

Community Food Project Profile in Idaho

Rural Roots, Moscow, ID

Grant awarded: \$30,000 in 2005 for one year

The Bringing Sustainable Food into Youth Outdoor Education project has established a farm-to-school model to promote fresh, local, nutritious, and sustainable food for residents and visitors at the McCall Outdoor Science School at the University of Idaho Field Campus. Over 400 students, chaperones, and educators visit the University of Idaho campus each year. Many of these individuals come from economically depressed, rural areas and do not have access to fresh and local food at school or at home. Prior to the CFP-funded project, a partnership between the University of Idaho and the Palouse Clearwater Environmental Institute (PCEI), the campus was able to offer mainly processed foods from distant sources, with very little fresh produce. In its first phase, the project consisted of an assessment of both the University of Idaho and Central Idaho's food systems. Forging local connections between farmers, the economy and the environment, the project then implemented a successful farm-to school program in which campus meals come directly from local farmers, and produce is grown on-site to supplement campus meals.