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March 2013

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Current Funding Opportunities

Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation Announces Expanded Geographic Focus for Capital Grants The [Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation](#) assists financially disadvantaged and vulnerable individuals and families through (operating, program, and capital) to direct service organizations. Program areas include older adults; workforce development; basic human needs and health; disabilities; education; children, youth, and families; and general community support. The capital grants program funds up to 30% of a project and has an **ongoing application deadline**. For more details go to: [Click here](#)

American Honda Foundation Invites Applications for STEM Programs from nonprofit organizations for programs that support science, technology, engineering, and mathematics education. Environmental projects, job training, and literacy programs also will be considered. For more information go to: [Click Here](#)
Quarterly Deadline: May 1, August 1, November 1, February 1
Funding Amount: Up to \$75,000

3M Foundation Invests in Health and Human Services to Positively Impact 3M Communities
Focus areas include youth development, school readiness, afterschool programs with a learning component or prevention focus, and humanitarian and disaster relief. For more information: [Click Here](#)

USDA Food and Nutrition Service FY14 Farm to School Grant to improve access to local foods in eligible schools: [Click Here](#)
Deadline: April 24, 2013
Funding Amount:

- Planning Grants of \$20,000-45,000 for a one year period
- Implementation Grants of \$65,000-100,000 for a two year period
- Support Services Grants of \$65,000-100,000 for a one or two year period

Matching: 25% of project budget

Signature Theme: Food Security and Nutrition
Best Practices, Innovations, Funding Opportunities

The World Food Summit of 1996 defined food security as existing "when

all people at all times have access to sufficient, safe, nutritious food to maintain a healthy and active life."

In 2011 the USDA reported that nearly 15% of households in the United States were food insecure (9% low food security, 6% very low food security). Food insecurity was more common in households with children, particularly single parent and female headed households. Food insecurity was also greatest among Black and Hispanic households, and among low income households with income below 185% of the Federal poverty level[1]. The average household that experienced food insecurity at some time during the year was food insecure in 7 months during the year, highlighting the challenge of chronic food insecurity.

Lack of proper nutrition, and therefore food insecurity, affects physical, behavioral and mental health, child development, school readiness, and achievement. Additionally lack of access to healthy, nutritious food choices can lead to obesity and subsequent chronic health issues.

The USDA defines four household food security levels:

High food security: No food access problems or limitations.

Marginal food security: Anxiety over food sufficiency or shortage of food in the house, but little or no changes in diets or food intake.

Low food security: Reduced quality, variety, or desirability of diet, without reduced food intake.

Very low food security: Disrupted eating patterns and reduced intake.

These levels are determined by surveying[2] households to find out how often the following statements were true for them over the past year:

- "We worried whether our food would run out before we got money to buy more."
- "The food that we bought just didn't last and we didn't have money to get more."
- "We couldn't afford to eat balanced meals."
- Did you or other adults in the household ever cut the size of your meals or skip meals because there wasn't enough money for food? How often did this happen?
- Did you ever eat less than you should because there wasn't enough money for food?
- Were you ever hungry, but didn't eat, because there wasn't enough money for food?
- Did you lose weight because there wasn't enough money for food?
- Did you or other adults in your household ever not eat for a whole day because there wasn't enough money for food? How often did this happen?

USDA's Economic Research Service website houses additional data for identifying food insecure areas such as Food Environment Atlas, Food Desert Locator, and SNAP Data System: [Click Here](#)

Community Food Security strategies aim to improve access of low-income households to nutritious foods and increase

community ability to provide for their own food needs.

The continuum of food security strategies includes:

1. Emergency, Charitable Food Distribution - food banks, food pantries, soup kitchens, shelters
2. Improving Access to and Quality of Publicly Funded Programs - SNAP, free and reduced lunch
3. Urban Agriculture - community and backyard gardens, sustainable agriculture
4. Access to Nutritious, Affordable Food in the Commercial Sector - healthy corner store campaigns, farmers markets, community supported agriculture, economic opportunity
5. Advocacy and Local Food Policy Councils - community food assessment, diet-related health programs, community development, social cohesion, nutrition education

[1] United States Department of Agriculture, Economic Research Service analysis of December 2011 Current Population Survey Food Security Supplement at: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-us/key-statistics-graphics.aspx>

[2] Household food security survey at: <http://www.ers.usda.gov/topics/food-nutrition-assistance/food-security-in-the-us/survey-tools.aspx>

Recommendations for Best Practice in Food Security

- Focus on food needs of low-income people
- Aim to increase the self-reliance of communities in providing for their own food needs
- Promote comprehensive responses to local food, farm, and nutrition issues
- Support the development of entrepreneurial activities
- Create innovative connections between the for-profit and nonprofit food sectors
- Encouraging long-term planning activities and multi-system, interagency approaches
- Bundle emergency food distribution with public education on food security, SNAP participant enrollment, and promotion of nutrition and wellness.
- Integrate food security efforts, including emergency food distribution, into broader mission and strategy for sustainable support of youth, families, and communities.
- Acquire fruits and vegetables for prepared meals from local growers and urban agriculture ventures to supplement nutrition programs.
- Capitalize on the benefits of community and backyard gardening such as food cost reduction, access to better quality and more variety, recreation and exercise opportunities, education and

employment opportunities, spaces for social gatherings, reuse of vacant land and abandoned buildings, reuse of food and water waste, preservation of green spaces and neighborhood beautification, youth leadership and entrepreneurship program, and reduction of dependency on global food system.

- Create local demand for healthy food alternatives by educating food insecure individuals on the benefits of eating fresh and healthy foods.
- Integrate local food production with community-based enterprise and training programs.

Example of an innovative, integrated community food security project:

Healthy Harvests Initiative in Boston aimed to demonstrate economic viability of a sustainable metropolitan food system by linking food production with youth and community-based enterprise. The project equipped an urban center with a commercial kitchen and involved youth in researching, designing, and testing a value-added food enterprise. The project also worked to increase community supported agriculture membership, acquire urban farmland, and train youth to prepare value-added products, run a catering business, provide weekly food deliveries, coordinate a community lunch series, and run a local farmers market. Programs incorporated culinary and nutrition training for enterprising youth as well as for local elementary and middle school students, and allowed local growers access to the kitchen for canning food grown in their gardens.

Tell us about your food security efforts!

We would love to learn more about the innovative food security work that is being done by compassionate ministries centers. This information helps us better target our searches for grant opportunities by matching the work you do with donor interests. Please complete our Food Security Strategies Survey at: [Click Here](#).

(Expected time: < 10 minutes)

Upcoming Newsletter Themes

April 2013	Immigration and Refugee Services
May 2013	Youth Development

If you would like to submit a story about innovative work you are doing or a description of successes you have had within these thematic areas for inclusion in an upcoming newsletter, please send it

to hginese@ncmi.org by March 22.

Food Security Funding Opportunities

Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program (CFPCGP) through USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture: [Click Here](#)

Recurring deadline: mid-November

Funding Amount: Up to \$125,000 for one year or \$300,000 for three years

Matching: 1:1 required, cash or in-kind

W.K. Kellogg Foundation supports equitable access to good food and opportunities for physical activity among children, families, and communities through capacity building and creation of food policy councils, raising awareness about healthy eating and active living, and strengthening the "value chain" of local food systems to promote equity and fair pay, ecological sustainability, community capacity, and health and food access. For more information go to: [Click Here](#)

Ben & Jerry's Foundation offers competitive grants to not-for-profit, grassroots community organizing groups throughout the United States that aim for progressive social change

Applicants must use of direct action, grassroots, community-organizing strategies that involve those most impacted by injustice to be addressed and support their leadership development and self-empowerment efforts. Priorities include sustainable food systems. The Foundation makes one-year grants of up to \$20,000 to organizations with budgets under \$500,000. Grants cannot be used to fund direct services to individuals or families. For more information: [Click Here](#)

Letter of Interest submission: January-March or July-September

The Walmart Foundation supports hunger relief, nutrition promotion, and sustainable agriculture through grants to non-profit organizations within company communities

The Foundation operates local (\$250-5,000), state (\$25,000-250,000), and national (>\$250,000) giving programs within the United States. [Click Here](#)

Donor Spotlight Grant Maker Profile W.K. Kellogg Foundation

In addition to its focus on food, nutrition, and physical activity, W.K. Kellogg Foundation supports other program areas that target young children ages 0-8 years and their families.

Whole Child Development	Integrated approaches that strengthen social, emotional, physical, cultural and civic development of young children.
Family Literacy	Equip parents, guardians, and extended families and caregivers with skills and tools to appropriately care for their children

	tools to appropriately care for their children.
Lifelong Learning	Encourage children to acquire knowledge, skills, and values, and apply them creatively and confidently. Empower families and communities to share knowledge with their children.
Health and Well-Being	Improve mental health and physical well-being by reducing stress through physical activity and violence prevention. Increase awareness of the dimensions of well-being. Improve access to quality health care and health promotion through innovative strategies.
Bundle Supports and Services to Reach People Where They Are	Support both increasing earning and asset development for children and families.
Gender Matters: Clarify and Promote the Gender Perspective	Improve the economic conditions of families and children who live at 200% of poverty and below, primarily targeting single mothers.
Account for Culture and Racial Disparities	Emphasize racial equity and cultural competence in leadership and community representation.
Amplify Community Voice and Leadership Pattern	Promote civic engagement and new partnerships.

For Kellogg Foundation grants information: [Click Here](#)

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