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Rutgers Against Hunger and Whole Foods Market are teaming up to

Weed Out Hunger

Overview

In many New Jersey families, the struggle of hunger is all too familiar. A large portion of our population, many of them children, report not knowing where their next meal will come from on a regular basis. This terrifying thought is what prompted the establishment of Rutgers Against Hunger (RAH), a food security initiative developed by Rutgers Cooperative Extension in 2008. The mission of RAH is to address food insecurity in New Jersey by directly supporting local emergency food providers, promoting hunger outreach and education, and conducting hunger-related research in our state. Our research shows that food pantries primarily offer nonperishable food items because they are easier to donate, require no refrigeration, and have a long shelf life. Unfortunately, this leaves many food pantry clients unable to access fresh, nutritious fruits and vegetables, even during the peak season in the Garden State. This year, with generous support from Whole Foods Market, RAH is launching the Weed Out Hunger Grant Program for Community Gardens. The goal of this grant is to engage the community in getting locally grown, fresh produce into the hands and onto the tables of our food insecure population.

Grant Details

- Who can apply
 - Community and school gardens in Burlington, Camden, and Mercer Counties
 - Each garden may only submit one proposal
 - At least three gardens (one per county) will be selected as recipients
- Award amount
 - Weed Out Hunger will award \$1,000 (min) to \$4,500 (max) per proposal
- Allowable use of funds
 - The funds must be used for the purpose of growing fresh vegetables or fruits to be donated to a local food pantry, soup kitchen, food bank, or similar organization of your garden's choice.
 - Examples of expenses might include
 - Seeds and seedlings
 - Garden tools and supplies
 - Soil amendments, mulch, fertilizer, etc.



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- How to Apply
 - Applications should include
 - Basic Information about the garden
 - Name, Address, Phone, Email, Website, Facebook
 - A short description about the existing project (500 words max)
 - Proposal Narrative (1000 words max):
 - Amount of funding requested
 - Intended uses of the funds (ex: *We plan to purchase shovels, trowels, and 200 feet of garden hose so that our volunteers can more easily cultivate fresh vegetables.*)
 - Expected outcomes, including what you will donate and to whom (ex: *We plan to grow and donate 250lbs of fresh tomatoes, peppers, and eggplants for donation to the Elijah's Promise soup kitchen in July, August, and September of 2017.*)
 - If awarded:
 - Signed agreement to use funds for the intended purpose
 - Brief report on the outcomes of the grant by December 1st, 2017
 - Applications are due by 5pm on Friday, March 31st, 2017.
 - Via email: rah@rutgers.edu
 - Via mail: Rutgers Against Hunger, 88 Lipman Drive, New Brunswick, NJ 08901
 - Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee. Award recipients will be chosen and notified of the award by April 7th, 2017.

- More information about RAH can be found at: rah.rutgers.edu

- Have questions? Contact us at: 848-932-3706 or send an email to rah@rutgers.edu

- ***Apply today and help us weed out hunger!***