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BIOENERGY, CLIMATE,  
AND ENVIRONMENT



FOOD PRODUCTION  
AND SUSTAINABILITY



YOUTH, FAMILY,  
AND COMMUNITY



FOOD SAFETY  
AND NUTRITION



INTERNATIONAL  
PROGRAMS



# USDA NIFA

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE



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# Community Food Projects Competitive Grant Program

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# Due Date for Proposals

- Due March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 5 p.m. EST, see page 19 of the RFA.
- Read page 10 carefully, for New Users of Grants.gov, DUNS and SAM number registration takes several weeks to complete the registration. It is critical to begin as soon as possible. Do NOT wait until the last minute.



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# CFP-Purpose & Priorities: Primary Goals

- Meet the food needs of low-income individuals,
- Increase the self-reliance of communities, and
- Promote comprehensive responses to local food, farm, and nutrition issues.



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# CFP-Purpose & Priorities: Primary Goals, cont.

- Meet specific state, local, or neighborhood food and agricultural needs:
  - \* *Equipment necessary for efficient operation,*
  - Planning for long-term solutions, and
  - Creation of innovative marketing activities.



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# Community Food Projects- Purpose/Priority

- Develop connections between two or more sectors of the food system;
- Support the development of entrepreneurial projects;
- Develop innovative connections between the for-profit and nonprofit food sectors; or
- Encourage long-term planning activities.

# Community Food Projects

## Purpose/Priority

- \* Develop new resources & strategies to help reduce food insecurity in the community & prevent food insecurity in the future:
  - Develop creative food resources,
  - Coordinate food services with park and recreation programs, and (such as summer feeding programs)
  - Include nutrition education programs for at-risk populations, enhance food purchasing & food-prep skills \* (EFNEP & SNAP-ED opportunities)



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# Examples of CFP Projects Include, but not Limited to:

- Community gardens with market stands,
- Value chain projects,
- Food hubs,
- Farmers' markets,
- Farm-to-institutions projects, and
- Marketing & consumer cooperatives.



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# Planning Projects: Purpose

- Connections between two or more sectors of the food system;
- The development of entrepreneurial projects; and
- Innovative connections between the for-profit and nonprofit food sectors.



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# Planning Projects: Examples Include, but not Limited to:

- Community Food Assessments & coordination of collaborative development,
- GIS development,
- GIS analysis,
- Food sovereignty study, &
- Farm-to-institution.



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# Project Types

- Community Food Projects- Not to exceed \$400,000 over four years...matching funds required.
- Planning Projects- Not to exceed \$35,000 and not to exceed three years...matching funds required.



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# Eligible Applicants

- **Public** food program service providers, tribal organizations, or private nonprofit entities, including gleaners meeting the following three requirements with **experience** in the area of
  - Community food work, particularly small and medium-size farms,
  - Job training and business development for *food related activities* in low income communities, and
  - Efforts to reduce food insecurity in the community, including food distribution, improving access to services, or coordinating services.



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# Eligible Applicants- *New continued*

- Demonstrate a willingness to share information with researchers, evaluators, practitioners, and other interested parties.
- Collaborate with 1 or more local partner organizations to achieve at least *1 hunger-free communities goal*.
- See <http://ric.nal.usda.gov/10583> regarding goals



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# Partners and Collaborators

- CFP or PP awards are encouraged to seek and create partnerships with public or private, non-profit or for-profit entities:
  - including links with academic institutions,
  - local government entities, and
  - Promise Zone lead applicant/organization or implementation partner, and
  - StrikeForce Coordinators and/or partnering entities.
    - *See page 8 of the RFA for more details.*

# Partners and Collaborators- Detail links

- See Promise Zones:  
[www.hud.gov/promisezones](http://www.hud.gov/promisezones)
- See USDA Strike Force for Rural Growth:  
[http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usda\\_home?navid-STRIKE\\_FORCE](http://www.usda.gov/wps/portal/usda/usda_home?navid-STRIKE_FORCE)
  - *Only the applicant must meet the eligibility requirements*



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# Promise Zone Initiative

- Promise Zones: Communities compete in a transparent process, and are required to demonstrate strength and effectiveness of their local commitment, to become a Promise Zone.
- Promise Zones: Identify a set of outcomes they will pursue to *revitalize their communities*, develop a strategy supporting those outcomes & realign resources accordingly. For communities selected, the federal government will partner to help the Promise Zones access the resources & expertise they need.
- See Promise Zone- HUD for detailed information.



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# StrikeForce Initiative

- StrikeForce: Leverages USDA and partner's resources to *systemically mitigate persistent poverty* in areas by creating self-sustaining, long-term economic development in areas of pervasive poverty, unemployment, & general distress.
- StrikeForce aims to improve food security by *increasing access to safe & nutritious foods*.



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# Cost Sharing or Matching

- CFP and PP applicants **MUST** provide matching on a dollar-for-dollar basis for all federal funds awarded.
- Matching funds may be provided through cash and/or in-kind contributions fairly evaluated, including facilities.



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# Evaluation

- CFP proposals contain a **strong** evaluation component. Innovative evaluation strategies are especially encouraged.
- Evaluations focus on “logic models” and the measurement of *Indicators of Success* in meeting the legislative goals and objectives of the CFPCGP.



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# Impacts: Community Food Projects

- More than 1.5 million pounds of local, healthy food was distributed to more than 180,000 people in FY2011.
- During FY2011 over 50,000 children and youth in schools or summer programs ate fresh fruits and vegetables because of farm-to-cafeteria programs.



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# Impacts: Community Food Projects, cont.

- SNAP and WIC recipients purchased local produce at farmers markets, and elder food recipients received seasonal fruit and vegetable shipments from local CSAs.
- *9 in 10 CFP participants reported they were healthier, provided healthier foods for their families, and had increased their fruit and vegetable consumption.*



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# Community Food Project Impacts

- 181,000 Americans were provided food and about 54,000 were K-12 students attending summer programs,
- 1,900 were Farmers' Market Nutrition program participants,
- 9,600 were SNAP recipients,
- 3,200 were elderly meal recipients, and
- 5,500 were WIC recipients.
- (FY 2011 data, Community Food Security Coalition Final Report)



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# New Entry Sustainable Farming Project Webinar

- 1<sup>st</sup> webinar: **Overview of grants.gov**, Feb. 23<sup>rd</sup>, at 2 p.m. EST.
- 2<sup>nd</sup> webinar: **Evaluation for CFP** applications, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup>, at 2 p.m. EST.

[www.NESFP.org/food-systems/community-food-projects](http://www.NESFP.org/food-systems/community-food-projects)

Registration required for the webinars.



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## Questions?

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- *For training & technical assistance, please contact: Sarah Lambertson, CFP Coordinator*
- [New Entry Sustainable Farming Project](#)
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