

## **CFSC Community Food Project Profile in Arkansas**

**Southern Sustainable Agriculture Working Group, Elkins, AR (2003, 2006)-**

**Grants awarded: \$177,743 in 2003 for 3 years; \$124,000 in 2006 for one year.**

The Southern Sustainable Agriculture Working Group works to increase understanding of community food security issues in the Southern United States. Their two recent CFP grants allowed the group to offer significant training and technical assistance to the development of numerous projects in 13 southern states. Their work in these projects has included increasing the capacity of locally run farmer's markets; increasing local food production; promoting "buy local" campaigns; community and school gardening; nutrition and cooking classes; establishing food policy councils; and offering general education about where food comes from and how it is produced. These grants have been effective in empowering farmers, individuals and communities to create an agricultural system that is more ecologically sound, economically viable and socially just.