Appalachian Foodshed Project

Community Food Security Enhancement Grants

Request for Application: Questions & Answers

Susan Clark and Kim Niewolny, Virginia Tech
March 11, 2014

RFA and Application Form: http://www.appalachianfoodshedproject.org/enhancementgrants.html

A collaboration between NC State University, Virginia Tech, West Virginia University, and Community Stakeholders. Funded by a 2011 USDA NIFA-AFRI Grant (Award No. 2011-68004-30079)
Important Dates

Application Deadline: April 7, 2014 (EST)
Award Decisions: Week of April 21, 2014
Funds Available: May 1st – May 15th
Project Completion: October 1, 2015
Project Final Report/Invoices Due: Nov. 1, 2015
GOALS–PRIORITIES–EMPHASIS AREA

SUPPORT LOCAL & REGIONAL EFFORTS TO ENHANCE COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY
The Appalachian Foodshed Project (AFP) is offering community stakeholders in West Virginia, western North Carolina, and southwest Virginia the opportunity to request funds for the purpose of supporting local and/or regional efforts to enhance community food security.
Priorities and Expectations

- Priority given to applications that aim to *enhance the collaborative efforts* in a community and build on work that is already happening in the region.

- Encourage applicants to seek matching funds to support their proposals; however, proposals will first be reviewed on merit and alignment with RFA objectives and specific state goals.

- Recipients will be expected to share outcomes with the larger AFP community.
AFP—Community Food Security includes:

- Ensuring healthy food is accessible/available to all community members
- Empowering local communities to determine where and how to focus work for food system change
- Cultivating ecologically/financially sustainable agriculture
- Balancing food security & farm security
- Engaging youth & young people
- Fostering a healthier community
- Working for justice & equity
• North Carolina

Increase availability & accessibility of safe, local, nutritious & culturally appropriate foods for all people in Western NC by:

• Increasing the bridging & bonding of food system networks to connect available resources for all.
  – Elements to consider include: Education and policy initiatives, health and nutrition, youth and vulnerable population involvement.

• Connecting farmers & growers to food insecure populations in economically viable manners.
  – Strategies: Farmers selling seconds; gleaning; getting people to the markets & markets to the people; community gardens.

• Target area: A rural and urban project & projects in Buncombe, Cherokee, Graham, Mitchell, Macon, Madison, Swain & Yancey counties.
• Southwest Virginia is interested in projects that increase local food access-availability and expand a market for local farmers.

• Some elements to consider include: education and policy initiatives, health and nutrition programs, youth involvement, and service providers and end users.
• West Virginia

Seeks projects that improve community food security by promoting consumption, production or marketing of fresh locally grown foods, especially as meets the needs of low-income or other populations vulnerable to food insecurity.
Successful applications will include more than one and illustrate the integration of these measures in the proposed project.

Who can apply?

- Community organizations, individuals, and/or groups working around issues of health, nutrition, community development, agriculture, food access, environmental sustainability, etc.
- Appalachian areas of WV, VA and NC.
- Expressed interest in the Appalachian Foodshed Project’s priority to enhance *community food systems and community food security*.
- Priority given to applicants that previously participated in AFP activity since 2011
**Funds Available**
- $18,000.00 per state
- 5/1/2014 – 10/1/2015

**Funds will support**
- Expenses directly related to the project such as travel funds (domestic travel only)
- Labor costs
- Project related materials

**Funds will NOT support**
- Refer to RFA page 4 (Per USDA NIFA Funding Restrictions)
How will the proposals be evaluated?

1. Target Locality
2. Relevancy
3. Technical Merit
4. Achievability
5. Qualifications of applicant(s)
6. Adequacy of Plans for Collaboration/Management
How to Apply & Submit?

• Complete the application form & submit no later than **5:00 PM on April 7, 2014**

• Submission specifics:
  – Email Address: afp@vt.edu
  – Application form & any supporting documents should be compiled and saved as ONE PDF FILE.
  – Name PDF file: “organization name”_AFP-CFSEG_APRIL2014.pdf

Refer to Page 4 of RFA for more details
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Address questions about this RFA

**General RFA & Virginia Questions**
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**North Carolina Questions**
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Co-Project Director and NC State Lead  
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**West Virginia Questions**
Cheryl Brown  
Co-Project Director and WV State Lead  
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RFA Content & Parameters

Jana Bartleson, Toe River Health District, Yancey County Health Department (NC)
Cheryl Brown, Co-Project Director, West Virginia University (WV)
Susan Clark, Project Director, Virginia Tech (VA)
Kelly Crane, WV Farmers Market Association and SAGE-Sustainable Agriculture Entrepreneurs (WV)
Jessica Crum, Graduate Student, West Virginia University (WV)
Angel Cruz, Graduate Student, North Carolina State University (NC)
Nikki D’Adamo-Damery, Appalachian Foodshed Deputy Director, Virginia Tech (VA)
Phil D’Adamo-Damery, Graduate Student, Virginia Tech (VA)
Darcel Eddins, Bountiful Cities (NC)
Steve Hodges, Co-Project Director, Virginia Tech (VA)
Bob Jacobus, Region VII Planning and Development Council (WV)
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Pete Ziegler, AFP Associate, Virginia Tech (VA)
Questions?

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