



CDFA OFFICE OF  
**FARM to FORK**



**CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE  
CA FARM TO SCHOOL INCUBATOR GRANT PROGRAM  
2023-24 PROJECT SUMMARIES**



**Total Projects Awarded: 195  
Total Funds Awarded: \$52,800,000.00**

<b>Track</b>	<b>Projects</b>	<b>Funds Awarded</b>
<a href="#"><u>Track 1: The CA Farm to School K-12 Procurement and Education Grant</u></a>	108	\$28,117,885.60
<a href="#"><u>Track 2: The CA Farm to School Partnership Grant</u></a>	10	\$3,183,187.83
<a href="#"><u>Track 3: The CA Farm to Early Care and Education (ECE) Grant</u></a>	17	\$3,230,406.66
<a href="#"><u>Track 4: The CA Farm to School Producer Grant</u></a>	60	\$18,268,519.91

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## **TRACK 1: THE CALIFORNIA FARM TO SCHOOL TK-12 PROCUREMENT AND EDUCATION GRANT**

*Track 1 will fund individual public school districts, county offices of education, charter schools, and Tribal schools in California that are a School Food Authority to establish new or expand existing farm to school programs that:*

- 1) procure California grown or produced, whole or minimally processed foods for incorporation into school meals, especially from food producers that utilize climate smart agriculture practices or production systems like certified organic or transitioning to certified organic, small to midsize food producers, veteran food producers, socially disadvantaged food producers, and/or limited-resource farm households in California; and*
- 2) engage students in hands-on food education opportunities – especially standards-aligned and culturally relevant opportunities led by credentialed public school educators – that complement the school meal program’s California food procurement efforts; and*
- 3) if desired, employ farm to school staff and/or offer farm to school professional development for staff.*

### *Alma Fuerte Public School*

*\$200,000.00*

#### **Greater Los Angeles Region / Los Angeles County**

Alma Fuerte Public School will collaborate with local partners to deliver high-quality, hands-on garden and culinary education to TK – 8th grade students and provide a versatile outdoor garden space designed for cultivation, learning, healing, and community at the Alma Fuerte Garden. These partnerships will enhance the consumption of locally sourced, minimally processed foods within school meals and after-school initiatives, as well as expose students to a diverse range of career opportunities within the culinary and food industries.

### *Alta Public Schools*

*\$200,000.00*

#### **Greater Los Angeles Region / Los Angeles County**

Alta Public Schools will transform student access and engagement with food in Los Angeles schools through a comprehensive approach that combines California food procurement with hands-on food education efforts. This project will source locally grown produce for school meals and provide learning experiences including school-based gardens, cooking demonstrations, and curriculum-based activities.

### *Alum Rock Union Elementary School District*

*\$200,000.00*

#### **Bay Area Region / Santa Clara County**

Alum Rock Union Elementary School District will revolutionize food procurement by incorporating hands-on food education efforts along with sourcing locally sourced fresh produce and high-quality foods. This project will expand school gardens across the district, transforming the spaces into invaluable resources for students to access fresh produce and nutrition education.

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*Anaheim Union High School District*

*\$620,880.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / Orange County**

Anaheim Union High School District (AUHSD) Food Services will provide California grown produce from local farms, the district's Magnolia Agriscience Community Center, and current distributors to the students of AUHSD and Anaheim Elementary School District (AESD), in partnership with the AESD Health and Wellness Coordinator and community partners at Orange County Health Care Agency. This project will provide nutrition education and implement school gardens at AESD school sites and through parent and AUHSD student workshops, enhancing the availability of California grown produce for students in the district.

*Atascadero Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**South Coast Region / San Luis Obispo County**

Atascadero Unified School District (AUSD) will vertically integrate vocational experiences and support agricultural K-12 education by creating school garden-based growing experiences for younger students and a school-based production farm for older students, preparing students for continuing education and careers in agriculture. This project will support students' academic achievement through standards-based, hands-on garden lessons for high-need students and build the capacity of credentialed teachers in school gardens with training and mentoring from nonprofit partner, One Cool Earth. AUSD will increase procurement of fresh, local foods for cafeteria meals, following an assessment, goal setting and implementation process and funding additional costs to purchase these foods.

*Benicia Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Bay Area Region / Solano County**

Benicia Unified School District will provide students with nutritious and delicious meals by incorporating more scratch cooking, minimizing processed foods and developing recipes utilizing ingredients from local farms. This project will include hands-on educational activities for students such as gardening, taste tests, field trips to farms, and cooking demonstrations.

*Blue Lake Union Elementary School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**North Coast Region / Humboldt County**

Blue Lake Union Elementary School District will procure whole food or minimally processed foods to students from neighboring local farmers, thereby improving students' overall wellbeing, boosting the local economy, and reducing the carbon footprint. This project will support the staff's ongoing professional development training about the importance of locally grown, minimally processed and harvested foods and will provide students with educational opportunities to travel to local farms learning about farming and the overall health benefits of locally grown produce and foods.

*Bridges Charter School*

*\$200,000.00*

**South Coast Region / Ventura County**

Bridges Charter School will build a framework where students will be able to follow their food from soil to plate, including multi-disciplinary curricula for TK - 8th grades, opportunities for students to grow edible garden beds, and help construct an outdoor tasting kitchen and create recipes within the space. This project will teach students how to prepare and scale-up minimally processed food in a commercial kitchen for school meals, as well as, how to procure food from school gardens, and from local California food producers for school meals.

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*Burnt Ranch Elementary School District* \$200,000.00  
**Superior Region / Trinity County**

Burnt Ranch Elementary School District will create a garden and orchard learning and wellness space for staff, students and the community to engage in hands-on sustainable agriculture while cultivating fruits and vegetables for the cafeteria meal program through weekly classroom lessons, afterschool clubs, and summer camps. This project will increase local and organic procurement of food for the cafeteria meal program, by partnering with regional farmers and will include Farm to Fork events and trips coordinated by project staff to showcase community resiliency and career paths.

*Butteville Union Elementary School District* \$200,000.00  
**Superior Region / Siskiyou County**

Butteville Union Elementary School District will advance school nutrition and expand food and agricultural education by establishing lasting relationships and ongoing partnership with local small family farms through collaborative crop planning and procurement of local foods. This project will provide hands-on food and agricultural education for students, both on campus and at local farms, through constructing a greenhouse on-site, organizing field trips to farms, and collaborating with farmers to deliver educational programming.

*Cabrillo Unified School District* \$200,000.00  
**Bay Area Region / San Mateo County**

Cabrillo Unified School District will bring local, farm-grown fruits and vegetables into the meal program at all eight school sites and support local farmers and students' parents who work there. This project will build upon the existing garden education program, as well as, offering weekly tastings of culturally relevant foods, encouraging students to eat the foods grown in school gardens.

*Central Elementary School District* \$200,000.00  
**Greater Los Angeles Region / San Bernardino County**

Central Elementary School District will expand student access to locally sourced fresh produce by working with local, socially disadvantaged farmers and incorporating produce into daily meal service. This project will provide agricultural and nutrition education through Standards Aligned farm field trips, mobile dairy assemblies, mini farmers markets, harvest of the month tastings and programming of Common Core aligned nutrition education.

*Chaffey Joint Union High School District* \$296,135.60  
**Greater Los Angeles Region / San Bernardino County**

Chaffey Joint Union High School District will establish a district-wide Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program from micro-farms on each of the campuses where teachers and students will practice regenerative agriculture methods to supply cafeterias and culinary programs with fresh food. This project will host monthly Farm to Table cooking classes, showcasing farm products in recipes that are culturally relevant to students and families, as well as student-run on-site farmstands to serve the local community at large and provide valuable career experience to students.

*Charter School Association of Willits* \$200,000.00  
**North Coast Region / Mendocino County**

Charter School Association of Willits will integrate California food procurement with hands-on

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food education by providing cooking activities for students to learn about food origins from local farmers, compost, and food waste. This project will cultivate healthier eating habits, support local agriculture, and foster environmental stewardship, enhancing community resilience and sustainability.

*Colton Joint Unified School District* *\$289,215.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / San Bernardino County**

Colton Joint Unified School District will provide hands-on food education in the classroom and student field trips to local farms, connecting students to the food items offered in school meals and increasing consumption rate of those food items, which reduces waste that ends up in the compost or landfills. This project will support the in-house nutrition team to showcase locally grown food items on the menu coupled by nutrition education provided by the local farmers themselves.

*Colusa County Office of Education* *\$200,000.00*

**Superior Region / Colusa County**

Colusa County Office of Education will expand its current Farm to School program with Williams, Colusa, Maxwell, and Pierce school districts and the original programs at Costal Buttes and S. William Abel Academies. This project will include a "Harvest of the Month" project highlighting produce from small, local farms in school meals and agriculture education, as well as the addition of outdoor education space and demonstration gardens at the Education Village Community Garden to create an engaging learning space and field trip destination for school districts within the county.

*Corona-Norco Unified School District* *\$747,660.00*

**Southern Region / Riverside County**

Corona-Norco Unified School District (CNUSD) will increase opportunities for students to engage in hands-on food education that complements the school meal program's California food procurement efforts. This project will provide food systems education and experiential learning opportunities including hosting field trips for students to visit the local farms that produce the food served in CNUSD's school meals and campus Mini Farmers Markets for students to taste and discover California grown fresh fruits and vegetables, interact with the farmers, and bring home new foods to share with family.

*Desert Sands Unified School District* *\$388,665.00*

**Southern Region / Riverside County**

Desert Sands Unified School District will connect students to the local agricultural community through hands-on food education activities, on and off campus including farm-based tours showcase lesser-known produce varieties to students such as Easter Egg and Watermelon Radishes, dates, figs, multi-colored carrots, and heirloom tomatoes. This project will host mini on-campus farmers' markets including farmer "Ted Talks" at all 34 school sites that serve elementary, middle school, and high school aged students to further build upon the food systems knowledge the markets will inspire.

*East Nicolaus Joint Union High School District* *\$200,000.00*

**Superior Region / Sutter County**

East Nicolaus Joint Union High School District will integrate California food procurement with hands-on food education at East Nicolaus High School and local elementary schools including

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establishing an 11-acre farm and greenhouse where students will engage in planting, growing, and harvesting, as well as culinary classes with culturally diverse recipes. This project will invest in farm infrastructure, culinary resources, and nutrition education materials to improve food literacy, healthier eating habits, and sustainable agriculture practices, all which benefit students, the community, and local farmers.

*El Dorado Union High School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Central Region / El Dorado County**

El Dorado Union High School District (EDUHSD) will be a student-led farm-to-school program that fosters a connection to local agriculture, healthy eating habits, and environmental responsibility, as well as prioritize California-grown fruits and vegetables in school meals. This project will provide students multi-sensory hands-on learning experiences, such as planning, planting, tending, and harvesting of a variety of crops in raised garden beds, using adapted gardening tools, as well as opportunities to lead workshops and demonstrations for peers to share knowledge and experiences in the garden which creates a sense of ownership, develops leadership skills, builds confidence, and contributes to the school community.

*El Monte City School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / Los Angeles County**

El Monte City School District will connect students to locally grown and sourced fresh fruits and vegetables. This project will provide study trips to local farms, expand the Harvest of the Month curriculum throughout classrooms and cafeterias, and feature locally produced fruits and vegetables on lunch line salad bar.

*Encore Education Group*

*\$200,000.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / San Bernardino County**

Encore Education Group will provide hands-on learning opportunities about sustainable agriculture practices and nutrition through cooking classes featuring culturally relevant foods and Harvest of the Month curriculum to empower students and the community with educational resources and sustainable solutions. This project will procure fresh local food for school meals and establish an edible school garden greenhouse to respond to the Hesperia community's urgent needs as a recognized food desert with limited fresh produce access, high obesity rates among adults and students, and significant poverty levels.

*Esparto Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Central Region / Yolo County**

Esparto Unified School District (EUSD) will procure locally sourced produce to incorporate into school meal recipes and will amplify farm-to-school educational efforts by expanding their Cafeteria Ambassador Program from K-5 to K-8 students as well as develop a nutrition education plan for students attending the Continuation School location. EUSD will further its partnership with Full Belly Farm by purchasing grain in addition to their produce, work together on building a garden space at Esparto Elementary School, and coordinate field trips and classes for their Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP). This project will hire a farmer or teacher to develop gardens at elementary campuses, teach farm-to-fork classes during the summer program and after-school ELOP, maintain greenhouses at the high school, and establish a community garden at the Madison Continuation school.

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*Eureka City Schools*

\$200,000.00

**North Coast Region / Humboldt County**

Eureka City Schools will allow students to explore the entire food system through the lens of Humboldt County, including guided field trips to partner farms, tasting pop-ups at school sites and featuring local produce in school meal program with the help of the district's culinary team. This project's educational programming will expose students to local food production from planning and planting to harvesting and distribution, as well as the opportunity to interact with farmers and educators while tasting and discussing seasonal fruits and vegetables grown in the region.

*FIELD/EPIC de Cesar Chavez High School*

\$200,000.00

**San Joaquin Region / Kern County**

FIELD/EPIC de Cesar Chavez High School will provide fresh fruits and vegetables to students, a majority of whom are farmworkers unable to afford the produce they grow due to the high cost of fresh fruits and vegetables, and will invest in vans and storage Cambros to help distribute produce to a variety of locations. This project will provide education and training to students from the Career Technical Education (CTE) agriculture teacher and corresponding curriculum on fresh food production and the benefits from eating healthy foods, as well as the opportunity to grow fresh fruits and vegetables at the new Agriculture (Ag) Lab Center.

*Fort Bragg Unified School District*

\$200,000.00

**North Coast Region / Mendocino County**

Fort Bragg Unified School District (FBUSD) will conduct infrastructure improvements to two long-established school gardens and school farm that grow food for school meals which includes educational and gardening supplies for the horticulture and garden classes, as well as produce processing equipment for school kitchens. This project will implement a new Farm-to-Table class for the district's at-risk student population, provide hands-on plant education to all students, and hire a school garden education expert to deliver professional development and consultation to two new agriculture teachers, the garden coordinator, and entire Farm-to-School team. FBUSD will purchase produce through a Food Hub and directly from small, local farms utilizing climate-smart agriculture practices for both school meals and nutrition education district-wide, thereby increasing the consumption of local foods across all seven school sites.

*Fort Sage Unified School District*

\$200,000.00

**Superior Region / Lassen County**

Fort Sage Unified School District (FSUD) will incorporate new hands-on food education with the district meal program and curriculum, including field trips to commodity production facilities in the area. This project will serve Herlong High School and Sierra Primary School's TK – 12th grade students through providing nutritious California-grown foods, along with 7-12th grade students helping cultivate fresh produce in the high school greenhouse and raising sheep, swine, goats, rabbits and poultry in the high school farm. FSUD will incorporate the science of producing California-grown foods into the 7-12th grade curriculum and will provide educational resources to students and teachers in TK-6th grades on California commodity production.

*Fresno Unified School District*

\$1,000,000.00

**San Joaquin Region / Fresno County**

Fresno Unified School District (FUSD) will work with local farmers and community partners to introduce students to hydroponic farming in schools, in partnership with FUSD Department of

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Nutrition Services and the College and Career Readiness, Career Technical Education and Alternative Education. This project's focus on hydroponics will allow students to explore Life Science, Earth and Space Science concepts such as nutrient cycles, plant structure and function, and the impact of human activities on ecosystems, aligning with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). FUSD will procure California grown or produced, whole or minimally processed foods for incorporation into school meals, from small to mid-size, socially disadvantaged food producers that utilize climate smart agriculture practices with the assistance of a farm to school coordinator.

*Gonzales Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**South Coast Region / Monterey County**

Gonzales Unified School District (GUSD) will build an educational and entrepreneurial chicken coop project and expand the student garden for approximately 370 Future Farmers of America (FFA) and Agriculture students to engage in hands-on experiential learning as part of the Supervised Agricultural Experience class requirement. This project will establish GUSD's first farm to school partnership between Gonzales High School Agricultural Department and the district's Nutrition Services by incorporating local eggs into school meals and making them available to the community at large, procuring locally grown produce and grass-fed beef and purchasing produce from the student-run school garden.

*Gravenstein Union School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Bay Area Region / Sonoma County**

Gravenstein Union School District (GUSD) will increase student access to locally sourced, minimally processed foods from marginalized owners of small local farms in the community, while supporting the local economy and reducing the effects of climate change. This project will make access to garden instruction equitable by hiring a program coordinator to educate all students across both schools and provide necessary funding to source food for families experiencing food insecurity during school closures. GUSD will build two greenhouses and modify an existing structure into a covered outdoor educational space and chicken coop for Science Technology Engineering Arts Mathematics (STEAM) learning and hands-on gardening experiences.

*Hamilton Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Superior Region / Glenn County**

Hamilton Unified School District will provide hands-on food education while incorporating local whole foods or minimally processed foods into school meals with the assistance of a dedicated staff member. This project will create an invigorating learning environment for students and staff in partnership with the agriculture education program and the World Food and Fiber Class, to be held onsite at the Hamilton High School Farm and food prep trailer with cafeteria staff and local food producers.

*Julian Union School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Southern Region / San Diego County**

Julian Union School District (JUSD) will connect rural students to locally produced food and healthy school meals, expand nutrition education to include all grade levels, and expose district students to the Farm to School network. This project will host an Annual Food Day Educational Event, a full day of hands-on food education that brings numerous organizations and food partners to district students, and provide year-round activities that highlight California foods,



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traditional and cultural foods and practices, sustainable agriculture, and the broader Farm to School movement. JUSD's school meal program will provide consistent exposure to locally harvested food which will expand student's palettes and understanding of healthy food choices and sense of community and place. This project will provide regular bi-weekly programming, students of all grade levels will participate in engaging and standards-aligned food system and nutrition classes to grow healthy students with positive relationships with food and farmers and inspire rural youth to become the next generation of California food producers.

*Jurupa Unified School District*

*\$266,355.00*

**Southern Region / Riverside County**

Jurupa Unified School District (JUSD) will support its current school garden project and expand into new school sites, providing all students with access to hands-on learning experiences in gardening and agriculture through outdoor classrooms. This project will help develop an apple orchard at Patriot High School, utilizing an unused grassy area to create a productive and educational space, modeling environmental sustainability and providing fresh fruit to the community, as well as host mini farmers' markets on campuses, cooking classes and demonstrations for after school programs, taste tests of culturally diverse dishes, and field trips to farm sites in the local area.

*Klamath Trinity Joint Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**North Coast Region / Humboldt County**

Klamath Trinity Joint Unified School District (KTJUSD) will integrate California food procurement into school meals and enhance student education opportunities to improve student health, increase food literacy and strengthen community connections to local agriculture. This project will provide nutritious meals through partnerships with local farms, educational initiatives including garden-based learning, nutrition workshops, and farm visits and investments in sustainable infrastructure for food storage and preparation.

*La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians*

*\$200,000.00*

**Southern Region / San Diego County**

La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians - La Jolla Generations Program will develop school gardens on the reservation land to produce fruits and vegetables for the school meal program, as well as rehabilitation of existing school gardens and infrastructure upgrades for school production kitchens. This project will allow school staff and students to attend field trips to tribal gardens to collect inspiration and ideas for designing school gardens. Through technical support and models from flourishing existing tribal gardens, La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians will develop and construct school gardens designed to produce traditional foods using regenerative cultivation practices.

*Lamont Elementary School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**San Joaquin Region / Kern County**

Lamont Elementary School District (LESD) will align district, nutrition, and community food resources to support students in having meaningful access and experiences with locally grown, minimally processed foods that support a just and equitable community, and the health of the whole child, whole family, and whole community. The project will develop partnerships with local agricultural partners to increase the integration of food products into school meals and with existing hands-on, standards-aligned nutrition education programs for students. LESD will

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provide community experiences beyond the school walls and bells that bring the agricultural heart of the community a place of honor, excitement, and passion for learners.

*Laurel Tree Charter School*

*\$200,000.00*

**North Coast Region / Humboldt County**

Laurel Tree Charter School (LTCS) will expand upon the TK-12 edible education program by focusing on the processing, preservation and use of local, in-season and culturally relevant foods and educating and highlighting local ingredients used in the school meal program. This project will build an outdoor processing kitchen, hire an edible education coordinator, create a seasonal eating curriculum with lessons aligned to state standards and local food resources, establish an annual community apple fest celebration, and increase local food procurement for their school nutrition program. Education on these foods' relevance, nutritional value, and qualities will be highlighted through standards aligned, reusable TK-12 lessons to be documented in the creation of a curriculum for future educators to use.

*Lawndale Elementary School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / Los Angeles County**

Lawndale Elementary School District will expand its farm to school program, which is built on a foundation of more than 13 years of investment in student nutrition education, by providing experiential learning opportunities for students including cooking and gardening classes across all preschool, elementary and middle schools led by garden educators in partnership with credentialed teachers. This project will enable district kitchen staff to prepare local foods for lessons and serve taste tests of highlighted items, as well as expand procurement from local farmers and producers to bring the freshest and best quality items on school menus.

*Little Lake City School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / Los Angeles County**

Little Lake City School District will introduce students to more fresh, minimally processed foods and promote healthy choices by partnering with local farms to procure locally grown fruits and vegetables and incorporate them into school meals. This project will provide student nutrition education activities that will be held during meals, in the classrooms, through field trips to local farms, and farmer visits made to the school sites.

*Live Oak School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**South Coast Region / Santa Cruz County**

Live Oak School District (LOSD) will support hands-on culinary and garden education utilizing sustainably grown, locally sourced farm produce and will connect the cafeteria, classroom, and garden through the development of an integrated curriculum. This project's Food Lab class will increase the scratch-cooked meals in the cafeteria, provide students culinary education and work collaboratively with the Life Lab Garden classrooms to provide outdoor hands-on agriculture education developed in alignment with next generation science standards. LOSD's curricula will be used by districts across the country, expand procurement from producers in the Central Coast region and allow experiential learning for LOSD students. This project will nurture students' healthy eating habits and a deeper understanding of climate-forward sustainability practices through this integrated education.

*Lodi Unified School District*

*\$377,850.00*

**Central Region / San Joaquin County**

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Lodi Unified School District (LUSD) will expand procurement of locally sourced foods and sustain the Edible Nutrition Education Program (ENEP) which includes a vertical hydroponic garden program, "Taste and Teach" after-school program, farmer's markets, and student taste testing events. This project will expand LUSD's central kitchen's capacity by utilizing high school kitchens to receive, prepare, and distribute produce directly from farms. LUSD will highlight the local foods that are sourced and spotlight the impact these projects have on creating its school food menu, within the schools and throughout the community.

*Lompoc Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**South Coast Region / Santa Barbara County**

Lompoc Unified School District (LUSD) will partner with a nearby small organic farm to procure locally grown produce to incorporate into eight schools' salad bars and expand an existing partnership with Explore Ecology, a local environmental education non-profit, to provide culturally relevant and standards-aligned garden education and tastings during lunchtime. LUSD with Explore Ecology will provide garden internships for Career Technical Education (CTE) high school students, helping those students prepare for study or work after graduation while providing a sustainable model for school garden maintenance. LUSD will rehabilitate five existing school gardens in preparation for lessons and will engage the community to plan for using produce grown. This project will create procedures around procurement of foods and set the stage for expansion of procurement efforts in partnership with LUSD Nutrition Services and the local farm.

*Long Beach Unified School District*

*\$976,935.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / Los Angeles County**

Long Beach Unified School District will build upon 20+ years of experience to increase access to, and consumption of, locally grown fruits and vegetables. This project will expand sourcing of locally grown and culturally relevant foods to feature in the cafeteria, support school garden programs, and increase hands-on nutrition education opportunities in the schools, gardens, classrooms, and community.

*Long Valley Charter School*

*\$200,000.00*

**Superior Region / Lassen County**

Long Valley Charter School (LVCS) will increase procurement of local food, thereby attracting more local producers, and will provide meaningful, hands-on learning for students. This project will add a greenhouse on each campus to generate climate smart produce and create attractive, inviting outdoor spaces for learning using LVCS developed standards-aligned lessons, as well as opportunities for local producers to share knowledge and practices through field trips and in-classroom presentations.

*Los Angeles Unified School District*

*\$1,000,000.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / Los Angeles County**

Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) will implement a multi-year Farm to School food processing contract and expand partnership opportunities with small-to-medium, Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC)-run, women, veterans, and local and regenerative farms, in partnership with Alice Waters Institute, Shared Plate Strategies, and Common Threads. LAUSD Food Services and the district's newly launched Climate Literacy Champions in 300+ schools, will provide monthly Farmer's Harvest of the Month Tasting Boxes that will align classroom curriculum with their farmer's growth calendars and Café LA menus and Tasting

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Fairs. This project will integrate nutrition education curriculum into Career Technical Education (CTE) agriculture and culinary career pathways program in middle and high schools along with a 10-week Farm to Kitchen program focusing on food as preventive medicine to encourage healthy cooking and eating habits, supported by weekly Farmer's Produce Boxes.

*Marysville Joint Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Superior Region / Yuba County**

Marysville Joint Unified School District (MJUSD) will develop partnerships with additional local farms and food hubs to increase the local produce offered and support schools to build sustainable gardens to incorporate into the meal program. This project will support student engagement and education by connecting educators to standards-based curriculum and developing farmer visits to the school and field trips to local farms.

*Menifee Union School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Southern Region / Riverside County**

Menifee Union School District (MUSD) will expand farm to school initiatives to include nutrition education in the classroom and increase locally grown seasonal fruits and vegetables in the school meal program. This project will provide students with hands-on experiences that align with Next Generation Science Standards and deep understanding of the food system through the form of Harvest of the Month produce boxes, mini farmers markets for students to try locally grown foods and learn about the benefits of procuring from local farms, and farm field trips.

*Montague Charter Academy for the Arts and Sciences*

*\$200,000.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / Los Angeles County**

Montague Charter Academy will integrate food procurement with immersive food education initiatives for both students and parents to develop healthy eating habits among the community of Pacoima that is grappling with restricted access to affordable, nutritious food options. This project will engage students in an immersive Garden Ranger Program to increase access to nutritious food and instill a profound understanding and appreciation for sustainable agriculture.

*Morgan Hill Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Bay Area Region / Santa Clara County**

Morgan Hill Unified School District (MHUSD) will establish a "farm to school pipeline" in southern Santa Clara County by identifying small, minority-owned farms and creating procurement systems that can be replicated by school districts throughout the Bay Area. This project will partner with a BIPOC-led farm to create the FarmTECH Learning Center, an experimental school farm that will provide produce for the district's 13 school cafeterias and serve as a learning "laboratory" for outdoor-based lessons, including hydroponics, water and nutrients for growth, and other topics. The FarmTECH students will build and operate the FarmTECH "Nutrition Lab," a taste testing station to introduce MHUSD students to new fruits and vegetables and explore recipes and cooking from around the world. The project will include field trips to minority, immigrant, and women-owned local farms, learning about sustainable farming and future careers in food science and agriculture.

*Nevada City School of the Arts*

*\$200,000.00*

**Superior Region / Nevada County**

Nevada City School of the Arts (NCSA) will expand partnerships to new farms to maximize the amount of the food services budget dedicated to the local producer community. This project's

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new farm partners will engage in student education opportunities including local farm visits, farmers to visit campus for educational visits, and provide more local produce for cooking demos and tastings. NCSA will invest in a second walk-in refrigerator to support purchasing locally at the proposed level of interest from current and new farm and producer partners.

*Oak Park Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**South Coast Region / Ventura County**

Oak Park Unified School District will increase procurement of fruits and vegetables from local farmers in Ventura County from vendors that practice climate-friendly agriculture. This project will expand its current garden program with new gardening supplies and relocate existing gardens to be more productive, as well as provide nutrition education through garden-grown produce to be used in school meals, taste tests, farm visits, and student-led recipe contests.

*Oakland Unified School District*

*\$508,305.00*

**Bay Area Region / Alameda County**

Oakland Unified School District will provide opportunities for students to develop a relationship to healthy, local food in the cafeteria, gardens and classrooms, while also addressing food security, healthy eating habits and aligned standards-based curriculum in the Oakland school community. This project will expand local procurement of produce and proteins from socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, expand student taste tests, field trips and Garden to Cafeteria and Harvest of the Month programming, enhance student engagement to directly impact cafeteria options and work on advanced planning with priority producers to increase sales and meal participation.

*Ocean View School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**South Coast Region / Ventura County**

Ocean View School District (OVSD) will integrate California food procurement practices with hands-on food education to improve student nutrition knowledge, increase consumption of fruits and vegetables, enhance appreciation for local food systems, and strengthen partnerships within the community. This project will hire a Nutrition and Garden Educator to establish an experiential learning program in collaboration with on-site teachers that empowers students to make informed food choices that impact their lifelong wellbeing.

*Oceanside Unified School District*

*\$225,990.00*

**Southern Region / San Diego County**

Oceanside Unified School District (OUSD) will provide strategic professional development and teacher mentorship to introduce K-12 educators to science-immersed garden education, which will connect students and staff to the healthy produce grown onsite. This project will invest in infrastructure and materials for school gardens and culinary equipment for cooking classes to improve student nutrition, increase agricultural literacy, enrich awareness of culturally relevant foods, and strengthen community partnerships for sustainable food procurement practices.

*Ontario-Montclair School District*

*\$273,660.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / San Bernardino County**

Ontario-Montclair School District will increase procurement of California sourced items for school meals and create educational opportunities for students, providing a link between the classroom and the cafeteria. This project will allow students at all grade levels to learn about food sources and the positive effect fresh foods have on overall health and wellbeing.

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*Oxnard School District*

*\$212,550.00*

**South Coast Region / Ventura County**

Oxnard School District (OSD) will strengthen and cultivate relationships with local farmers through the Ventura County School Food Hub to procure local, California-grown produce for use in student meals. OSD will educate students on the health, environmental, and economic benefits of consuming locally sourced produce by holding "Student Farmers Markets" where students will be able to pick out and take home local and culturally significant foods and learn about the farms they come from. This project will provide educational opportunities on regenerative farming and health benefits associated with eating a variety of fresh produce through a Harvest of the Month program, conducting field trips to local farms, and hosting farmer-led "Meet the Farmer" assemblies at various school sites.

*Oxnard Union High School District*

*\$242,370.00*

**South Coast Region / Ventura County**

Oxnard Union High School District's (OUHSD) will implement garden and nutrition education in both the school garden and inside the classrooms, to promote positive interactions with the food systems, how food is grown, the impact on wellbeing and community. This project will host family cooking nights, pop-up farmers markets and cooking lessons featuring local produce to educate the community on the health benefits of eating locally sourced food. OUHSD's Farm to School team will promote and educate students about the local produce options in the cafeterias.

*Pacific Community Charter School*

*\$200,000.00*

**North Coast Region / Mendocino County**

Pacific Community Charter School will integrate more locally produced foods by connecting with farms and producers, building menus around local products, and upgrading the kitchen facilities, through an investment in infrastructure, staffing, and training. This project will conduct outdoor learning at a local educational farm, as well as provide support to the kitchen garden to produce food for the meal program with the participation of K-3rd grade students.

*Pacific Elementary School*

*\$200,000.00*

**South Coast Region / Santa Cruz County**

Pacific Elementary School's (PES) "All the Colors of the Rainbow Project" will offer students daily, hands-on activities in the school garden to experience the full cycle of plant growth from soil to harvest including planting seeds and harvesting crops. This project will showcase a monthly color theme that provides a framework for garden activities, tastings, snacks and lunches, highlighting the health benefits of that particular color found in foods. PES students will have opportunity to explore healthy foods and learn about the benefits of a healthy diet full of a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables.

*Pajaro Valley Unified School District*

*\$230,000.00*

**South Coast Region / Santa Cruz County**

Pajaro Valley Unified School District (PVUSD) Food and Nutrition Services Department will enhance local purchasing initiatives by offering a wider range of locally grown and organic choices, as well as, facilitating hands-on education and direct engagement between students and farmers on-site. This project will provide on-site nutrition and school food workshops, field trips to local farms, a series of schoolwide farmers markets, Harvest of the Month programming,

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taste tests, and expanded salad bar options. PVUSD students will have the opportunity to develop new recipes for district menus using seasonal ingredients, complemented by standards-aligned nutrition education in the school cafeterias.

*Palm Springs Unified School District*

*\$237,809.00*

**Southern Region / Riverside County**

Palm Springs Unified School District (PSUSD) will strengthen district wide relationships with local contracted farmers through coordinating with Old Grove Orange and Aziz Farms to host 16 elementary and 4 secondary site farm field trips and working with farmers to expand school gardens, giving 23 sites the option of an outdoor garden or a hydroponic indoor system. This project will procure fresh fruits and vegetables for the School Breakfast Program, the National School Lunch Program, and Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) Supper and Harvest of the Month events.

*Parlier Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**San Joaquin Region / Fresno County**

Parlier Unified School District (PUSD) will partner with local, Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC)-led farms to integrate fresh, local, organic produce into school meals, helping achieve the district's goal to provide 40% scratch-cooked school meals and supporting small Fresno County farmers. This project will expand hands-on, innovative education for Parlier students through a new "Lab Kitchen" to teach students how to cook healthy, culturally relevant recipes to bring home to family, as well as host a series of bilingual parent cooking workshops on transforming traditional meals into healthier versions. PUSD will transform the Parlier High school farm and livestock barn into a demonstration farm that will serve as a replicable model for districts across the Central Valley.

*Pasadena Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / Los Angeles County**

Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) will deepen the connections between its established farm to school program and the academic and health outcomes of more than 4,000 students in five middle and high schools by using and growing locally produced organic food. This project will engage students in hands-on learning about food and agriculture in cafeterias, classrooms, and school gardens with credentialed teachers to increase knowledge and skill building in science, nutrition, and health.

*Paso Robles Joint Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**South Coast Region / San Luis Obispo County**

Paso Robles Joint Unified School District (PRJUSD) will integrate its food services and educational programming by improving procurement to secure more fresh, local food to students in the cafeteria, and linking that food experience with standards-based programming taught by credentialed teachers in school gardens. Working weekly at six Title 1 elementary schools and one Title 1 middle school, PRJUSD's nonprofit partner, One Cool Earth, will provide garden-based education and teacher trainings, building formal educators' capacity to provide hands-on, food-focused experiences. In addition to planting, growing, tending, harvesting, preparing, and cooking fresh food from the garden, the garden crops will be coordinated with cafeteria menus. PRJUSD will also offer a Harvest of the Month program and coordinate a Family Cooking Night to connect students and their families around healthy food.

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*Peabody Charter School*

*\$200,000.00*

**South Coast Region / Santa Barbara County**

Peabody Charter School will procure more National School Lunch Program (NSLP) & School Breakfast Program (SBP) ingredients from high-quality local, organic, transitioning, or regenerative farming producers, create an edible garden and learning lab in front of the cafeteria, and create a seasonal curriculum that includes lessons on nutrition, food cultivation, and food preparation. The local farmers who provide these ingredients for school meals will also be invited to engage with students. Additionally, food scraps from the cafeteria will be used in a vermiculture program, and students will learn the importance of waste reduction, composting and the positive effect it has on food.

*Pittsburg Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Bay Area Region / Contra Costa County**

Pittsburg Unified School District (PUSD) will expand healthy eating and nutrition opportunities to all 13 district schools to promote lifelong wellness and create an impactful difference in the current and future health of its students and community. This project will allow PUSD students to taste test locally grown fruits and vegetables and learn about produce with a nutrition education component through food demonstrations, recipes, and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) lessons. PUSD will expand its procurement outreach to additional local farms, as well as increase its production in 13 school gardens and new state-of-the-art 15-foot by 20-foot greenhouse.

*Porterville Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**San Joaquin Region / Tulare County**

Porterville Unified School District (PUSD) Department of Student Nutritional Services (SNS) will procure California-grown produce to incorporate into a pilot Harvest of the Month program. This project will support a paid internship for 3 PUSD high school students to conduct research and educational activities related to climate friendly foods and growing practices, in partnership with Climate Action Pathways for Schools (CAPS). PUSD will create culturally relevant recipes on the school meal menu using produce procured from Academy of Emerging Agricultural Technology (EAT) and new local farms identified and assessed by interns.

*Red Bluff Joint Union High School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Superior Region / Tehama County**

Red Bluff Joint Union High School District (RBJUHSD) will source locally grown, sustainable produce for school meals and integrate hands-on food education into the curriculum. This project will invest in infrastructure, staff training, and curriculum development to ensure long-term sustainability and impactful outcomes for students and community. RBJUHSD will empower students with the knowledge and skills to make healthier food choices, address food insecurity, and promote community resilience, through partnerships with local farmers and educational programs.

*Redwood Coast Montessori*

*\$200,000.00*

**North Coast Region / Humboldt County**

Redwood Coast Montessori (RCM) will procure fresh produce directly from local farmers through a weekly farm share, fruit delivery, and participation in a winter U-Pick program to incorporate into school meal programs, cooking classes, community-wide harvest events, and summer programs. This project will be rooted in both Montessori and Project Based Learning



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visions and led by a new Garden Coordinator to provide engaging food-related education activities for students and families including expanded garden and outdoor learning spaces for student clubs, organized field trips, and school-wide events.

*Rialto Unified School District*

*\$350,000.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / San Bernardino County**

Rialto Unified School District's (RUSD) will combine increased local procurement from regional Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) farms and food providers with student and family learning opportunities. This project, with the support of community partners, will expand school gardens and groves to build a network dedicated to creating a healthier community and ensure school gardens will be maintained and incorporated into daily learning for all students. RUSD will offer project-based learning opportunities that connect cafeterias, classrooms and the community, that will inspire community investment in individual health and wellness as well as achieve enhanced learning outcomes for each student.

*Richmond Elementary*

*\$200,000.00*

**Superior Region / Lassen County**

Richmond Elementary will connect students to the world of plants, nurturing delight and curiosity while inspiring an appreciation and sense of stewardship of the environment through its Richmond School Garden and grant funded greenhouse. Students will take part in "hands on learning" about sustainable food, organic gardening techniques, healthy lifestyles and nutrition. This will provide a gathering space and landscape for students to come together and respectfully connect to each other in a safe, natural and inspiring environment for the purpose of sharing, learning and building a sense of community gardening. Additionally, the school garden will grow produce to be served in the school meal program.

*Rio School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**South Coast Region / Ventura County**

Rio School District (RSD) will utilize its 10-acre regenerative Rio School District Farm for students to learn alongside a Garden and Nutrition Educator about fresh produce, garden STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) education, and local farming through hands-on activities. Students will foster a deeper connection to their food and connection to the land through activities such as seed starting, composting, Ag career pathways, and Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS) garden and cooking lessons. Through this project, RSD aims to improve food access, enhance educational opportunities, and empower its community to participate in sustainable agriculture practices, thereby nurturing healthier and more resilient communities.

*Riverside Unified School District*

*\$201,701.00*

**Southern Region / Riverside County**

Riverside Unified School District (RUSD) Nutrition Services will collaborate with the farm to school coordinator in purchasing local produce for the "Farmers Market" salad bar that will provide nutrient rich, locally grown produce to all RUSD elementary students. This project will expand the school gardens to an additional 15 schools, which will be used to facilitate nutrition education, produce cultivation, taste testing and expose students to new vegetables. RUSD will coordinate field trips to local farms for students to meet farmers and learn how farms utilize agriculture to mitigate climate change.

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*Sacramento City Unified School District*

*\$610,140.00*

**Central Region / Sacramento County**

Sacramento City Unified School District (SCUSD) will connect local produce procurement, including highlighting local produce in school salad bars, with hands-on food education programs across the district. This project will partner with Food Literacy Center to provide professional development for nutrition staff to build farm to school knowledge, as well as expand hands-on farm to school education to additional Title-1 elementary students and high school students within SCUSD. The Urban Garden at Luther Burbank High School will expand its agriculture program to include hands-on cooking education with produce grown on the school farm. A farm to school educational video, shared to all elementary and high school students, will be created each year by a credentialed Career Technical Education (CTE) educator to showcase how fruits and vegetables from local farmers make it to their salad bar.

*San Benito High School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**South Coast Region / San Benito County**

San Benito High School District (SBHSD) will procure fresh produce and meat that is locally grown and organically farmed within San Benito County. These nutritious options will be served to SBHSD students through the school cafeteria and culinary classes. Additionally, this project will fund a farm to fork garden and above ground garden beds that will serve to enhance SBHSD's curriculum and offer invaluable opportunities for students to learn about sustainable agriculture and food stewardship. The commodities grown in the school garden will be used in the culinary class, school cafeteria and will be offered to the school community through the food pantry located on campus.

*San Diego Unified School District*

*\$1,000,000.00*

**Southern Region / San Diego County**

San Diego Unified School District's (SDUSD) Food and Nutrition Services will source locally grown ingredients for school meals and educate students on the origins and nutritional value of their food. This project "SandiCoast Café: Nourishing Minds with California Food for California Kids" will strengthen SDUSD's existing partnerships with the Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics (STEAM) and Science Departments, culinary teachers, garden educators, and other school programs by providing them with better opportunities to connect lessons with food from the cafeteria. These opportunities include cooking demos, virtual and in-person field trips, food enhanced Garden to Cafe programming, and Love Food Not Waste (LFNW) efforts. SDUSD will work with nonprofit partners to provide support for garden installations and maintenance and education to schools in the city's most under-resourced neighborhoods.

*San Francisco Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Bay Area Region / San Francisco County**

San Francisco Unified School District's (SFUSD) will promote health and wellness among students through hands-on nutrition education efforts and empowering student leaders to advocate for healthy eating habits. At elementary schools, FoodCorps service members will deliver nutrition and gardening activities, emphasizing the importance of healthy eating habits and the benefits of locally-grown produce. At middle schools, the SNACK Club initiative will train student leaders to become advocates for health within their schools, and in turn will gain the skills to lead peer education presentations and events that promote California produce into

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school meals and collecting feedback from peers. This project will provide students with tools to have a lasting impact on the health and wellness of their schools and peers.

*San Marcos Unified School District*

*\$278,160.00*

**Southern Region / San Diego County**

San Marcos Unified School District (SMUSD) will blend social-emotional student support through food, focusing on culinary therapy including supplemented school meals. This project's cross-curricular initiative combines California food procurement with hands-on food education efforts and incorporates multiple Career Technical Education (CTE) pathways and elementary student social emotional supports. Trained mental health staff will lead the program, utilizing culinary therapy to address emotional and psychological challenges faced by students. The project aims to promote mindful eating and holistic healing, fostering social-emotional wellness in vulnerable student groups across the district in conjunction with Child Nutrition Services (CNS) and CTE Programs.

*San Miguel Joint Union School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**South Coast Region / San Luis Obispo County**

San Miguel Joint Union School District (SMJUSD) will expand its farm to school programming by increasing local and hyper-local procurement of produce and protein, expanding hands-on garden education with observation bee hives, hydroponics, and the building of an outdoor learning garden kitchen space. SMJUSD will foster the Wheat to School programming through a partnership with Cal Poly State University and California Wheat Commission to teach students the life cycle of wheat, as well as, baking 100% California grown whole wheat products for the school meal program.

*San Rafael City Elementary Schools*

*\$200,000.00*

**Bay Area Region / Marin County**

San Rafael City Schools (SRCS) will increase local purchasing and production from a partner farm, Sanzuma, as well as provide a data-proven farm to school education program. This project will create an increase in vegetable and fruit consumption within the meal program and heightened student awareness of culturally appropriate vegetables through taste tests, hands-on farm time, and age-appropriate nutrition education.

*Santa Ana Unified School District*

*\$598,485.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / Orange County**

Santa Ana Unified School District (SAUSD) Nutrition Services will procure and serve local, delicious, nutritious, and culturally relevant foods for school meals and hands-on food education. SAUSD's Community Schools (CS), Expanded Learning Opportunity (ELOP), Nutrition Services' Farm to School Coordinator, chefs, registered dietitians, and University of California Agriculture and Natural Resources will co-develop hands-on food education opportunities with K-8 schools and high schools. This project will incorporate culinary education, school gardening, experiential field trips, and standard-aligned lesson plans at Community Schools to empower students to build stronger local food connections, deepen understandings of food systems, and make healthier choices.

*Santa Cruz City Schools*

*\$200,000.00*

**South Coast Region / Santa Cruz County**

Santa Cruz City School's (SCCS) "Plant-to Plate Program" will expand purchasing of organic

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produce for school meals from local small farmers, who are eager to work with local school meal programs, as well as, add California raised meat to secondary school menus. This project will hire two roles that will support local purchasing and recipe development and help integrate these local foods in a way students appreciate. SCCS will support hands-on, food-centered experiences for students including seasonal “Plant-to-Plate market experiences” at high schools and culinary demonstrations and will further develop the student leadership of high school events working with Life Lab Gardens to develop a school nutrition internship.

*Selma Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**San Joaquin Region / Fresno County**

Selma Unified School District (SUSD) will increase vegetables produced on the school farm using sustainable hydroponics and current industry growing practices as part of agriculture department educational classes. This project’s partnership between SUSD Child Nutrition Department and the Selma High School Agriculture Department’s farm will provide hands-on experience of growing produce that will be distributed to the students, giving the students a first-hand view of farm to fork practices. SUSD will coordinate with other schools in the district for hands-on tours of the school farm to showcase where and how school food is grown.

*Semillas Sociedad Civil*

*\$200,000.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / Los Angeles County**

Semillas Sociedad Civil will provide fresh produce from local Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) farmers in school meals as part of Anawakalmekak’s support of students’ holistic well-being and advances in racial justice within community. Through artistic, hands-on nutrition experiences and mentorship from indigenous elders, this project will provide hands-on learning at local farms which will deepen the understanding of sustainability and cultural food traditions. Monthly programs will showcase native fruits and vegetables, along with ancestral harvesting methods, connecting communities to their past and present. Nutrition classes, led by elders, will incorporate nutrition education with art to celebrate cultural diversity and preserve traditions.

*Sequoia Union Elementary School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**San Joaquin Region / Tulare County**

Sequoia Union Elementary School District (SUESD) will create a working school farm that will allow students, staff, parents and community members to participate in hands-on learning experiences that encompass all aspects of planting, raising, harvesting, processing, cooking, consuming and selling agricultural products. Products produced on the farm will be available for use in school meals, nutrition education, for sale to the school community and the public, and distributed to families in need within the community. This project will provide hands-on agricultural education through partnership between certificated and classified staff, school nutrition services and industry partners. Cooking and nutrition lessons both during and after school hours will allow students and parents to learn more about fresh fruits and vegetables and how to incorporate them into their diets.

*Shaffer Unified Elementary School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Superior Region / Lassen County**

Shaffer Unified Elementary School District (SUESD) will enhance its nutrition program by sourcing a variety of locally produced foods, including fruits, vegetables, herbs, meats, eggs, and honey. This initiative will not only support local producers, but also provide fresher and healthier meal options for students. Additionally, SUESD will increase its cold storage capacity

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with a large walk-in refrigerator and create an outdoor kitchen and sitting area to promote hands-on cooking and farm-to-school education, fostering a deeper understanding and appreciation for healthy eating and local food systems.

*Shandon Joint Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**South Coast Region / San Luis Obispo County**

Shandon Joint Unified School District (SJUSD) will increase local and hyper-local procurement of produce and protein, expand hands-on garden education with observation bee hives, hydroponics, and the building of an outdoor learning salsa garden. SJUSD will continue to foster the Wheat to School programming through a partnership with Cal Poly State University and California Wheat Commission to teach students the life cycle of wheat, as well as bake 100% California grown whole wheat products for the school meal program. SJUSD will purchase a wheat combine harvester to expand growing acreage of wheat that high school agricultural students will take care of, from tilling the ground to harvesting the wheat for school use.

*Shanél Valley Academy*

*\$200,000.00*

**North Coast Region / Mendocino County**

Shanél Valley Academy (SVA) will harness the power of school gardens, orchards, and collaborations with nearby farms to integrate locally sourced produce and animal protein into school meal offerings, as part of a broader mission to support the educational enrichment and health of local students and families. This project will allow students to engage in experiential learning opportunities, including field trips, and participation in culinary, gardening, and food science classes which offer diverse pathways for career exploration, educational growth, and environmental stewardship. Through partnerships with local farmers, businesses, and community organizations, SVA will enhance the educational experience of its students and will establish SVA as an integral component of Hopland's vibrant local food ecosystem.

*Shoreline Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Bay Area Region / Marin County**

Shoreline Unified School District (SUSD) will conduct a comprehensive revamp of its meal program procurement system and menus led by a newly hired food services director for the region, as well as fund kitchen trainings for chefs and credentialed teachers to develop hands-on food education. The project will build partnerships with local organic farms, dairies and ranches to improve the quality of school meals, as a majority of students whose families work on these agricultural lands rely on this meal program.

*Siskiyou Union High School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Superior Region / Siskiyou County**

Siskiyou Union High School District (SUHSD) will transform local food sourcing for Siskiyou County schools, promote healthy eating habits and provide food education. By partnering with local farmers, SUSHD will boost the availability of fresh produce in cafeterias. Students will also benefit from hands-on learning about food systems and sustainable agriculture through garden-based lessons.

*Southern Humboldt Charter Schools*

*\$200,000.00*

**North Coast Region / Humboldt County**

Southern Humboldt Charter Schools (Agnes J. Johnson Charter School (AJJCS)) will build upon its existing foundation of farm to school programming through hands-on full circle practice of

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engineering gardens and animal housing, preparing the land, preserving local ecosystems, growing, harvesting, preparing and preserving food, seed saving, and lessons on the economics of agriculture. This project will allow for AJJCS students to gain the skills needed to be successful entrepreneurs in their future communities through education on sustainability.

*Standard School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**San Joaquin Region / Kern County**

Standard School District will collaborate with community organizations and local farmers to create a sustainable school garden, integrate locally sourced foods into program meals, and connect elementary classroom curricula with its school meal program and garden. This project will expand opportunities for students to engage in hands-on, edible educational experiences.

*Sanger Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**San Joaquin Region / Fresno County**

Sanger Unified School District's (SUSD) "Agriculture (Ag) Complex" at Fairmont School will become a hub for 9,284 middle school and elementary students across 15 sites. SUSD will procure produce from Fruit World Farms, Fresno BIPOC Produce Inc., Masumoto Family Farm, and ABE-EL Wholesale Produce to support the Local Farmer Taste Test program at Fairmont and Quail Lake Charter Elementary Schools. This project will provide hands-on food education through student created healthy recipes utilizing the produce procured from local farmers, agriculture business courses where students display, market, and sell produce grown at the Ag Complex, and student opportunities to add value to organic raisins from Masumoto Family Farm.

*Tahoe Truckee Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Superior Region / Placer County**

Tahoe Truckee Unified School District's (TTUSD) "Sprout to Spoon Program" will procure locally grown, organic produce, meats and grains through developing and nurturing new relationships with small to mid-sized California food producers to provide students with freshly prepared meals in cafeterias and classrooms. This project will allow for all students to visit farms, engage with guest farmers, and learn about local indigenous tribes' agricultural contributions. TTUSD's early learners (toddlers - PreK) will have the opportunity to plant seeds, create food journey art, and visit farms, while older students (age 6 – 12) will explore agriculture through hands-on experiences, data analysis, and chef-led cooking demos.

*Tree of Life Charter School*

*\$200,000.00*

**North Coast Region / Mendocino County**

Tree of Life Charter School (TLCS) will increase use of local foods in school meals, increase staff capacity to purchase local foods, integrate the school meal program with hands-on-food activities, and develop a robust school garden that will provide produce for the school meal program. Secondary students will learn from farmers and develop a garden to provide produce for the school meal program year-round by utilizing a greenhouse with an aquaponics system and senior elementary students will deepen their knowledge through the implementation of the Green Bronx curriculum. A new farm to school coordinator will expand the meal program to include local products more regularly as well as help connect on-site from scratch made meals to the classrooms for increased nutrition education and deepened student learning.

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*Tulelake Basin Joint Unified School District* \$200,000.00  
**Superior Region / Siskiyou County**

Tulelake Basin Joint Unified School District's (TBJUSD) will provide quality, locally, and regionally grown foods to its underprivileged student body through meal services, enhance the Future Farmers of America (FFA) hydroponics and plant science program through education and entrepreneurship, and educate students on the importance of California food procurement. TBJUSD FFA will expand the hydroponic and greenhouse programs to sell produce to the food services program and will partner with local farms to help dedicate a portion its own farm for food procurement. This project will work with the Modoc Food Hub and the expansive Tulelake farming community to increase available local resources.

*Upland Unified School District* \$200,000.00  
**Greater Los Angeles Region / San Bernardino County**

Upland Unified School District will focus on the expansion of current program initiatives including cultivating nutrition and garden education opportunities. This project will provide local farm field trips for students, expand the Harvest of the Month program to the secondary level, and equip teachers to utilize school gardens for unique learning opportunities that support curriculum needs and standards.

*Val Verde Unified School District* \$200,000.00  
**Southern Region / Riverside County**

Val Verde Unified School District (VVUSD) will partner with farmers to procure locally grown produce, provide students with high quality nutrition education, and significantly increase the amount and variety of fresh fruits and vegetables in school meals. VVUSD will expand farm-to-school efforts by equipping current indoor learning areas with hydroponics and utilizing outdoor learning spaces such as school gardens and farmer's markets to improve student education in agriculture, health, and nutrition.

*Ventura Unified School District* \$200,000.00  
**South Coast Region / Ventura County**

Ventura Unified School District's (VUSD) Child Nutrition Program will facilitate the "Harvest Heroes" program by bringing Harvest of the Month (HOTM) tasting lessons to a majority of students in eleven elementary schools, one middle school, and two high schools. This project will support one teacher in each school to be trained to facilitate student-led preparation and distribution of the HOTM produce at schools. Student leaders, called Harvest Heroes, will prep and distribute fruits and vegetables each month to all students in their school. Tastings will be accompanied by a digital presentation that features local farms from the Ventura County School Food Hub for teachers to show in their classroom. All HOTM materials will include a local farmer bio, HOTM recipe, and student artwork that will be compiled into a school calendar for all students.

*West Contra Costa Unified School District* \$385,020.00  
**Bay Area Region / Contra Costa County**

West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) will implement more scratch-cooked recipes into daily menus from a newly renovated central kitchen, incorporate nutritious California grown seasonal products, prioritize edible education on the food service line with dining hall visuals, and empower the capacity of students and food service times alike with interactive nutrition and culinary education. This project will deepen external relationships with local

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farmers, increase direct sourcing from small and economically-disadvantaged farmers, develop viable supply chains to benefit more California farmers and schools, and invest in regional climate-smart agriculture.

*Westwood Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Superior Region / Lassen County**

Westwood Unified School District will provide students with unique hands-on education opportunities through standards-based education and expand career and technical education programs, including a “Farming the Future –Full Year School Garden Science Program” in agriculture classes. This project will reconstruct the school greenhouse and increase cold-storage capacity for fresh grown produce, as well as expand procurement relationships with local, small, women-owned producers utilizing climate-smart agriculture practices and local co-ops.

*Wheatland School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Superior Region / Yuba County**

Wheatland School District will integrate California food procurement with hands-on food education initiatives to enhance food security, empower students, promote local agriculture, and create a sustainable food system while supporting academic and social-emotional learning. This project will partner with local farms including Bishop’s Pumpkin Farm to grow produce for school meals, conduct taste tests, and provide multilingual resources to promote healthy eating. Middle school students will mentor younger peers in gardening and food education, fostering leadership and wellness.

*Wonderful College Prep Academy (WCPA)*

*\$200,000.00*

**San Joaquin Region / Kern County**

Wonderful College Prep Academy will enhance its “Buy Local,” “Health and Wellness,” and “Grow Our Own” initiatives to better engage students and the community. This project will expand procurement of more locally grown products and teach nutrition classes and workshops in the teaching kitchen and learning gardens.

*Woodlake Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**San Joaquin Region / Tulare County**

Woodlake Unified School District (WUSD) will engage the Woodlake community - families, students, teachers, businesses and community members - in a healthier, more sustainable way to eat and grow food, while supporting small, local farms. Woodlake High School Agriculture instructor will lead students in building a new greenhouse, setting up irrigation and grow light systems, growing herbs and vegetables for hands-on classroom projects and to sell at the local farmer’s market, and hosting a weekly nutrition ‘farm stand’ in the school cafeteria for other students to learn about different types of locally grown fruits and vegetables. This project will include student field trips to local agribusinesses, including a working ranch, nursery and farm, as well as procuring produce from Abe-El Farm, a local small farm in Orosi, to integrate fresh, locally grown ingredients into scratch-cooked school meals.

*Yosemite Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**San Joaquin Region / Madera County**

Yosemite Unified School District’s (YUSD) School Food Authority (SFA) will work with district administrators, facilities, and teachers to design and build a school garden with outdoor learning



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areas for student activities, field trips, and agricultural events, managed by a hired Operations Specialist. The SFA will work with the Director of Facilities and Transportation to develop policies and procedures for the implementation of Food Waste Dehydrators (FWD) for on-site reduction of food waste, for which residual food waste will be used in the school garden compost. The SFA will also work with the Wellness Committee and community stakeholders to improve the district's Wellness Policy in the areas of nutrition and physical activity. This project will collaborate with local farmers to promote and sponsor educational workshops on topics including gardening in the mountains and students prepared meals using locally grown foods.

*Yuba City Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Superior Region / Sutter County**

Yuba City Unified School District (YCUSD) will increase Farm to School initiatives, local procurement, and student engagement by partnering with community partners, educators, and local farmers to establish a mobile kitchen and bakery and design plans for an outdoor production farm. This project will incorporate locally procured items including produce, proteins, and grains into district menus to be prepared and served in cafeterias and in the mobile kitchen and bakery. The Yuba City High School Farm will serve as a pilot site and outdoor learning area to offer engaging outdoor learning opportunities, encourage healthy eating, and help students and members of the local community better understand where food comes from. YCUSD's Farm to School Team will partner with the district's Future Farmers for American (FFA), Agriculture (Ag), and Career Technical Education (CTE) Programs to provide project-based learning opportunities for students pursuing careers in culinary, ranching, farming, and in the hospitality industry.

*Yuba Environmental Science Charter Academy*

*\$200,000.00*

**Superior Region / Yuba County**

Yuba Environmental Science Charter Academy (YESCA) will provide opportunities for students to learn how to cook with whole and minimally processed foods and learn directly from local, culturally diverse farmers who use climate smart practices on how to grow and harvest crops from seed. YESCA's Career Technical Education (CTE) Culinary Chef teacher will host cooking lessons in the Culinary Education Trailer to teach culturally relevant recipes that empower students to have a voice and choice in school meal offerings. Students will write business plans and pilot recipes for spaces typically dominated by fast foods to launch a food enterprise that normalizes fresh, local healthy food choices. This project will host family cooking demonstrations that offer recipes and ingredients to take home to cook and experience the power of food in bringing family and community together.

*Yucaipa-Calimesa Joint Unified School District*

*\$200,000.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / San Bernardino County**

Yucaipa-Calimesa Joint Unified School District (YCJUSD) will provide hands-on education with harvest of the month (HOTM) programming and hydroponic gardens at all the elementary school sites, building upon students' previous farm field trip educational experiences. This project will promote environmental stewardship and cultivate a culture of wellness and local resilience within YCJUSD by sourcing 100% of the produce for the meal program from local farms, fostering community connections and supporting regional agriculture.

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## **TRACK 2: THE CALIFORNIA FARM TO SCHOOL TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (TA) GRANT**

*Track 2 will fund farm to school technical assistance organizations to help California School Food Authorities and California food producers implement resilient and sustainable farm to school programming. Technical assistance (TA) projects must focus technical assistance in one of the following categories:*

- 1) School Food: building capacity of California School Food Authorities to implement farm to school procurement programs; or*
- 2) Education: building capacity of educators employed in California public school districts, county offices of education, charter schools, or Tribal schools that are a School Food Authority to implement hands-on food education programs in TK-12 settings, especially programs that are standards-aligned, culturally relevant, incorporate credentialed public school educators, and complement the school meal program; or (3) Producer Training: building capacity of California food producers to sell products to California School Food Authorities*

*NOTE: Providing technical assistance and building capacity refer to activities like coaching, training, and supporting California School Food Authorities, California educators, or California food producers to implement farm to school activities themselves.*

### *Center for Ecoliteracy*

**\$345,803.00**

#### **San Joaquin Region / Kern, Fresno, and Sacramento counties**

**Partners:** *Arvin Union School District, Fresno Unified School District, Twin Rivers Unified School District*

Center for Ecoliteracy will use a systems approach to build the capacity of school nutrition professionals to navigate barriers in local food procurement and strengthen their leadership in farm to school. This project will consist of a learning collaborative of five to seven school nutrition professionals in the Central Valley to codesign and pilot a leadership program. A six-part virtual Farm to School Innovator Series will inspire over 150 school nutrition professionals, farmers, and partner organizations by featuring innovators and proven strategies for increasing local procurement. Center for Ecoliteracy will develop customizable marketing materials in English and Spanish and five to seven stories to celebrate farm to school.

### *Del Norte & Tribal Lands Community Food Council*

**\$349,185.00**

#### **North Coast Region / Del Norte County**

**Partner:** *Del Norte Unified School District*

Del Norte & Tribal Lands Community Food Council will transform seven public schools into thriving centers for hands-on food education and community engagement through school gardens, inspiring a culture of health, nutrition, and resilience. This project will further develop garden infrastructure, integrate garden-based and nutrition learning into educators' curriculum, and expand access to hands-on food education. The project team will install garden learning stations, develop garden maintenance protocols, create standard aligned food education curriculum that incorporates diverse cultures, deepen school relationships with producers and

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cultural practitioners, form School Garden Steering Committees, and recruit business sponsorships of each garden. Teachers will receive training and mentorship to lead garden-based and nutrition lessons, utilize mobile teaching kitchens, and be supported with technical assistance.

*Edible Schoolyard Project dba Alice Waters Institute* \$341,823.00

**Greater Los Angeles Region / Los Angeles, Orange, and Fresno counties**

**Partners:** *Los Angeles Unified School District, Santa Ana Unified School District, Fresno Unified School District*

The Alice Waters Institute (AWI), a program of the Edible Schoolyard Project, will provide regional Farm to School trainings that bring school district food professionals, farmers, and producers together to develop skills in seasonal organic menu planning, cooking, and procurement and help build successful farm to school partnerships. This project will increase supply and demand of school food sourced from farmers that use climate-friendly regenerative organic practices and create markets for small and disadvantaged producers. AWI will provide educational opportunities for students to learn where food comes from and benefits of consuming healthy, locally grown food through applying successful regional strategies statewide.

*Fresh Approach* \$349,984.35

**Bay Area Region / Santa Clara County**

**Partners:** *Santa Clara Unified School District, Morgan Hill School District*

Fresh Approach will foster robust partnerships between farmer-led food aggregators and School Food Authorities (SFAs) and provide tailored Technical Assistance (TA) to aggregators and their farm networks to improve school food capacity. Context-specific TA will facilitate contracting opportunities that support small-scale, historically under-resourced producers and supply more local, culturally relevant produce to school cafeterias. Starting with four producer-led aggregators and two SFAs in Santa Clara County, Fresh Approach and partners will perform thorough evaluations to assess aggregator farm-to-school readiness. Results will inform personalized TA efforts among aggregators and their farm networks, helping them navigate the early stages of school food engagement. This project will include the development of an interactive map that visualizes the capacities of aggregator networks, which will act as a dynamic matchmaking tool, enhancing transparency to enable new procurement relationships.

*Friends of the Earth* \$349,995.83

**Greater Los Angeles Region / Los Angeles County**

**Partners:** *Azusa Unified School District, Lawndale Elementary School District*

Friends of the Earth will establish a statewide “California Farm to School Peer Learning Cohort” (F2S Cohort) with Azusa Unified School District and Lawndale Elementary School District to provide farm to school technical support to members. The F2S Cohort will offer peer learning, mentorship, local and organic food procurement support, and farm to school “mini projects,” including hands-on cooking, student education, and farmers market events with local, socially disadvantaged, organic food producers. This project will build capacity for school food authorities to implement farm to school procurement programs, strengthen peer-to-peer networks, and build wins for farmers and students across California. Partners of the project will include Healthy Kids, Happy Planet, Farm Discovery, Down to Cook Foods, Better Chew Foods, Planetarians, Lucy Hicks Consulting, Leah Smith Consulting, Riverside Food Hub, Spork Food

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Hub, ALBA, The Queen of Vegetables Farm, Lopes Family Farm, and Rumiano Cheese Company.

*Klamath Trinity Resource Conservation District* *\$349,432.60*

**North Coast Region / Humboldt County**

*Partner: Klamath-Trinity Joint Unified School District*

Klamath Trinity Resource Conservation District will increase local food procurement opportunities for the Klamath Trinity Joint Unified School District by developing a local food hub that improves market reliability and access to training for local food producers. This project will engage students and the community to plan development of culturally relevant nutrition and food system curriculum.

*Lunch Bunch Community Foundation* *\$350,000.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / Los Angeles County**

*Partners: Brightstar Schools, Compton Unified School District*

Lunch Bunch Community Foundation (LBCF) will provide accessible, healthy, and culturally relevant nutrition programming for low-income Los Angeles students and families during out-of-school time, helping foster long term health and wellness behavior changes. This project will include curriculum development, teacher training, program delivery, and evaluation to ensure LBCF's program teaches valuable culinary and nutritional skills and fosters a deeper connection to cultural heritage and community health. LBCF will enhance food access by providing a healthy meal option at each lesson plus nutritious snacks, valuable education about healthy food choices, and empowering individuals to make better decisions regarding nourishment for themselves and their communities.

*San Mateo County Food System Alliance* *\$255,769.15*

**Bay Area Region / San Mateo County**

*Partners: Ravenswood City School District, Redwood City Elementary School District*

San Mateo Food System Alliance will establish and strengthen education programming and food supply chains between local, small and medium sized, climate smart, and under-resourced farms and two San Mateo County school districts serving low-income, disadvantaged communities, in partnership with local non-profit Acterra. This project will build equity and a stronger regional supply chain and will offer complementary education and promotion efforts for students and school staff to increase consumption of culturally relevant school meals that celebrate the culture and community of San Mateo County.

*University of California Cooperative Extension Butte County* *\$141,981.00*

**Superior Region / Colusa, Butte, and Glenn counties**

*Partners: Pierce Joint Unified School District, Williams Unified School District, Oroville City Elementary School District, Princeton Joint Unified School District*

University of California Cooperative Extension Butte County will work with rural schools to increase local food literacy and value, in partnership with Community Nutrition Education and Health Programs in Butte, Colusa, and Glenn Counties. Credentialed teachers will be trained to support student council members to facilitate taste test evaluations with their peers and collect data to be used to inform school food service directors about local foods students would like to have in school meals. Student council members will develop marketing materials highlighting local, seasonal produce that students will taste test and sample from the school garden, which will be promoted internally in the cafeteria setting and externally to the school community

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through social media posts, school menus and newsletters. Credentialed teachers at each school will be trained to facilitate garden-education that is aligned with Next Generation Science Standards and incorporate cultural foods and recipes.

*University of California Desert Research and Extension Center*      **\$349,213.90**  
**Southern Region / Imperial County**

**Partners:** *Imperial Valley Home School Academy, Imperial County Office of Education, El Centro Elementary School District*

University of California Desert Research and Extension Center will increase teacher and school educators' capacity to implement Farm-to-School (F2S) activities to foster students' knowledge in food, nutrition and agriculture. This project will provide teacher training, local farm tours, student-teacher field trips, farmer-teacher network, peer mentoring opportunities, workshops on nutrition and food safety, and Master Food Preserver and Master Gardener workshops. Through these targeted training and professional development, educators become equipped with the skills to incorporate F2S activities into daily lessons, creating an immersive and engaging educational experience for students.

## **TRACK 3: THE CALIFORNIA FARM TO EARLY CARE AND EDUCATION (ECE) GRANT**

*Track 3 will fund child care centers in California and farm to ECE technical assistance organizations to establish new or expand existing farm to ECE programs that:*

- 1) procure California grown or produced, whole or minimally processed foods for incorporation into meals/snacks and/or food boxes for young children, especially from food producers that utilize climate smart agriculture practices or production systems like certified organic or transitioning to certified organic, small to midsize food producers, veteran food producers, socially disadvantaged food producers, and/or limited-resource farm households in California; and*
- 2) engage young children in hands-on food education opportunities – especially standards aligned, and culturally relevant opportunities led by educators with a Child Development Teacher Permit – that complement the meal program's and/or food box program's California food procurement efforts; and*
- 3) if desired, employ farm to ECE staff and/or offer farm to ECE professional development for staff.*

*A Better Choice Preschool, Inc*      **\$191,950.00**  
**San Joaquin Region / Fresno County**

A Better Choice (ABC) Preschool, Inc. will expand procurement of meat and produce from small to midsize, Black, Indigenous, People of Color (BIPOC) food producers in the Fresno area. The project will improve the childcare center families' access to whole minimally processed foods while increasing the revenue back into the Fresno community for diverse and up and coming food producers. ABC Preschool students and staff will collaborate with local food producers to develop and implement a farm-based curriculum for children including planting, growing, harvesting, and caring for small animals and livestock. ABC Preschool will build sustainable

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food production practices that can be done directly on campus while teaching students and parents about agriculture allowing students, families, and staff to better understand the relationships between food and the world around them.

*ABC Kids Preschool and Child Care*

*\$200,000.00*

**South Coast Region / Ventura County**

ABC Kids Preschool and Child Care will integrate California food procurement with hands-on education, fostering a farm-to-school experience that supports local agriculture and cultivates children's curiosity, responsibility and healthy lifelong habits from an early age. The project will include leasing land for farming, establishing gardens at each preschool site for children to actively participate in growing fruits and vegetables, improving food menus, enriching curriculum with practical lessons on food origins, healthy eating, and sustainability and strengthening community ties.

*ARISE Family Childcare Center*

*\$200,000.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / Los Angeles County**

ARISE Family Child Care Center will integrate California food procurement with hands-on food education for 2–5-year-olds, primarily from Black or African American backgrounds, through establishing a community garden at the childcare facility, cultivating various crops, and providing nutrition education. This project will host a mini farmers market and crop swap to engage families, fostering community involvement, as well as empowering children with culturally relevant food practices, promoting health and community connection.

*Butte County Local Food Network*

*\$199,807.86*

**Superior Region / Butte County**

Butte County Local Food Network's "Growing Resilient Optimism With Nature (GROWN)" Daycare Garden program will engage children 0-5 years old in three Chico daycares with hands-on garden education and help daycare facilities incorporate more local food into meals and snacks. Through weekly lessons on how to grow and enjoy fresh produce in on-site gardens, children will begin to develop lifelong healthy habits and a deeper understanding of plants, food, and the world around them. This project will connect families to local farmers through Farmers' Market Match Tokens and Family Food Boxes with fresh produce and recipes linked to lessons, as well as organize community events for families to learn and celebrate together.

*Children of the Rainbow*

*\$199,647.00*

**Southern Region / San Diego County**

Children of the Rainbow, Inc. (COTR) will broaden culturally relevant services for children and families in San Diego's historically rich and economically challenged neighborhoods of Logan Heights, Stockton, and Grant Hill at its creativity-based, state-of-the-art childcare. This project will provide locally sourced foods for children's meals and snacks, distribute fresh produce boxes to families, and integrate a food focused curriculum aligned with Quality Counts and California Preschool Foundations, including hands-on activities like gardening, and establish gardens at each childcare center.

*City of West Sacramento*

*\$200,000.00*

**Central Region / Yolo County**

City of West Sacramento's "Home Run (WSHR)" program will support 4-12 Early Childcare

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Education (ECE) sites by coordinating procurement of local produce boxes, provide curriculum aligned with the California Learning Foundations and Curriculum Frameworks, and coach sites to create on-site gardens to teach children about growing food and eating healthy produce. This project will partner with local farms and West Sacramento Waste Reduction team to offer training to staff and children on composting, recycling and local farm field trips.

*Colusa Indian Community Council*

*\$199,936.54*

**Superior Region / Colusa County**

Colusa Indian Community Council (CICC) will combine California food procurement with hands-on food education, emphasizing experiential learning for children and families to help foster lifelong healthy habits and community engagement. This project will partner with Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) vendors, farmers' markets, and local food sources, to incorporate nutritious ingredients into the weekly menus at Hand In Hand, a Early Childhood Education (ECE) center. CICC will establish a garden and plant fruit trees at the ECE location to offer interactive learning experiences during the summer months, as well as provide monthly family activities to promote healthy eating and deepen connections with food sources.

*Community Action Partnership of Kern*

*\$199,242.56*

**San Joaquin Region / Kern County**

Community Action Partnership of Kern's (CAPK) will offer 140 preschool-aged children and families an engaging hands-on learning experience through an on-site garden to help foster connectivity with the local food system, promote overall health improvement, and encourage environmental stewardship. This project will focus on cultivating California-grown produce through the expertise of Edible Schoolyard Kern County in building on-site gardens and providing produce boxes with healthy recipes from local producers via CAPK's Food Bank. Participants of this project will gain valuable nutritional knowledge and learn how to prepare culturally inclusive and nutritious recipes.

*Community Action Partnership Sonoma County*

*\$200,000.00*

**Bay Area Region / Sonoma County**

Community Action Partnership Sonoma County will increase the use of locally and regionally sourced produce, non-liquid dairy products, and proteins in meals and in educational activities for children participating in the Community Action Partnership Sonoma County Head Start and Early Head Start. This project will partner with Sonoma County-based collectives of small to midsized farmers, the Redwood Empire Food Bank, and select individual local food producer to provide California foods. Head Start meal plans approved monthly by the USDA Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) will be developed to align with seasonal foods available through local producers. Hands-on educational activities will spotlight seasonal Foods of the Month and be reinforced through parent education and take-home materials including recipes and periodic seasonal food samples. This project will serve up to 60 infants and toddlers age 0-3 and up to 900 children ages 3-5.

*EDUCATE: Advancing Early Childhood Education, Parenting  
& Literacy (dba Un Mundo de Amigos Preschool)*

*\$193,912.50*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / Los Angeles County**

Un Mundo de Amigos (UMDA) Preschool will link California's agricultural wealth with hands-on food education for early learners by introducing garden classrooms and kitchen upgrades to incorporate fresh, local produce into UMDA's Early Childhood Education (ECE) curriculum and

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meals. This project will partner with local farms to supply nutritious foods, perform kitchen enhancements for healthier meal prep, engage families with workshops to promote healthy eating and sustainability at home, and invest in educator training on sustainable food systems.

*FIRST 5 Santa Clara County* *\$200,000.00*

**Bay Area Region / Santa Clara County**

FIRST 5 Santa Clara County will connect Family Child Care Homes (FCCH) that are operating in or near identified food deserts in San Jose to a local, community-run farm. This project will provide bi-monthly food boxes delivered to FCCHs from the community farm, nutrition education opportunities for participating FCCHS, and a quarterly gathering at the community farm for the FCCHs and families to learn and see how food is grown, as well as give them opportunities to buy fresh food directly from a local farm. These trips will also help bring FCCHs and families out of isolation and give them an opportunity to engage with peers and other families in their neighborhoods.

*First 5 Shasta* *\$148,006.20*

**Superior Region / Shasta County**

First 5 Shasta will provide local, organic produce and nutrition education to seven underserved family childcare providers in Shasta County through a local food aggregator who will supply a minimum of two varieties of seasonal produce each month. This project will partner with Shasta College students studying to become Early Childhood Education (ECE) professionals to implement the Harvest of the Month lesson plans. The college students will be under the guidance of a nutrition education specialist to deliver the curriculum across the targeted family childcare programs, facilitating their professional growth and development in the area of nutrition as they prepare to enter the ECE workforce.

*Fulton Community School & Farm* *\$200,000.00*

**Bay Area Region / Sonoma County**

Fulton Community School and Farm will give children a unique opportunity to be fully immersed in the cycles of nature and the larger food system through hands-on lessons both in growing and eating locally grown food. The project will purchase food from local farmers to incorporate into daily meals, with children helping to prepare snacks with seasonal items, as well as provide education on the farmers who supply the food and how they contribute to the community as a whole.

*I. Newton Education LLC* *\$97,904.00*

**Southern Region / San Diego County**

I. Newton Center will increase procurement of California-grown foods in children's meals and implement hands-on food education activities for young children to promote healthy eating habits and food literacy. This project will introduce children to various topics, from planting basics, garden creatures, to fruit's color and sensory garden play, as well as engage in community outreach by organizing events.

*Laura's Barn Preschool & Child Care Center* *\$200,000.00*

**South Coast Region / Monterey County**

Laura's Barn Preschool & Child Care Center will integrate California food procurement with hands-on food education efforts in Monterey County by providing garden-based and hydroponic nutrition education to promote healthy eating habits and enhancing agricultural literacy through



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a dedicated Farm to Early Childhood Education (ECE) Program Administrator. This project will partner with local agricultural businesses and farmers, engage in community events such as the Agricultural County Fair, and provide innovative learning approaches including exposure to diverse cultural foods and technology-integrated agricultural education, to improve access to healthy foods and health outcomes, particularly in marginalized communities.

*Roenne's School, Inc.*

*\$200,000.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / Los Angeles County**

Roenne's School, Inc. will connect young students and families to resources for a healthy, balanced diet, as well as nutrition education. This project will increase opportunities to try new locally grown foods, support local producers by purchasing from local Certified Farmers Markets (CFM), conduct hands-on activities such as school garden programming, field trips to CFMs, taste testing, teaching children about healthy food by engaging all five senses and regularly share dietary guidelines with parents on the importance of eating a variety of fresh fruits and vegetables, grains, protein and dairy for children's healthy growth and development.

*Sacramento County Office of Education*

*\$200,000.00*

**Central Region / Sacramento County**

Sacramento County of Education's "Farm to Family Project" will enhance nutritional education and provide access to fresh, locally sourced produce for 77 Early Head Start (EHS) enrolled families and three Early Childhood Education (ECE) sites through the provision of local fresh produce boxes delivered to families, immersive food education experiences, and community engagement activities. This project will help build foundations of a healthy lifestyle and its relationship to school readiness beginning at pregnancy and throughout a child's life.

## **TRACK 4: THE CALIFORNIA FARM TO SCHOOL PRODUCER GRANT**

*Track 4 will fund California food producers and public-serving aggregation and distribution enterprises to increase production, processing, and/or distribution capacity to sell California grown or produced, whole or minimally processed foods to the California school food market. To be eligible, an applicant must show evidence of an established relationship with each California School Food Authority or child care center operator of the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) to which they intend to sell food. Funding will prioritize small to midsize food producers; veteran, socially disadvantaged, and/or limited-resource food producers; and food producers utilizing climate smart agriculture practices, climate smart agriculture production systems like certified organic or transitioning to certified organic, or other regenerative strategies. Applicants may propose to use funds to:*

- 1) purchase infrastructure, equipment, and supplies to increase production, processing, and/or distribution capacity to sell California grown or produced, whole or minimally processed foods to schools; and/or*
- 2) purchase infrastructure, equipment, and supplies to establish or enhance the use of climate smart agriculture practices, production systems, and/or other regenerative*

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*strategies when producing California grown or produced, whole or minimally processed foods to sell to schools; and/or*

- 3) *cover staffing costs dedicated to farm to school activities; and/or*
- 4) *pursue certifications, licensures, or insurance that the applicant needs to sell California grown or produced, whole or minimally processed foods to schools; and/or*
- 5) *establish new or expand existing hands-on food education opportunities for students, School Food Authority staff, and/or child care center staff that complement the applicant's existing or project-related California food sales to California schools, such as field trips, producer visits to the cafeteria or classroom, etc.*

*Apple Creek Vineyard Farm*

*\$350,000.00*

**Central Region / Sacramento County**

Apple Creek Vineyard Farm will create access to school food markets, adopt climate-smart agricultural practices that promote climate resilience and environmental sustainability, and provide hands-on education to students. This project will increase production, processing, and distribution capacity to sell California-grown and produced foods by enhancing the farm facilities, improving soil through climate-smart practices and systems, and investing in hydroponic and aquaponic systems.

*Aziz Farms, INC*

*\$295,937.32*

**Southern Region / Imperial, Los Angeles, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties**

Aziz Farms, INC will expand its program and partnerships with schools and community organizations with the addition of an education center and durable storage for new educational programming equipment and materials. The Aziz Farms Education Center will serve as a hub where students, nutrition services staff, and community members participate in an engaging, hands-on, and thought-provoking curriculum, as well as drive future growing and aggregation operations, and build capacity for more sophisticated climate smart farming practices.

*Bidwell Canyon Farm*

*\$349,058.00*

**Superior Region / Modoc County**

Bidwell Canyon Farm will increase the supply of local fruits and vegetables to 40 kids ages 3-5 for daily school meals and snacks, as well as develop and implement weekly hands-on food curriculum to connect kids to the farm where food is grown, in partnership with Alturas Head Start. This project will increase farm production for schools by implementing a greenhouse project that will extend the growing season to supply food throughout the school year and purchase a mechanical compost screener for climate smart agricultural practice of compost application.

*BIPOC Produce Inc.*

*\$350,000.00*

**San Joaquin Region / Fresno County**

Fresno BIPOC Produce Inc. (FBP) will expand farm-to-school program by increasing procurement to California school districts, through purchasing equipment necessary for distributing produce, including a refrigerated van to transport smaller orders while maintaining freshness and quality. FBP will collaborate with school districts to educate students about specialty produce, identify challenges schools face, such as a lack of equipment for processing fresh produce, and promote the inclusion of fresh, local produce in school meals. This project

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will support farmers in obtaining Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) certification to meet food safety requirements, addressing the lack of access to certification resources for Central Valley underserved farmers.

*Bluebird Farm*

*\$346,719.00*

**Superior Region / Nevada County**

Bluebird Farm will increase production and sales of fresh seasonal food to regional schools in Placer, Sutter, Nevada, and El Dorado Counties by scaling up infrastructure, staffing, and supplies to achieve higher volumes, consistency, food safety, and longer seasonal availability of produce using climate-smart growing techniques. This project will provide capacity for Bluebird Farm to become a hub of hands-on learning to hundreds more school children throughout Northern California each year.

*Brunner Family Farm, LLC*

*\$339,119.00*

**North Coast Region / Humboldt County**

Brunner Family Farm, LLC will increase food crop production and accessibility and expand educational opportunities for local schools including farm visits, in-class demonstrations, collaborations with school kitchens, and after-school cooking classes. This project will include the construction of two large high tunnels equipped with automated ventilation and exhaust systems, a new well to meet farm's water needs for increased production, expanded field crop areas, and a new solar power generation system to ensure the farm's energy needs are met sustainably and carbon neutral. The solar power system will be mounted on a sustainably harvested redwood pole barn that will also serve as a classroom, wash station, and packing area.

*Burns Blossom Farm*

*\$306,000.00*

**Superior Region / Butte County**

Burns Blossom Farm will enhance production, processing, and distribution of certified organic produce to the California school food market and will provide hands-on food education through field trips and taste-testing events, enabling students to learn about sustainable agriculture and healthy eating habits. This project will invest in farming equipment including a Kubota tractor to improve efficiency in planting, harvesting, and compost spreading and an electric John Deere gator to enhance mobility on the farm, ensuring the timely transport of produce. Burns Blossom Farm will install a shade structure to optimize berry production to extend the growing season and improve fruit quality, add a new wash and pack barn to streamline post-harvest processing to ensure produce meets the highest food safety and quality standards and develop a comprehensive food safety plan to maintain strict safety standards.

*Burroughs Family Farms LLC*

*\$350,000.00*

**Central Region / Merced County**

Burroughs Family Farms (BFF) will enhance production and processing capabilities to supply Madera Unified School District with fresh organic whole eggs and hands-on food education for students through educational field trips. The project includes upgrading BFF's mobile chicken coops for increased egg production, installing processing equipment for quality assurance, and adding a walk-in cooler for optimal egg storage, which will facilitate increased distribution of California grown whole foods to local schools for nutritious school meals. Farm field trips will teach students and staff about food's journey from farm to table, regenerative agriculture practices, and the importance of sustainable nutrition and environmental stewardship.

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*California Cider House, LLC*

*\$349,650.00*

**North Coast Region / Mendocino County**

California Cider House LLC will provide critical infrastructure needed for both immediate impact and future sustainability to revitalize long-standing historic success with the California school market. This project includes fencing to protect trees from wildlife damage, cold storage for school buyer convenience, solar system, staffing for pruning, irrigating, harvest, sales, and hospitality, planting 3,000 trees in a modern high-density orchard for long-term economic viability, increased production, lower costs for schools, and increased employee safety. Thousands of school children will receive hands-on food education through classroom farm tours, special school activities, community events, and agritourism.

*Capay Mills LLC*

*\$274,780.00*

**Central Region / Placer, Sacramento, Sutter, Yolo, and Yuba counties**

Capay Mills LLC will create a “closed-loop” supply chain for flour to be used in school food systems by building milling capacity to meet the needs of partner districts with any available surplus for sale to districts statewide. Capay Mills will hire experienced contract farmers to grow value-added grain, who will be responsible for post-harvest storage, milling and delivery to districts statewide through their sales and distribution partners, Spork Food Hub. The project will also include a multi-dimensional, hands-on educational platform for students and teachers alike.

*Capay Valley Growers, Inc.*

*\$114,963.27*

**Central Region / Yolo County**

Capay Valley Growers, Inc. will collaborate with at least ten local farmers and at least one school district, Esparto Unified School District, to boost the availability of fresh produce for school meals. The project will prioritize on-farm and on-campus food education, offering farm-to-school curriculum, field trips, and culinary training, which will bolster access to nutritious foods while supporting local rural economies and climate smart agriculture.

*CastleBrite Apricot Farm*

*\$52,925.00*

**San Joaquin Region / Tulare County**

Castle Brite Apricot Farm will expand into the school food market and promote sustainable agriculture by obtaining organic certification, developing a food safety plan to ensure the highest quality produce, increasing labor capacity, and implementing climate-smart practices including composting and drip irrigation. This project will offer educational field trips to directly engage with youth and provide hands-on learning experiences to foster a connection between students and food sources.

*Community Action Partnership of Orange County*

*\$320,227.01*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / Orange County**

Community Action Partnership of Orange County (CAP OC) will increase food production by investing in farm labor and climate-smart agricultural practices at the 8-acre Giving Farm, in partnership with Westminster High School (WHS). CAP OC will supply WHS on behalf of Huntington Beach Union High School District Food Services with produce grown at the Giving Farm.

*Cruz Martinez Farms*

*\$350,000.00*

**San Joaquin Region / Madera County**

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Cruz Martinez Farms will expand organic vegetable options for Chowchilla Unified School District and beyond, by planting 1,000 organic blueberry bushes and orange trees, investing in soil amendments, plants, irrigation, mulching, and labor, upgrading packing area, adding a vegetable storage facility to ensure prompt delivery of high-quality produce, and enhancing infrastructure for easier farm access. The project will foster community connections by welcoming school field trips and offering hands-on learning about local agriculture and land stewardship.

*Cyclops Farms*

*\$350,000.00*

**Southern Region / San Diego County**

Cyclops Farms will bring locally grown food to the children's tables at local schools by expanding growing operations to meet the demand of school partners through planting more crops and setting up high tunnels to prolong the growing season. The project will offer farm education classes and hands-on learning experience to promote healthy eating and to connect kids to food sources.

*Daniel Stein (Briceland Forest Farm)*

*\$43,996.00*

**North Coast Region / Humboldt County**

Briceland Forest Farm will expand production of crops for local schools and improve processing and storage efficiency in order to provide high quality, fresh, safe, and nutritious options. This project will develop infrastructure to host larger school field trips for students to see how food is grown, processed, and brought to farmers' market. Briceland Forest Farm will increase low tunnel capacity on the farm, extending the growing season, decreasing the water needs and ensuring a constant supply throughout the majority of the school year. Processing will be modernized with specific equipment to make the washing of lettuce mix and carrots efficient, thorough and safe, as well as providing cold storage to have crops be at their freshest when delivered to schools.

*Dream Farm*

*\$341,430.40*

**South Coast Region / Monterey, San Benito County**

Dream Farm will supply organic produce to Monterey County Schools, using sustainable farming practices that create healthy soils and ecosystems. This project will provide hands-on education on organic farming through farm visits for students to experience where food is grown and develop a deeper understanding of how to nourish themselves, the community, and the land where food comes from.

*Early Bird Farm & Mill*

*\$350,000.00*

**Central Region / Calaveras County**

Early Bird Farm & Mill will expand access to nutrient-dense grains and enhance understanding of agriculture's role in health and environmental care, by connecting California farms with school nutrition programs, beginning with the Mt. Diablo School District. This project will invest in a Marketing Director and Videographer to strengthen connections with schools and spread sustainable agriculture messaging, as well as farming technology and educational sites to enrich Early Bird's grain offerings and educational impact.

*Earthseed Consulting LLC (EARTHseed Farm)*

*\$341,376.24*

**Bay Area Region / San Francisco, Sonoma County**

EARTHseed Farm will increase capacity to sell and distribute organic fruit to local community

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partners, Santa Rosa schools and Booker T Washington Community Service Center, through its AfroIndigenous education center and organic farm in Sebastopol, California. This project will offer hands-on educational programming for students from partner organizations on the farm.

*Epmov, Inc. DBA The Farm Cart (Farm Cart Organics)* \$350,000.00

**South Coast Region / Santa Barbara, Ventura County**

Farm Cart Organics will share tools with local farmers to expand climate-smart farming practices and user-friendly marketing material to increase profits and efficiency as part of the Ventura County School Food Hub (VCSFH). The project will provide value-added, minimally processed goods through dehydration, purees, and freezing crops in the warehouse to reduce food loss and recover crops that can be preserved, as well as host summertime Farm to School Chef Trainings for cafeteria staff to learn best practices and strategies for washing, storing, and preparing organic produce to maintain freshness and quality.

*Fertile GroundWorks* \$266,672.00

**Bay Area Region / Alameda County**

Fertile Groundworks will identify and grow selected crops to increase procurement of locally grown fresh produce in school district's meal program, in partnership with Livermore Valley Joint Unified School District's Child Nutrition Services staff. The project will work with individual school's administrations, staff, and parents to increase participation of K-12 students in school gardens, at least once a month, by funding paid garden consultants to assist educators and supervise adult volunteers in learning about sustainable agriculture.

*Fields Farm Produce* \$211,037.50

**San Joaquin Region / Fresno County**

Fields Produce Farm will increase farm-to-school production and distribution capabilities to meet the growing demand for fresh, organically grown produce in California's school food market. The project will invest in essential infrastructure to increase production efficiency, including implements and repairs for a tractor, hiring laborers to harvest and deliver produce to ensure timely and fresh delivery to schools and cold storage facilities to properly store produce, maintaining its freshness. Fields Produce Farm will allocate staff time to conduct food demonstrations, teaching students and underserved communities how to grow and cook healthy meals, thereby promoting food education and healthy eating habits.

*Fiery Ginger Farm, LLC (DBA Spork Food Hub)* \$350,000.00

**Central Region / Alameda, Butte, Contra Costa, El Dorado, Fresno, Los Angeles, Marin, Mendocino, Monterey, Nevada, Orange, Placer, Sacramento, San Benito, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Solano, Yolo, and Yuba counties**

Spork Food Hub will increase procurement from socially disadvantaged farmers using climate smart practices to enhance school meals with high-quality, nutrient-dense produce in partnership with farm incubator programs and school districts. This project will invest in staff and equipment to broaden the scope of work of Spork Food Hub to a statewide level.

*Fogdog Farm LLC* \$267,797.00

**Central Region / El Dorado County**

Fogdog Farm LLC will invest in equipment and systems upgrades to sell produce to the Gold Trail, Rescue, and Buckeye Union School Districts in El Dorado County as well as, expand existing hands-on school field trip programs on the farm. This project will invest in staffing for

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the new program, a tractor and spader to increase production capacity, a series of improvements to the wash and pack facility to process more produce safely and efficiently, and a larger delivery van to accommodate school district deliveries. Students will experience how small, ecological, low-till farms operate, learn about where their school meals come from, and see the crop diversity and biodiversity of Fogdog Farm.

*Foggy Bottoms Boys LLC*

*\$350,000.00*

**North Coast Region / Humboldt County**

Foggy Bottoms Boys LLC will secure 81 acres of sub-irrigated cropland and 47 acres of wildlife refuge on Cock Robin Island for regenerative farming and educational partnerships, as well as expand USDA approved processing capacity by integrating vertically through acquired equipment and upgrades to a previous butcher facility. This project's in-house processing operations will lower costs, making beef more accessible to schools and tribal nations, thereby ensuring the future of regenerative farms and strengthening community food and economic resilience. Foggy Bottoms Boys LLC will partner with Cal Poly Humboldt interns to create field trips and farm curriculum that teaches students about sustainable agriculture, deepening a commitment to the community, education, and environmental stewardship.

*Foodshed Cooperative Inc*

*\$350,000.00*

**Southern Region / San Diego County**

Foodshed Cooperative Inc will link climate-smart, local farmers with students to demonstrate that regenerative food systems is a delicious way to address climate change. This project will partner with the Monarch School, San Diego Unified, Del Mar Union, and National School Districts to increase local procurement from socially disadvantaged farmers, implement a cafeteria-centered educational campaign, and provide hands-on, age-appropriate curriculum that links soil health, carbon sequestration and equitable food systems.

*GlosserPrice LLC (Azolla Farm)*

*\$349,952.42*

**Superior Region / Sutter County**

Azolla Farm will increase farm-to-school production and capacity within Sutter, Placer, Yolo, and Yuba Counties, CA, by expanding growing areas, agricultural equipment and infrastructure, and adding school partnerships. The project will supply a consistent source of fresh, organic produce directly into school food programs including weekly deliveries of 1,000-2,000 lbs. to West Placer Schools, 1,000-1,500 lbs. to the SPORK food hub, and 300-800 lbs. to Yubakami. Azolla Farm will provide hands-on agricultural experiences for students and staff, promoting a sustainable food culture with farm tours and will conduct a year-long analysis comparing local and imported produce, to then publicize data that emphasizes the nutritional benefits of local food in schools.

*Growing Communities, Inc (Crop Swap LA)*

*\$350,000.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / Los Angeles County**

Crop Swap Los Angeles (LA) will allocate over an acre of consolidated urban farm production space to grow for Los Angeles Unified School District's Food Services and distribution to South Region schools. This project will expand the organization's farm to school efforts in South LA, which includes revitalized campus green spaces and outdoor learning environments, student programming, and additional food distribution channels including student-led farmer's markets, community-supported agriculture memberships, and community partnerships.

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*Growing Together - Bay Area* **\$347,520.00**

**Bay Area Region / Contra Costa County**

Growing Together – Bay Area will build an economically viable model for school-based farming, increase consumption of fresh food in low-income schools, and personally connect K-12 students to agricultural systems to inspire and prepare for fresh food related careers. The project will facilitate weekly high-volume sales of produce grown at school-based farms to West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) Food Services and integrate in-demand products into scratch cooked meals at multiple schools on a regular basis. Growing Together – Bay Area will expand Career and Technical Education (CTE) training programs to 6 schools, provide desired work opportunities to youth, and interweave farm to school experiential education into the during-school instructional and after school enrichment at all district Title 1 schools for 9,000 students.

*Induchucuiti Organic Farm* **\$349,028.84**

**South Coast Region / Monterey County**

Induchucuiti Organic Farm will increase production and capacity to provide organic produce to school districts throughout Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties. The project will partner with school districts to provide student education on organic farming, connecting students to the natural environment through organic produce.

*Inquiring Systems Inc. (Poco Farm)* **\$347,764.00**

**South Coast Region / Ventura County**

Poco Farm will increase production and processing of organic produce for Ojai Unified School District (OUSD) by acquiring needed equipment and infrastructure including a solar-powered cold storage trailer, planting a new stone fruit orchard, and hiring a part-time market garden and orchard manager to coordinate with the Nutrition Services team to tailor production around the unique needs of the district. The project will expand its offerings of free hands-on learning opportunities, including field trips, after school programs, high school internships and off-site meetings for School Food Authority (SFA) staff by expanding the hours of current teaching staff members, hiring one additional part-time educator, and building a much-needed permanent restroom for visiting students. OUSD students will be involved in every step of the growing and processing of Poco Farm's produce, from seed selection to distributing samples in the cafeteria.

*Karina Sparks dba Sparks Ranch* **\$349,520.00**

**Central Region / Yolo County**

Sparks Ranch will increase distribution of oranges to regional school districts by 40% through identifying a new packing shed with modern, cleaning and sorting equipment in closer proximity to the 20-acre growing area. The project will include a new refrigeration unit to Sparks Ranch's existing delivery van to stabilize and retain the fresh quality of the oranges delivered to the school children.

*Karuk Tribe* **\$349,945.65**

**Superior Region / Humboldt, Siskiyou County**

Karuk Tribe will expand production, distribution, and sales of produce to Tribal Head Start and three local elementary schools. This project will support operating costs to produce, harvest, and pack food on the Tribal-run farm, pilot minimal processing efforts to increase produce sales, develop relationships with school food service managers, coordinate sales, and distribute produce to schools and childcare programs serving Tribal youth. Karuk Tribe will develop and



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distribute educational materials and activities for participating schools, including recipe books, produce taste-testing, farmer visits, and field trips and continue to improve internal procedures that support long term sustainability of the farm including food safety practices and procurement policies.

*Katherine O'Brien-Mann (Homeward Bounty Farm)* \$284,100.00  
**Superior Region / Siskiyou County**

Homeward Bounty Farm will supply local organic food using climate-smart practices for Butteville Union Elementary School's cafeteria, culinary arts program, and school-wide taste-test experiences. This project will expand capacity to meet increased demand of produce through expanding growing space, increasing staff, and investing in sustainable infrastructure to ensure the longevity of the Farm to School project. Homeward Bounty Farm will invest in infrastructure to support school field trips, farm tours and curriculum development, transforming the farm's capacity to offer a vibrant living classroom learning environment.

*KCMartin Farms, LLC (Wellspring Charitable Gardens)* \$328,291.00  
**Central Region / Stanislaus County**

KCMartin Farms will add farm implements and staffing to increase production and distribution of seasonal produce to local schools requesting larger quantities. This project will collaborate with nutrition directors to build menus using seasonal produce, as well as organize school field trips for hands-on farm experiences that have positive effects on emotional health and gut health for students.

*Local Bounty (dba Real Good Fish)* \$342,260.46  
**South Coast Region / Monterey, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Santa Clara, and Santa Cruz Counties**

Local Bounty (dba Real Good Fish) will implement its sustainable, regional seafood in school meals program, Bay2Tray, to provide turnkey, scalable solutions to overcome barriers experienced by school districts, to directly support California fisheries and to improve child nutrition and food access. Project activities will engage and support three critical audiences: students, child nutrition staff, and leadership, through engagement, technical support, and unique hands-on education to create affordable, climate friendly, sustainable and scalable supply chains to serve more California seafood to more California kids.

*Lost Sierra Food Project* \$212,799.60  
**South Coast Region / Plumas County**

Lost Sierra Food Project's (LSFP) Rugged Roots Farm will be a production and education site for farm to school programming, including hosting student field trips and high school internship program that involve youth in the production and processing of produce for school procurement. This project will increase sales to cafeterias in replicable, sustainable model for other local farms in Plumas County, as well as host professional development opportunities for food service staff.

*Madera's Queen Honey LLC* \$335,573.65  
**San Joaquin Region / Madera County**

Madera's Queen Honey LLC will expand distribution and production capabilities of natural, high-quality honey to school districts to meet the growing demand for products and support scratch cooking in school cafeterias, enhancing the flavor and nutritional value of meals offered to

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students. This project will invest in a forklift, tractor, honey bottling, storage equipment, an extraction line, honey stick and packet machines, and a compressor to streamline operations and ensure consistency. Madera Queen Honey will offer educational talks about bees and honey production to schools, providing hands-on food education for students and staff, catalyzing a deeper connection between students and their food sources, and promoting the importance of local agriculture.

*Masumoto Family Farm*

*\$162,869.51*

**San Joaquin Region / Fresno County**

Masumoto Family Farm's "The Ready for Farm-to-School: 'Raisin' Our Kids with Connection to the Land" organic raisin production project will serve students in Sanger Unified School District and offer public programming and education for TK-8 students and staff. The project will purchase necessary equipment, develop key procedures and infrastructure, and create thoughtful educational content in collaboration with local Farm-to-School partners. Masumoto Farm will continue growing and selling organic raisins to local schools and produce replicable educational materials and an annual on-farm experience to offer to a wider educational audience.

*Mesa Grande Business Development Corporation*

*\$350,000.00*

**Southern Region / San Diego County**

Mesa Grande Business Development Corporation will increase food production and distribution of fresh, healthy, and locally grown produce to Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) schools, in partnership Mesa Grande's Golden Eagle Farm and SDCOE. This project will provide hands-on food education to SDCOE students and staff through farm tours, crop planting, harvesting, cooking, tasting sessions, and additional customized learning experiences.

*Mimi's Organic Farm*

*\$349,140.00*

**South Coast Region / Santa Cruz County**

Mimi's Organic Farm will provide fresh, organic produce to local school districts, by ensuring quality and appropriate crop planning, in partnership with Conscious Kitchen. This project will provide a positive business venture to enter the school food market, as well as the opportunity educate future generations about sustainable farming and inspire a broader adoption of organic practices.

*Moon Toad Farms*

*\$350,000.00*

**Superior Region / Siskiyou County**

Moon Toad Farms will transition its existing farm site into a perennial garden for berries and spring vegetables and add an additional 1.3 acres of growing space, by using climate smart and regenerative agriculture and habitat inclusive practices for diversified crop production. The project will supply whole fruits and vegetables for local schools in Siskiyou County and Trinity County and host farm days, offering hands-on learning opportunities and training programs for teens interested in agriculture and culinary classes. Improvements to the existing site and the expansion of the farm will increase production to provide local schools with ingredients to serve in scratch-cooked meals and snacks.

*Nana Mae's Organics*

*\$350,000.00*

**Bay Area Region / Sonoma County**

Nana Mae's Organic will increase production to supply 7,500 cases of fresh-picked fruit to West

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Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD). This project will reinvest sales into additional labor and capital used to expand post-harvest treatments of cover cropping, composting, pruning, chipping, tree planting, fertilizing, cultivation of cover crop into the field by low-till and no-till mowing, and creating additional hedgerows for biodiversity, improving production on average of 3 tons per acre. Nana Mae's Organics will purchase a refrigerated van to expand distribution to additional schools, ensuring the fresh fruit quality within hours of harvest.

*Natural Farming Life LLC*

*\$350,000.00*

**North Coast Region / Humboldt, Mendocino County**

Natural Farming Life LLC will increase the supply and variety of organic produce from the Garberville Community Park into school meals within Southern Humboldt Joint Unified School District and other charter schools including Agnes J Johnson Charter School. Natural Farming Life, in partnership with school meal coordinators, will develop and distribute educational materials highlighting the importance of organic, locally sourced food for healthy diets and local food ecosystems. This project will organize farm field trips, provide vegetable starts for school gardens, facilitate community service opportunities for high school seniors, and enhance school garden projects with expert presentations.

*North Coast Opportunities, Inc.*

*\$350,000.00*

**North Coast Region / Lake, Mendocino County**

North Coast Opportunities, Inc. (NCO) will develop a school-farm hub to act as the primary link for procuring from local farmers and schools will be able to streamline procurement by placing single orders sourced from multiple producers. This project will partner with Laytonville Unified School District (LUSD) and three local producers to increase local produce in school meals, introduce students to local mushrooms, mushroom-based and other new foods, and climate-friendly food farming, encourage schools to expand purchasing of climate-sustainable foods, and build farmer capacity to produce and market climate-sustainable foods to schools. Mendocino County Resource Conservation District (MCRCD) will coordinate hands-on food education for high school students. NCO will provide farmers with infrastructure to increase climate-smart production capacity, adoption of climate-smart strategies, and assist with development of contracts with schools.

*Noyo Food Forest*

*\$ 137,829.62*

**North Coast Region / Mendocino County**

Noyo Food Forest will expand hands-on food education programs and increase food production for Fort Bragg Unified School District's (FBUSD) Nutrition Services Department while staying true to their climate-smart, regenerative food-growing practices. The grant will fund a new Garden Educator, farm infrastructure, and partnership with two new Career Technical Education initiatives at FBUSD. This investment will also allow Noyo Food Forest to increase current farm yields to meet demand for produce from the local school district.

*Nurturing Seed*

*\$350,000.00*

**North Coast Region / Mendocino County**

Nurturing Seed will expand production, processing, and distribution capabilities and promote sustainability and community engagement through providing on-farm learning experiences for students in the community. This project will implement climate smart practices such as planting hedgerows and increasing onsite composting capacities, adding greenhouses and a hoop-house to extend the growing season and ensuring a more consistent food supply, adding a new

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building with post-harvest pack-wash station, adding a commercial kitchen for produce processing, and providing an on-farm classroom space. Nurturing Seed will improve gravel roads to ensure year-round access to farm areas, purchase a tractor for farming efficacy, and support farm staff in career growth.

*Ocean Air Farms*

*\$116,449.70*

**North Coast Region / Del Norte County**

Ocean Air Farms (OAF) will scale production to meet the Del Norte Unified School District's request for local produce as well as, provide educational signage at the school salad bars highlighting OAF's produce and the importance of nutritional information and sustainable agriculture production practices. This project will invest in four new caterpillar tunnels of 6,400 square feet to grow salad mix and radish for schools' salad bars, a paper pot transplanter and a 3 drill Jang seeder to increase production of carrots and salad mix, a greens harvester and a Tilmor undercutter to improve harvesting and greens bubbler, salad spinner, and root barrel washer for efficient processing and a walk-in cooler for ongoing sales of salad mix, radish, and carrots to the school district.

*Old Grove Orange Inc.*

*\$350,000.00*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / San Bernardino County**

Old Grove Orange Inc. will increase vegetable production to local school districts. This project will add three learning modules to Farm Field Trip programming and replace a diesel-powered pump with a more climate-friendly, solar-powered array.

*Opal Creek Farm*

*\$349,986.00*

**South Coast Region / Santa Cruz County**

Opal Creek Farm will increase organic production and sales of organic produce for the free school meal programs at Pacific Elementary School and future school districts, in which many students participate as part of low income and homeless families. This project will plant more acres dedicated for school sales, stake all tomato plants, improve infrastructure, and increase harvest frequency. Opal Creek Farm will provide agricultural education and field trips for K-5th grade students to increase agricultural literacy including topics on organic farming, climate beneficial practices, and water-wise farming.

*Oya Organics*

*\$350,000.00*

**South Coast Region / San Benito County**

Oya Organics will improve and increase the production and distribution of local organic produce for school districts in the region, as well as implement hands-on educational activities. This project will purchase additional high tunnels to extend the harvest season and increase production volume of popular fruiting crops during months when schools are in session, a refrigerated delivery vehicle to fulfill fresh organic produce deliveries to schools, a cultivating tractor and implements to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of production activities for crops and a dedicated computer for the farm office to improve farm to school administration and communication capacity.

*Queen of Vegetables Organic Farm*

*\$347,554.30*

**South Coast Region / Monterey County**

Queen of Vegetables Organic Farm will produce and deliver fresh, organic produce to Monterey County and surrounding area schools through strategic equipment purchases that support

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organic farming practices. The project will increase growing efficiencies, introduce new produce varieties for students to enjoy, and improve distribution to schools by increasing staff capacity through farm to school field and distribution staff.

*Redwood Roots Farm Cooperative Inc*

*\$40,222.00*

**North Coast Region / Humboldt County**

Redwood Roots Farm Cooperative Inc. will increase farm capacity to produce, process, and distribute food to California schools and expand educational outreach including student field trips and hands-on activities that align with students' curriculum. The project will invest in organic compost, seeds, and cover crops to improve soil health and increase yields, row covers, new hoop house plastic, and a drip line irrigation system to protect crops and conserve water for an extended growing season, internet connectivity, road improvements for better farm access, and supplies for educational activities.

*Root 64 Sacramento, LLC*

*\$350,000.00*

**Central Region / Sacramento County**

Root 64 Sacramento will expand farm operations and provide experiential and educational opportunities for students in the Urban Agriculture Academy at Luther Burbank High School, including the expansion of its school garden. This project will increase students' skills in soil building, infrastructure development, and production, thereby expanding capacity to operate a productive market garden style urban farm for providing produce for the school district. Processes will be documented to supplement curricula for future students. Root 64 Sacramento will increase its long-term business viability through increased production space, improved and secure storage space for vital bulk materials, and access to proper equipment for safely carrying out basic market garden operations.

*Salazar Organic Farms*

*\$333,487.75*

**South Coast Region / Santa Cruz County**

Salazar Organic Farm will supply West Contra Costa Unified School District (WCCUSD) with fresh, organic produce while fostering educational opportunities for students, leveraging expertise in organic farming to deliver high-quality strawberries and other seasonal crops directly to schools. This project will educate students about sustainable agriculture practices through interactive experiences, as well as invest in organic certification and innovative supply chains to ensure a steady flow of healthy food to schools.

*Sunago Christian Fellowship Church*

*\$350,000.00*

*(dba Foundations for Future Generations)*

**Greater Los Angeles Region / San Bernardino County**

Foundations for Future Generations will enhance infrastructure, expand growing and selling of local produce to schools by supporting small rural farm communities to emerge as role models in fostering a conservation mindset in the next generation. This project will use tools that merge technology with hands-on growing, develop farming workforces, and create solutions to the food deserts that are on the rise in underserved communities. Foundations for Future Generations will engage school age youth through teaching about growing and harvesting food for the community, merging modern technology with farming practices, and principles of leadership, character, and entrepreneurship.

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*The Farmer Ken LLC*

*\$350,000.00*

**Southern Region / Los Angeles, Riverside County**

The Farmer Ken LLC will expand year-round fruit and vegetable production to deliver fresh, regeneratively grown produce on an ongoing basis to Crete Academy, a network of schools serving under-resourced communities located in south Los Angeles. This project will build school community gardens and host garden and nutrition education workshops, allowing students to explore fresh and local produce and how to grow food.

*Three Feathers Farm*

*\$254,448.97*

**Bay Area Region / Santa Clara County**

Three Feathers Farms will enhance distribution capabilities to expand reach in the California school food market and provide hands-on education for students and school staff through hiring additional employees. This project will modernize the post-harvest processing facility, install cold storage, acquire a refrigerated distribution vehicle, establish a washing facility, packing shed, high tunnels, and storage, and start to produce value-added products like dehydrated herbs and peppers.

*Ujamaa Farmer Collective*

*\$349,781.70*

**Central Region / Sacramento, Yolo County**

Ujamaa Farmer Collective will increase production capacity to provide healthy foods to existing and new farm-to-school partnerships in underserved areas of Sacramento and Yolo, by leasing land and providing access to processing and distribution for new and beginning farms, prioritizing small and socially disadvantaged farmers. This project will prioritize the cultivation of culturally relevant crops, ensuring that students are introduced to new and heritage foods reflective of their backgrounds, as well as provide hands-on education, agritourism, and training opportunities at the 22-acre collective farmland and food hub.

*Young Roots Foundation*

*\$308,307.00*

**San Joaquin Region / Tulare County**

Young Roots Foundation will increase production, processing, and distribution for the California school food market, enhancing access to healthy food options and supporting local communities. This project will partner with School Food Authority (SFA) and childcare center staff to include hands-on food education initiatives aimed at empowering students to make healthy food choices and fostering a deeper connection to agriculture.