



Recent Grants: Hudson Valley Farm Fresh Food Fund

2017 Grant Recipients:

Angel Food East

\$5,000

Funds will purchase fresh, nutritious foods to supplement feeding programs focused on clients with compromised immunity, sensitive digestive tracts and are otherwise home-bound. With this grant, local foods will be purchased at the Kingston, Rhinebeck and Woodstock farmers' markets, local farm stands, private farms and the Farm Hub. In addition, volunteers will freeze, can and process produce to ensure maximum use and minimal waste. Any kitchen scraps will be used to create compost for the church garden.

<http://www.angelfoodeast.org/>

Common Ground Farm

\$23,500

To continue growth and efficiency in producing fresh vegetables for local elementary schools, food pantries, soup kitchens and a new mobile market, funds will expand cultivation of 4-15 more acres of farm land. In addition to seeds, soil inputs and tools, this grant will support additional farm labor, and resources for cultivating fundraising and marketing campaigns; increasing productivity, sustainability and delivery of food for an expanding geographical region.

<http://www.commongroundfarm.org/>



Cornell Cooperative Extension Orange County

\$15,000

Funds will support operations for the GleanMobile during the growing season. The GleanMobile provides fresh fruits and vegetables to soup kitchens and food pantries while reducing waste. When a local farmer will not profit from harvesting a crop, the food is donated to the GleanMobile. Community members volunteer to rescue unmarketable produce each season. Once harvested, the GleanMobile allows direct, immediate distribution to low income areas. This program helps Hudson Valley farmers feed the Hudson Valley's hungry. During the grant period, it is expected that over 300,000 pounds of fresh produce and local meats will be gleaned, harvested, repackaged and distributed to soup kitchens and food pantries, primarily in Orange County.

<http://cceorangecounty.org/>

Dutchess Outreach

\$25,000

Funding will support the operation, development and expansion of the Poughkeepsie Plenty Fresh Market Program in order to widen access to more nutritious foods, lower the instance of food insecurity, and increase the overall health and vitality of our community. The market operates from June-November with stops throughout the city of Poughkeepsie and has offered locally grown produce at affordable prices, accepting all forms of payment, including food assistance benefits. In addition, this season we will pilot sponsorship opportunities which will underwrite "Fresh Market Bucks" to provide produce as part of a health partnership to incentivize patients and residents who qualify as low-income to incorporate fruits and vegetables into their diets.

<http://dutchessoutreach.org/>



Family of Woodstock

\$25,000

This grant will create new food hubs in Ellenville, New Paltz and Woodstock which will serve the families and individuals in communities with the highest levels of poverty and limited access to fresh produce. Partnering with the Rondout Valley Grower's Association, UlsterCorps and a network of providers, the hubs will: provide increased access and improved nutritional value of foods available, particularly during winter months when donated food is traditionally of low nutritional value; expand the availability of nutritious meals for children during the summer; increase the capacity for storage and distribution; decrease the amount of food wasted; develop new relationships which will make additional food available; and improve communication and coordination between local providers.

<http://www.familyofwoodstockinc.org/>

Hillside Food Outreach

\$20,000

Funding will purchase increased fruits and vegetables for the 116 client households (260 individuals) served in Putnam County. By adding 2 additional bags of produce, these deliveries will better reflect nutritional guidelines for healthy eating.

<http://hillsidefoodoutreach.org/>

Hudson River Housing

\$8,000

HRH will launch a series of food preparation workshops at the newly opened Poughkeepsie Open Kitchen, a shared use commercial kitchen in the restored Underwear Factory of Middle Main Street. The learning series will assist 200 formerly homeless and low-income participants in learning skills that will help them make better use of fresh produce available through sources such as food banks, subsidized CSAs, and farmers markets, teaching valuable life skills about how to prepare affordable, healthy and culturally appropriate meals.

<http://hudsonriverhousing.org/>



Hudson Valley Seed

\$15,000

Funding will support the agricultural elements of programming, including managing school gardens, teaching students to cook vegetables they grow in the gardens, teaching families in the garden during the summer, donating garden produce to soup kitchens, and piloting a farmer's market on school grounds in partnership with Common Ground Farm. These programs will increase Newburgh and Beacon's access to fresh produce, and increase knowledge about healthy eating.

<http://hudsonvalleyseed.org/>

Hyde Park Community Garden at St. James Episcopal Church

\$1,500

This grant will purchase equipment to install a permanent drip irrigation system for three areas where vegetables and flowers are grown for donation to the Food Pantry, Meals on Wheels and Gail Webster Transitional Shelter. With this system in place, damage from drought or inconsistent watering by volunteers can be averted. Maintaining an irrigation system and rain barrels will maintain food production and donations throughout the growing season.

<http://www.stjameshydepark.org/garden.htm>

Kingston YMCA Farm Project

\$6,000

Funding will expand the Training the Next Generation of Growers youth development program to offer two additional farm crew sessions, in addition to the summer session piloted previously. The purpose of this program is to mentor and employ low-income youth ages 14-18 on our centrally located farm, just a few blocks from the high school. This project is designed to provide urban youth with an empowering farm-based employment experience while receiving financial compensation and/or school credit. Through this experience, youth gain valuable work experience, learn about job opportunities in the food industry, and gain skills to become agents of positive change within their community. The youth apprentices will also conduct a community food assessment to understand the community's barriers to accessing and eating fresh food.

<http://www.kingstonymcafarmproject.org/>



Long Table Harvest

\$10,000

Long Table Harvest's Gleaning Program works with area farms to redistribute their surplus fruits, vegetables and sometimes meats to food pantries and youth attending after-school programs weekly from June through November. Gleaned produce is collected and distributed immediately to food pantries. Grant funds will expand operations into Dutchess County by adding an additional harvesting and delivery day, serving 4 new food distribution sites and at least 10 new farms. Dutchess County residents and youth in after-school programs will also have the opportunity to participate in special gleaning days that allow them to directly impact their local food system.

<http://longtableharvest.org/>

Newburgh Community Land Bank

\$10,000

Funding for the Citywide Food Donation and Gardening Program will support the staff, equipment and education/training programs needed to build an infrastructure in Newburgh that will increase access by low-income residents to locally grown healthy food, reduce food waste by providing a way to distribute excess food grown in community and residential gardens and increase the capacity of residents to grow culturally appropriate food in their yards and at vacant lots in their neighborhoods. Funds will cover expenses for transporting produce from the garden to distribution centers, installation of Coolbot refrigeration units which will keep produce fresh and educational programs to reach and empower residents to grow healthy food.

<https://www.newburghcommunitylandbank.org/>



North East Community Center

\$20,000

The funds will be used to staff the program and purchase thousands of pounds of fresh, locally produced vegetables, milk, and eggs from area farms and distribute it to food-insecure households via food-distributing organizations in Amenia, Dover, Millerton, and Pine Plains. Any surplus food after food pantry clients' needs are met will be distributed to the families of children in the After-School Program in Webutuck. The program makes it possible for several small farms to increase their production and sales and for 125 households of low income to obtain fresh, nutritious food that they could not otherwise afford.

<http://www.neccmillerton.org/>

People's Place

\$25,000

The Bag Summer Hunger program provides additional food to low-income school age children who receive free or reduced breakfast and lunch during the school year. Parents have a terrible time absorbing the additional food costs incurred when the academic year ends, giving way to hunger and malnutrition. The food options supplied will feature fresh, summer seasonal local produce, dairy products from the Hudson Valley, and an assortment of whole grain breads baked regionally for breakfast and/or lunch. To ensure that healthy choices are made, a coloring book for children will be included, along with an educational handout for parents in each week's bag. This will contribute to healthy growth and development so that these students are better able to learn when they return to school in September.

<http://www.peoplesplaceuc.org/>



Phillies Bridge Farm Project

\$10,000

Funding will support and expand the Farm to Families program, which provides freshly harvested produce for people in need through partnerships with social and health-service organizations. The program includes nutrition and cooking workshops that help participants develop knowledge and skills that will yield health benefits for years to come. The funds will cover the cost of growing, harvesting and delivering fresh food and designing and delivering education workshops.

<http://philliesbridge.org/>

Poughkeepsie Farm Project

\$20,000

Funds will support the Food Share Program, which provides full CSA shares, subsidized CSA shares and donations to food share partners, including soup kitchens, food pantries and shelters. These shares comprise 20% of the nearly 90 tons of produce harvested, making high-quality produce available to low-income community members.

<https://www.farmproject.org/>

RDC Loaves and Fishes

\$15,000

This grant will be used to purchase fresh foods from local farms and farmers markets to supplement traditional items available in a food pantry. By providing these options, customers who otherwise could not access these healthy options can integrate better nutrition into their diets. The program will also offer recipes that families can easily prepare.

<http://rdccenterofcompassion.org/>



Rondout Valley Food Pantry

\$2,000

The grant will help provide fresh produce to both the Summer Breakfast/Lunch Program, which provides additional food to the children of clients when free or reduced meals are not available and to the Holiday Basket Program, which provides fresh produce at a time when clients may not have access to or money for fresh produce. The expected outcome is that clients and their children will receive greater nutritional benefits from the fresh produce.

<http://www.rvfoodpantry.org/>

Second Chance Foods

\$6,000

Grant funds will purchase equipment to allow for the safe transport, processing, freezing and storage of farm fresh food. Equipment will include: insulated blankets to maintain safe temperatures during transport, a commercial vacuum sealer to preserve nutritional value of the foods, and a chest freezer to centrally store foods until they are distributed. These items will increase the quantity and quality of local foods which can then be delivered to food pantries to shore up access to healthy foods in winter months. In addition, through a partnership with the BOCES Culinary Program at Tilly Foster Farm, culinary students will learn about local food, food insecurity, and will help preserve the food for use in pantries.

<http://secondchancefoods.org/>

St. Thomas Episcopal Church Amenia Union NY

\$8,000

The Giving Garden project offers fresh, nutritious food, including meat, dairy and produce to customers accessing the food pantry. In addition, the Garden grows a range of vegetables which supplement the pantry offerings, and introduce customers to new and healthy options. Funding will be used to support the salary of a Garden Coordinator, both to manage the successful growth of the garden, and to share knowledge with volunteers, customers and the community about gardening and cooking.

<https://www.stthomasamenia.com/>



2016 Grant Recipients:

Angel Food East

\$5,000

More fresh vegetables, fruits and meats from local purveyors and local farms will be purchased with the funds for clients who are predominantly the elderly, the chronically ill and clients living with HIV/AIDS who are essentially homebound. Fresh, nutritious food is very important to people with compromised immune systems and sensitive digestive tracks. The money will be spent at the Kingston, Rhinebeck and Woodstock farmers' markets, local farm stands and the Farm Hub, and the fresh food will be prepared at the commercial kitchen in St. John's Episcopal Church.

Common Ground Farm

\$25,000

The grant will help to expand cultivation on an additional acre of land and prepare 4-6 more acres for future cultivation and increase productivity and thus increase capacity to grow, donate and broaden access to fresh food to those in need. This will enable more Food Pantry partners, extend Mobile Market service & expand the provision of vegetables to children through Farm to School and Summer Feeding programs. With improved infrastructure and staff capacity, production will be greatly expanded. The aim is to donate over 5,000lbs of vegetables.

Dutchess Outreach

\$25,000

The grant will be used to continue operation of the Poughkeepsie Plenty Fresh Market, a mobile farmers market on wheels making stops throughout the city of Poughkeepsie. This program serves those experiencing food insecurity due to transportation barriers and low income by opening access to fresh, local, affordable food, bringing the food to them and accepting public assistance funds as well as providing education on proper diet and nutrition from health partners. Survey results from last season revealed that 100% of those surveyed said the location of the Market increased their access to healthier foods, 71% replied that their purchasing of fresh fruits and vegetables had increased since the opening of the market and 81% said that overall their households consumption of healthy foods had increased.



Family of Woodstock

\$25,000

The grant will increase the nutritious food stuffs available to local food pantries throughout Ulster County to 65,000lbs; expand the availability of nutritious meals for children during the summer to serve virtually all at-risk youth in the City of Kingston and study the feasibility of adding additional summer meals sites; establish three additional food hubs in Shandaken, Ellenville and Clintondale to increase the capacity for storage and distribution, both centrally and for individual pantries; develop new relationships which will make additional food available; and improve communication and coordination between countywide and local providers.

Hillside Food Outreach

\$20,000

Funding will support HFO's "Healthy Plate/Healthy Family" initiative which will significantly increase the amount of locally sourced fruits, vegetables, eggs, and dairy in monthly grocery bags delivered to 120 client households in Putnam County by 50 volunteers. As a result, food deliveries to low income, food-insecure individuals and families will better mirror current nutritional recommendations. During visits, volunteers not only deliver food, but they also chat, catch up on news, inquire about the recipient's health, and provide educational materials and information about local social services - all the while helping each client feel a connection to the greater community.

Hudson Valley Seed

\$12,000

Hudson Valley Seed, Kids R Kids, and the Beacon City School District will partner to provide fresh vegetables, cooking lessons and recipes to children and families participating in the Growing Healthy Kids Initiative Summer Meals Program. This initiative will educate children and their families about health and nutrition and on where they can access free and low-cost fresh foods throughout the year. HVS will also run a cooking workshop for adults and children to learn how to prepare fast, healthy and kid-friendly recipes using local produce. This eight-week workshop will support families in purchasing local food and preparing it with their children.



Hyde Park Community Garden at St. James Episcopal Church

\$2,000

A permanent fence will be purchased to enclose the entire perimeter of the garden. Deer and woodchucks have consumed about 15% of the crops since the garden was started five seasons ago. By installing this permanent fence, seedlings and young plants will be allowed to fully grow and be harvested for two organizations. The garden has multiple sections which include: a " Young Peoples Garden" where children from preschool to high school come in and learn how to grow, water, weed, nurture and harvest their crops; a " Young at Heart" section where anyone 55 years and older can come and grow crops; and an area where work study students from the Culinary Institute of America come in and grow food. Additionally, there are individual plots that are leased at a reasonable rate for local residents to use for their own consumption.

Kingston YMCA Farm Project

\$4,000

Funding will be used to expand the size of the production garden to half an acre so that more food can be grown and ultimately more people in Midtown Kingston will benefit through the farm stands that are located in community spaces and through the youth education programming. Through the educational programs, young people learn about healthy food, gain an understanding of where food comes from, and have a positive experience eating fruits and vegetables. By increasing the growing space, more revenue will be generated, laying the foundation for greater project sustainability.

North East Community Center

\$25,000

NECC will continue to expand the Fresh Food Pantry to more than 140 food-insecure households, which will increase consumption of locally grown produce and farm products by food-insecure residents of Amenia, Dover, Millerton, and Pine Plains. Thousands of pounds of fresh, seasonal vegetables will be purchased from local farms and distributed to food pantries each month from July through February. Seasonal fruit, milk, and eggs will be provided on a regular basis as well. Staff will continue to give cooking demonstrations that feature seasonal produce at food pantries in Amenia and Pine Plains on pick-up days.



People's Place

\$20,000

Funding will be used to continue to support the Bag Summer Hunger program which provides a week's worth of additional food to low-income school age children weekly who receive free or reduced breakfast & lunch during the school year. Families on tight budgets have difficulty absorbing the additional meal costs while school is out of session, leading to children experiencing hunger, malnutrition and anxiety. The food options supplied will feature fresh, summer seasonal local produce, dairy products from the Hudson Valley, and an assortment of whole grain breads baked regionally for breakfast and/or lunch. This will contribute to healthy growth & development so that students are better able to learn when they return to school in September.

Poughkeepsie Farm Project

\$15,000

Funding will support the Food Share Program, through which 20% of the nearly 90 tons of produce harvested by PFP is made available to low-income community members through food donations distributed by 10 partners in the emergency food system and 35 subsidized CSA shares. In 2015, PFP harvested 183,336 pounds of produce, and 34,555 pounds were distributed through PFP's Food Share program. Recipients of subsidized food shares receive an average of 385 pounds per share.

RDC Loaves and Fishes Inc.

\$15,000

The funding will provide farm fresh products to individuals served by RDC. Bulk fresh produce and meats will be bought from local farms and markets. Recipients are unable to purchase farm fresh foods on their own due to the high cost. The need for food has steadily increased due to a decrease in employment in the community as well as to the changes and decreases in the food stamp program. Additionally, neighboring food pantries have closed due to lack of food and funds.



Rondout Valley Food Pantry

\$2,000

Funding will be used to provide fresh fruit, vegetables and dairy to food insecure children in the summer when access to free breakfast lunch programs in the schools is not available. The weekend food backpack program provides two days of food for children in food insecure homes. Backpacks will contain fresh produce each week (and milk cards twice a month). Children in these targeted programs have limited exposure to fresh fruits, vegetables and dairy items such as yogurt. Families cannot afford the "luxury" of fresh produce and dairy due to cost. These programs will provide consistent access to fresh produce and dairy items.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church Amenia Union NY

\$10,000

With the funding a Giving Garden Coordinator will be hired who will be charged with volunteer education in garden planning and management, and recruiting and education in the community. Additionally, funding will provide on-going maintenance of footpaths, shed, garden and fence and surrounding area and purchase seeds, seedlings, and fertilizer. The Giving Garden is a project of the Food of Life/Comida de Vida Pantry, a collaborative venture supported by churches, local groups and individuals, and sited at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, which is also the pantry administrator. Pantry guests receive food for nine meals a week; fresh, nutritious food, including meat, dairy and produce is offered. While many of the hungry who come to the pantry are eager to add fresh vegetables to their diet, most find it difficult to find and pay for high-quality, nutrient-rich produce.



2015 Grant Recipients:

Angel Food East

\$5,000

The funds will allow us continue to purchase more fresh vegetables, fruits and meats from our local purveyors. Fresh, nutritious food is very important since many of our clients have compromised immune systems and sensitive digestive tracks. This grant allows us to purchase produce and meats from the Woodstock, Kingston and Rhinebeck Farmers' Markets as well as the new Farm Hub and local groceries.

Common Ground Farm

\$25,000

Funds will support Year 2 of a 3-year plan to expand cultivation and productivity and thus increase capacity to grow, donate and broaden access to fresh food to those in need. With improved infrastructure, staffing and upgrades to apprentice housing, production should double. This will enable the Farm to add more Food Pantry partners, extend Mobile Market service & expand the provision of our vegetables to children through the Farm to School and Summer Feeding programs.

Dutchess Outreach

\$25,000

The funding will support the operation of a mobile farmers market to provide fresh, locally grown farm produce and products in City of Poughkeepsie neighborhoods deemed food deserts. Local residents will have improved access to fresh nutritious food at affordable prices. The market will accept electronic benefits payment, WIC coupons and other forms of publicly supported incentives for low-income people providing purchasing power and opportunity for improved nutrition.



Family of Woodstock

\$25,000

Funding will support a collaborative network of providers and builds on the goals of our 2014 funded project: to increase the nutritious food available to local food pantries throughout Ulster County; to expand the availability of nutritious summer meals for children; to increase the capacity for storage and distribution; to develop new relationships which will make additional food available; to improve communication and coordination between providers to maximize available resources.

Hillside Food Outreach

\$20,000

Grant funds will support the "Healthy Plate/Healthy Family" initiative which will significantly increase the amount of locally sourced fruits, vegetables, eggs, and dairy in monthly grocery bags delivered to our 100+ client households throughout Putnam County. As a result, food deliveries to these low income, food-insecure individuals and families will better mirror current nutritional recommendations.

Hudson Valley Seed

\$16,875

Hudson Valley Seed, Kids R Kids, and the Beacon City School District will partner to provide fresh vegetables and increase student attendance in Beacon's Summer Feeding Program. Additionally, this initiative will educate children and their families about health and nutrition and on where they can access free and low-cost fresh foods throughout the year. Lastly, this program will engage the Beacon community in supporting access to fresh foods for all Beacon residents.



North East Community Center

\$36,000 *additional funds provided by an anonymous donor

North East Community Center will continue to expand the Fresh Food Pantry distribution program, which increases consumption of locally grown produce and farm products by food-insecure residents of northeastern Dutchess County. NECC will purchase thousands of pounds of fresh, seasonal vegetables from local farms and distribute them to food pantries. Milk, eggs, and possibly bread will be provided on a regular basis this year as well.

People's Place

\$11,875

Bag Summer Hunger is a program to provide additional food to low-income school age children who receive free or reduced breakfast and lunch during the school year. Parents have a terrible time absorbing the additional food costs incurred when the academic year ends, giving way to hunger and malnutrition. This will contribute to healthy growth and development so that these students are better able to learn when they return to school in September.

Poughkeepsie Farm Project

\$15,000 *additional funds provided by an anonymous donor

Grant funds will support the Food Share Program, through which 25% of the nearly 60 tons of produce harvested by PFP is made available to low-income community members through food donations distributed by our partners in the emergency food system and subsidized CSA shares. Recipients receive the equivalent of 55 units of 35 pounds of fresh produce for 25 weeks, for a total of 46,400 pounds annually.

RDC Loaves and Fishes

\$10,000 *additional funds provided by an anonymous donor

The funding will purchase the fresh products as well as the necessary equipment needed to keep the food fresh. Nutritional information and cooking suggestions will be provided.



Rondout Valley Food Pantry

\$1,250

Grant funds will support the purchase of fresh produce as well as dairy items for children in the summer breakfast/lunch program for the children of RVFP clients. This will allow the purchase of fresh produce for the weekend food back program when none is available from the Food Bank.

St. Thomas Episcopal Church

\$10,000 *additional funds provided by an anonymous donor

Funding will support the salary of a Giving Garden Coordinator; for on-going garden maintenance. Building on the success of the Garden's first year, we plan to extend the growing season, resulting in more produce delivered to food pantry recipients, and expand the responsibilities of the Coordinator to include a community outreach function in addition to the more extended garden schedule.

Ulster County Community Action Committee

\$15,000

This grant will allow us to decrease the amount of fresh produce left on Ulster farms after harvest and increase the amount of fresh produce on the tables of Ulster County residents.



2014 Grant Recipients:

Angel Food East

\$5,000

Grant funds provided to bring fresh, local food into the kitchen for use in meal preparation for HIV/AIDS clients throughout Ulster County to increase the nutritional quality of the meals provided.

Common Ground Farm

\$21,000

The grant will support a farm capacity building project which will expand cultivation and productivity; increasing capacity to grow, donate and broaden access to farm fresh food to those in need. The aim of doubling production will enable partnership with additional Food Pantry partners, extend Mobile Market service and expand the provision of vegetables to children through their Farm to School and Summer Feeding programs.

Dutchess Outreach

\$21,000

Grant funding will establish and operate the Poughkeepsie Mobile Farmers Market to bring affordable, local farm fresh produce to residents of the City of Poughkeepsie. The program will serve those experiencing food insecurity and transportation barriers in three locations in Poughkeepsie for 22 weeks per year.

Family of Woodstock

\$35,000

Grant funds provided will address a range of food insecurity issues in Ulster County. Working collaboratively with a network of providers the project will increase the nutritious, farm fresh food available to local food pantries throughout Ulster County, provide nutritious meals for children during the summer, increase the capacity for food storage and efficiency of distribution, develop new relationships which will make additional food available, and more broadly, improve communication and coordination between the major providers to maximize existing resources.



Hillside Food Outreach

\$12,000

Grant funding will maximize impact and significantly increase the amount of locally sourced fruits, vegetables, eggs, and dairy distributed monthly in the grocery bags delivered to over 100 food-insecure households throughout Putnam County.

North East Community Center

\$21,000

Grant funding will expand the Share the Bounty (STB) produce-donation program, to increase consumption of locally grown food by food-insecure residents in the North East Dutchess County area. Since 2011, STB has collected or purchased thousands of pounds of fresh vegetables and given them to hundreds of food-insecure families. The produce will be purchased at discount from local farms for delivery to three food pantries, one soup kitchen, and NECC's Summer Food Service and After-School programs in the Webutuck District.

People's Place

\$25,000

Grant funds will support the food pantry for better health program. The goal of the program is to offer a wider range of farm fresh vegetables and fruits to the community served who do not have access or the means to purchase quality, local, fresh produce. Funding supports the purchase of refrigeration to store the produce between donations and distributions. This added capacity enables People's Place to serve as the distribution site for the Food Bank's Farm Stand program and to preserve and distribute any unused produce from the weekly farm stands to those served during normal food pantry operations.



St. Thomas Episcopal Church

\$10,000

Grant funding will support the Food of Life/Comida de Vida Pantry Garden Project. Funding supports the construction of an on-site vegetable garden as a major addition to the ongoing work of the food pantry. The garden will provide fresh, high quality organic produce at relatively low cost. In addition, many food pantry recipients as well as volunteers will take part in the garden's care and management, providing education in "growing local" and fostering a sense of community between those who give and those who receive.