USDA nutrition programs.

### **Community Action Marin**

*San Rafael, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$97,864*

Community Action Marin will expand its existing production farm located in qualified opportunity zone #06041112201 and add an additional school garden to a second agency early education campus. This project is part of the Community Action Marin's Children and Family Services strategy to ensure that the children in their preschool and childcare programs, and their parents, are well nourished and able to build life-long healthy eating habits. Up to 550 children and families of low income will benefit from this project.

### **Community Bridges**

*Watsonville, California*

*Grant Type: Turnkey; \$48,122*

Community Bridges' Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP), in partnership with 100 Day Care Home Providers will pilot the Edible Garden Project benefiting low-income children in California's central coast and tri-county (Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz) area. Funding from the Farm to School grant program will allow Community Bridges to plan, develop, and implement the Edible Garden Project and provide experiential agricultural hands-on learning. To successfully implement this project, they will partner with Life Lab, a garden-based education organization, to train their providers and offer them the knowledge of gardening.

### **Contra Costa Resource Conservation District**

*Concord, California*

*Grant Type: Turnkey; \$45,535*

The Contra Costa Resource Conservation District will implement its "Gills to Greens: Aquaponics Systems for Urban Food Security" curriculum, which prioritizes serving 3rd-4th grade students from underserved areas of Contra Costa County. Contra Costa Resource Conservation District's agriculture curriculum serves as a way to build relationships with classrooms, enrich existing school science curriculum, and inspire students to create their own "food oasis." The curriculum includes six cohesive sessions, including five in-class and one field trip to partner nonprofits for inspiration and tangible demonstrations of urban farming and aquaponics.

### **Healthy Day Partners**

*Encinitas, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$94,695*

Healthy Day Partners will grow the Straight 2 the Plate (S2TP) program in National City to advance a commitment to farm to school programs nourishing students through healthy food and quality education no matter the zip code or income level. S2TP creates a healthier, more just local food system, supports local farmers, strengthens personal and community health through education, and growing and procuring food as close to their plates as possible. Urban farmers will support the reactivation of school gardens closed throughout the pandemic. School garden handbooks will be developed to guide teachers and champions toward engaging students and best practices so school gardens reach their full potential as educational assets for all classrooms and produce nourishing food for a marginalized community. 5-gallon Grab & Grow Gardens provide 6th graders with the joy and empowerment of growing healthy food at home with their families, encouraging increased consumption of locally grown food.

### **Imperial County Office of Education**

*El Centro, California*

*Grant Type: Turnkey; \$48,627*

Through its Agricultural Education Curriculum Development and Delivery Project, the Imperial County Office of Education (ICOE) will help increase, expand, and improve access to high-quality agricultural education programs in Imperial County. ICOE will collaborate with the Imperial County UC Cooperative Extension, Farm SMART at the UC Desert Research and Extension Center, El Centro Regional Medical Center, and Imperial County Strong Workforce Consortium to expand Farm to School initiatives in eight high schools throughout Imperial County. A county-wide team will develop standards-based modules that will be delivered in flexible ways throughout the high schools of Imperial County. Additionally, a Professional Learning Network aligned to Farm to School principles will be established to allow schools to showcase their best practices and learn from each other.

### **International Rescue Committee, Inc.**

*Sacramento, California*

*Grant Type: Turnkey; \$50,000*

Through the proposed Edible Garden Project, the International Rescue Committee (IRC) in Sacramento will work with four elementary schools in the San Juan Unified School District (SJUSD) to develop and install four edible gardens, improving local food access and meeting community nutritional needs. Most students enrolled at these schools are eligible for free or reduced-price lunches, and three of the four partner schools are located in USDA-designated low food access, low-income areas. With Farm to School funding, the IRC will work with these SJUSD schools to establish edible garden planning committees and engage parents and students to create and maintain edible gardens at each school. These efforts will increase the availability of locally grown fresh produce for SJUSD students and their families across four schools while providing nutrition education through garden- and farm-based activities.

### **Lodi Unified School District**

*Lodi, California*

*Grant Type: Turnkey; \$48,522*

Lodi Unified School District will purchase and construct an innovative and interactive greenhouse at the Plaza Robles Continuation High School, located in the heart of North Stockton in California. This project will provide students with a positive educational opportunity, building upon existing school gardening activities in Lodi Unified School District to serve 159 continuation students.

### **Logan Heights Community Development Corporation**

*San Diego, California*

*Grant Type: Turnkey; \$43,560*

Logan Heights CDC will plan and execute an Edible Garden at its Future Achievers Preschool, which annually provides STEAM education to up to 70 two- to five-year-old children. Experiential learning, such as that to be provided by a contracted Master Gardener and supported through volunteer teams, is critical to helping children grasp STEAM concepts and develop interest in related careers as they begin their academic pursuits. Located in the heart of San Diego's Opportunity Zone, the Edible Garden will provide youth from low-to-moderate income families with healthy foods throughout the school day while also serving as a focal point for community pride and volunteer activities.

### **Los Angeles Unified School District**

*Los Angeles, California*

*Grant Type: Turnkey; \$45,433*

The Advancing Farm to School in Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) project allows LAUSD to give students with healthy food access issues the ability to eat more fruits and vegetables and to better support local economies. Through partnerships with Center for Good Food Purchasing, Los Angeles Food Policy Council, and Urban and Environmental Policy Institute, LAUSD will develop procurement processes that enable the purchase of local produce

from small to medium-sized farms. Such processes will allow LAUSD to provide more local produce on menus and expose students to new produce options previously not available. Having more local produce on the menu not only reduces the gap many students experience related to healthy food access, but it also helps build the foundation for sustained behavioral practices related to increased consumption of local produce that leads to overall better student health.

### **North Monterey County Unified School District**

*Castroville, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$97,638*

Building on already successful partnerships, the North Monterey County Unified School District (NMCUSD) Farm to School Expansion Project will increase the procurement of locally sourced foods by scaling up the purchase of seasonal produce while leveraging efforts to expand educational opportunities for students. The project will facilitate building school gardens and outside learning environments to strengthen the agricultural and nutrition education experience both inside and outside the classroom. The project will provide students enrolled in the District's Sustainable Agricultural Pathway with job shadowing and internship opportunities, sparking students' interests in pursuing careers in agriculture. A fundamental goal is achieving contract farming to increase access to local produce as well as economic growth opportunities for farmers in their community. This grant will benefit more than 4,600 NMCUSD students, helping advance a sustainable and equitable food system and supporting the overall well-being of their children.

### **Northern Valley Catholic Social Service**

*Redding, California*

*Grant Type: Turnkey; \$44,002*

With the funds from the Edible Garden Turnkey Grant, the CalFresh Healthy Living program at Northern Valley Catholic Social Service will establish edible gardens within seven low-income elementary schools in Shasta County. Each garden will be made large enough to ensure a consistent supply of fresh produce can be integrated into the menu and served to the students weekly. Nutrition education and taste tests will be provided to the students on a monthly basis to reinforce healthy eating messages. Nutrition and garden standards will be written into the school's policies to ensure each classroom has an opportunity to be involved and the garden remains maintained properly.

### **Pasadena Unified School District**

*Pasadena, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,018*

Pasadena Unified School District will expand the scope and depth of its current Farm to School program in order to improve access to locally grown healthy foods for students in eligible schools and to increase their knowledge of nutrition, food science, agro-ecology through

curriculum development, teacher training, and experiential learning opportunities during and after the school day. The project will benefit all 15,000 students in grades K through 12, of whom more than two-thirds are low-income. Partners include Outward Bound Adventures, Pasadena City College, and the Los Angeles Regional Food Bank.

### **Planting Justice**

*Oakland, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,496*

Building upon the Oakland Unified School District's (OUSD) movement toward healthier lunches, Planting Justice will achieve hyperlocalization of the farm to school supply chain through Planting Justice's East Oakland Neishi Farm's production and distribution of leafy greens to OUSD lunch suppliers for preparation in Oakland public school lunches. Planting Justice will also partner with eight (8) schools in the District through pop-up green smoothie distributions, creation and maintenance of school gardens, and implementation of the Plant! Cook! Organize! curriculum. This project will realize the goal of OUSD students eating leafy greens produced within 10 miles of their school while also receiving the agricultural education necessary to encourage more leafy green production and consumption.

### **Prepa Tec LA Middle School**

*Walnut Park, California*

*Grant Type: Turnkey; \$48,569*

Alta Public Schools will participate in the Farm to School grant in order to bring a larger quantity and variety of fresh produce to its students and families in the South East Los Angeles area. Alta Public Schools will increase the use of fruits and vegetables in its breakfast, lunch and supper menu, will implement salad bars at all campuses, and provide students and parents with culinary workshops that will help families learn how to incorporate more fruits and vegetables into their home cooking.

### **Schools in Action**

*Los Angeles, California*

*Grant Type: Turnkey; \$36,361*

As a School Food Authority, Schools in Action (SIA) would like to ensure that the Arts in Action Community Charter Schools (A.I.A) widens its current approach to promoting nutrition education and combatting food insecurity. This will be done through the procurement of local seasonal vegetables and/or fruits and interactive lessons involving taste tests, presentations, and at-home activities provided by a key partner and vendor, Better 4 You Meals. The commitment to healthy living from all SIA partners stems from the high percentage of enrolled low socioeconomic students. Given this reality, the California Harvest of the Month--Farm to School program plans to address urban problems related to socioeconomic disparity and the ensuing effects of food insecurity by providing a committed source of fresh fruits and vegetables to all A.I.A. students and families.



**Sierra Harvest**

*Nevada City, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$98,518*

The Free Range Kids project increases the availability of local foods in K-12 schools serving 10,000 students in rural Western Nevada County, CA. The project merges agricultural education (school garden education, farm field trips, monthly tastings, garden carts) with locally procured food integrated into the school meal program. School meals will highlight new menu items and increase students' consumption of healthy foods through additional salad bars using locally procured fresh fruits and vegetables, already made familiar by Farm to School (FTS) education. This project expands Sierra Harvest's existing FTS program where a collaboration of 9 school districts, representing 26 K-12 schools, and an innovative partnership with the national Chef Ann Foundation, will provide a formative space for students to eat, grow and learn. Sierra Harvest will share lessons learned over 12 years of FTS programming by providing training through a regional FTS Institute for others to model.

**Sustainable Solano Inc.**

*Benicia, California*

*Grant Type: Turnkey; \$46,235*

Sustainable Solano will lead the "Markham Elementary Edible Garden Project" – the development of a unique, distributed permaculture garden of raised beds and fruit tree guilds across Markham Elementary School's campus in Vacaville, CA. This project is a pilot for additional sustainable school gardens across Solano County and will be accomplished in partnership with the Vacaville Unified School District, Vacaville Public Education Foundation and Solano County Office of Education. The design of the school-wide garden will be based on feedback from students, teachers and staff and installed by the school community. A Solano County Edible Garden Toolkit will also be created to support expansion and sustainability of the project in years to come.

**The HEAL Project**

*Half Moon Bay, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$71,226*

The HEAL Project will deliver its award-winning garden based education programming, Intensive Garden Program, to two local elementary schools. Additionally, the organization will develop a school garden handbook, including planting guides, funding resources, and 26 week curriculum, to be distribute throughout the county, and provide subsequent consultation and trainings to support the increasing the prevalence of school gardens the implementation of garden-based education programming.

**Val Verde Unified School District**

*Perris, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$100,000*

Last year, the Val Verde Unified School District (VVUSD) partnered with the City of Perris to create a Farm to School Framework and Action Plan. They will implement the VVUSD Farm 2 School program in 16 of their K-8 schools. They will use the USDA funding for garden expansion and modernization to increase their capacity for food growth, and purchase curricula to support agricultural education across all of their K-8 schools.

### **WEST CONTRA COSTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT**

*Richmond, California*

*Grant Type: Turnkey; \$50,000*

In 2018 – 2019, West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) worked with Conscious Kitchen to bring fresh, local, organic scratch cooked meals to a 536-student pilot at Peres Elementary, a 100% free/reduced school. Kids loved the food, the program proved that the district could cost effectively purchase local organic ingredients, significantly reduce waste, provide a positive climate impact, create meaningful jobs, and engage students. In 2020, WCCUSD launched a COVID response program further demonstrating the value and benefits of buying local fresh products at scale, serving over 7 million meals to children in their communities with over 75% with local fresh produce and shifting to over 50% organic products. The grant funds will allow the district to create a roll out plan to bring the positive and delicious benefits from these pilot projects to their students across the district when in-person meals return. The plan will focus on supply chain and process recommendations as well as specific seasonally appropriate recipes.

### **Yurok Tribe**

*Klamath, California*

*Grant Type: Implementation; \$99,976.00*

The Yurok Tribe Environmental Program Food Sovereignty Division will create the food production component of the Wautec Food Village and create corresponding garden and traditional foods curriculum to support the Jack Norton Elementary School Farm to School program.