

Food and Farming Focus Area Grant History

FY 2022

\$50,000 to **MANNA FoodBank** to cover program, operational, and food purchase costs of its mobile food programs.

FY 2021

\$41,000 to **Macon County Public Health (as the fiscal sponsor for MountainWise)** to support the continuation of the Double Up Food Bucks program in Buncombe, Jackson, Haywood, Transylvania, Madison, and Rutherford counties.

\$25,000 to **Organic Growers School** for general operating support, including support for programming that provides WNC farmers with individualized support, advanced education, and mentoring services to enhance farmer success and sustainability.

\$20,000 to **Organic Growers School (on behalf of the WNC Food Justice Planning Initiative)** to fund the second phase of this collaborative regional project to create a thriving and resilient local food system with food justice for all in WNC.

\$30,000 to **The Utopian Seed Project** to assist with general operating expenses in order to develop a regional seed hub that can support, encourage, and celebrate a diverse food system of regionally-adapted crops.

FY 2020

\$8,500 to **Dig In! Yancey Community Garden** to engage Taproot Consulting and Judy Futch Consulting to help the organization develop a 3-year strategic plan involving a participatory community engagement process and to build the capacity of board and staff to support the plan's implementation.

\$50,000 to **Macon County Public Health (as the fiscal sponsor for MountainWise)** to support the Double Up Food Bucks program in Buncombe, Jackson, Haywood, Transylvania, Mitchell, Yancey, and Henderson counties.

\$45,000 to **MANNA FoodBank** to complete the annual program budget for the first full year of MANNA's Community Market, its new mobile pantry and resource center.

\$39,787 to **McDowell Local Food Advisory Council (LFAC)** to purchase a 15' x 10' walk-in cooler and pay for installation and set-up as part of the Foothills Food Hub, one of LFAC's programs.

\$20,000 to **Organic Growers School** for a project through which twelve nonprofit, governmental, and educational organizations working on issues of food insecurity in WNC will join other food security organizations, growers, and community representatives working in Buncombe County and the WNC region to plan for a more equitable, sustainable, and resilient local food system.

\$30,000 to **Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy (SAHC)** to support sustainable local agriculture at SAHC's 135-acre Community Farm in Alexander through its Farmer Incubator Program, which offers land, infrastructure, equipment, training, and coaching for beginning farmers.

\$43,284 to **Toe River Aggregation Center Training Organization Regional (TRACTOR)** to expand the capacity of its multi-farm CSA program to reach a wider base of farmers and in turn provide the community with greater access to local food.

FY 2019

\$120,000 over three years to **Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project (ASAP)** to expand farmers' direct sales by connecting farmers' markets to consumer demand for healthy eating.

\$15,000 to **Foothills Conservancy of North Carolina** to study the agricultural landscape near the Tryon International Equestrian Center to identify and prioritize farmland conservation opportunities.

\$35,000 to **Macon County Public Health (as the fiscal sponsor for MountainWise)** to expand the Double Up Food Bucks program in Buncombe, Haywood, Jackson, Transylvania, Swain, Graham, Clay, Macon and Cherokee counties.

\$8,500 to **Organic Growers School** to engage Kallan Strategic to assist in a strategic planning process.

\$25,000 to **Organic Growers School** to continue programming that provides WNC farmers with individualized support, advanced education, and mentoring services that enhance farmer success and sustainability.

\$50,000 to **Toe River Aggregation Center Organization Regional (TRACTOR)** to increase direct-to-consumer sales channels, as well as expand the types of food-related business and overall number of farmers that TRACTOR serves.

\$40,000 to **YMCA of Western North Carolina** to purchase a new box truck for its Healthy Living Mobile Market program.

FY 2018

\$40,000 to **Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project (ASAP)** to provide farmers and farmers markets with training and technical assistance on marketing strategies in order to increase farmer direct sales.

\$30,000 to **Eliada Homes** to fund a Farm Manager and to purchase supplies for two commercial growing tunnels to support Eliada Farms, Eliada's new earned revenue venture.

\$35,000 to **Isothermal Planning and Development Commission** to support the Community Food and Health Hub in order to lower food insecurity, increase healthy food at pantries, build a stronger and more prosperous local food system, and increase access to fresh healthy food in McDowell County.

\$25,000 (contingent upon other funds) to **Mainspring Conservation Trust** to assist with closing and transactional costs related to an agricultural conservation easement of a heritage farm in Cherokee County.

\$40,000 to **MANNA FoodBank** to increase access to nutritious food for families in need, and to provide local, sustainable approaches to nutrition and health focused work via "Nutrition Works," an on-site nutrition education and clinic referral project.

\$20,000 to **Organic Growers School** to support the expansion of year-round Farmer Programs and outreach into Polk County and within communities of color.

FY 2017

\$45,000 to **Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project (ASAP)** to help farmers develop personalized marketing relationships through the Building Connections: Helping Appalachian Grown Farmers Tell Their Farm Story program.

\$24,650 to **Bountiful Cities** to support a pilot project of the Fair Food Network's Double Up Food Bucks program in Asheville and Buncombe County, which provides a dollar for dollar match when produce is purchased with SNAP dollars.

\$20,000 to **McDowell County NC Cooperative Extension** to determine the feasibility of a Community Food and Health Hub, which would serve as a central location for MANNA FoodBank to store and distribute products to pantries throughout the county and provide a variety of services to strengthen the county's overall food system.

\$25,000 to **Organic Growers School** for programs intended to increase the number of successful beginning and expanding organic farmers in WNC through farmer-led, farmer-driven and strategically-aligned support services.

\$29,500 and \$16,000 to **Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy (SAHC)** to expand the agricultural business incubator for beginning farmers and hands-on educational workshop series at the Incubator Farm in Alexander, as well as to support WNC FarmLink, a program facilitating strong relationships between farmers looking for land and landowners aspiring to keep their land in agriculture.

\$24,000 to **Southwestern NC RC&D** for farm assessments in order to maximize opportunities available at the farm level. Actions may include community college agriculture business classes, an Appalachian Farm School, a Rural Food Business Assistance Project and intensive agriculture workshops.

\$49,660 to **Toe River Aggregation Center Training Organization Regional (TRACTOR)** to add a full-time sales position and part-time bookkeeping support. These two positions will expand TRACTOR's operational capacity to increase sales channels and actual sales.

FY 2016

\$45,000 to **Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project (ASAP)** to help farmers develop personalized marketing relationships through the Building Connections: Helping Appalachian Grown Farmers Tell Their Farm Story program.

\$30,000 to **Organic Growers School** to support continued implementation or expansion of key farmer training programs serving WNC.

\$30,000 to **Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy (SAHC)** to continue development of its agricultural incubator, located at SAHC's 100-acre farm in Alexander, which provides land, equipment, support and training for beginning and limited resource farmers.

\$5,500 to **Southwestern Community College** to support the Appalachian Farm School program, which will provide at least twenty new or existing farmers with training and support to make their agribusiness successful.

\$39,500 to **Yancey County** to support a community effort to develop a comprehensive foodshed action plan.

FY 2015

\$7,500 to **Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project (ASAP)** for financial sustainability planning to strengthen the long-term capacity of the organization to continue providing support to farmers and building the local food system.

\$47,000 to **Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project (ASAP)** for the Filling the Distribution Gap: Using Appalachian Grown to Connect Farmers and Distributors program.

\$29,000 to **MANNA FoodBank** for the Network Capacity Improvement Project, which helps partner agencies in rural communities increase their ability to distribute healthy food to people in need in WNC.

\$4,500 to **Mountain Valleys Resource Conservation and Development Council** to research and define a grazing strategy for reclaiming and regenerating mountain pastureland.

\$7,500 to **Organic Growers School** to improve branding and funding in order to expand their mission of inspiring, educating and supporting people to farm, garden and live organically.

\$15,000 to **Organic Growers School** to support development of a comprehensive, regionally-informed farmer training curriculum tailored to maximize economic possibilities for WNC farmers.

\$34,500 to **Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy (SAHC)** for its Incubator Farm, launched in 2014, that serves beginning and limited resources farmers. Funds will purchase equipment and provide infrastructure.

\$16,500 to **Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy (SAHC)** for operating expenses for the WNC FarmLink program, which facilitates strong relationships between farmers looking for land and landowners aspiring to keep their land in agriculture.

\$22,500 to **Southwestern NC Resource Conservation and Development Council** to support the introduction of "high tunnel" production for family farms.

\$20,000 to **Toe River Aggregation Center Training Organization Regional (TRACTOR)** to secure new markets and expand its core group of large growers to increase the volume of produce aggregated and distributed through the Burnsville food hub.

\$25,000 to **WNC Communities** to transition Blue Ridge Food Ventures (BRFV) from AdvantageWest to WNC Communities. Funding will ensure continuation of BRFV operations, including expanding the successful co-pack program and securing additional funding for operational sustainability.

FY 2014

\$20,000 to **AdvantageWest Economic Development Group** to implement and maintain a contract packing program at Blue Ridge Food Ventures on the Enka A-B Tech campus, allowing clients to shift staff and resources from production to other key business functions.

\$30,000 to **Macon County Public Health Department for MountainWise Partnership** for the Healthy Corner Market effort, which improves nutrition by making healthier foods and beverages available in convenience stores in rural areas.

\$12,324 to **Mayland Community College Foundation** for the Mayland Berkshire Project, a pilot pig farming program for high school students in Mitchell, Avery and Yancey counties.

\$25,500 to **Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy (SAHC)** to help create the first WNC agricultural business incubator for beginning and limited resource farmers.

\$25,000 to **Southwestern Commission** to complete a Master Plan for the WNC Farmers Market, which will benefit 1,000 WNC farmers and agricultural producers. CFWNC funding will help match a \$50,000 grant by the Appalachian Regional Commission.

FY 2013

\$35,000 to **Appalachian Sustainable Agriculture Project (ASAP)** to support a major expansion of ASAP's Appalachian Grown regional food branding and certification program, which promotes locally-grown farm products in the marketplace to enable consumers to easily identify and support local food and farmers.

\$50,000 to **MANNA FoodBank** to build the capacity of MANNA's 16-county food distribution network. Funds will be used to train network volunteers, provide customized technical assistance to partners, and assist local food pantries in implementing best practices.

\$10,000 to **Southern Appalachian Highlands Conservancy (SAHC)** for operating expenses for a recently funded Farmland Access Service coordinator, who will link landless farmers to farmland in WNC. AgriVentures, a joint undertaking by the AdvantageWest Economic Development Group and Land-of-Sky Regional Council, has committed to pay the salary of the part-time staff member for three years.

FY 2012

\$25,855 to **Carolina Farm Stewardship Association** for start-up staffing for Carolina Ground to mill NC grains for WNC bakeries and restaurants.

\$75,000 to **Land-of-Sky Regional Council/WNC AgriVentures** for a "Growing our Agricultural Sector" project, which includes regional approaches to local food systems and value-added products, especially in rural countries. CFWNC committed \$75,000 in matching funds over 3 years, in addition to \$815,000 from the USDA Rural Jobs Accelerator Program.

\$25,000 to **Mitchell County** for the TRACTOR Food Hub Project's purchase of shared farm field equipment for new/transitioning farmers in Mitchell and Yancey counties. Co-funded by The Fund for Mitchell County and The Yancey Fund.

\$22,200 to **UNC Asheville Foundation** for a Farm-to-School project connecting five Haywood County Schools with ASAP and UNC Asheville Center for Health and Wellness. Co-funded by Fund for Haywood County.