

Community Food Project Grantees in Maryland

Four CFP grants have been awarded to organizations in Maryland between 1996 and 2006, totaling \$471,010. Two of these projects are profiled below.

Garden Harvest, Glydon

Grant awarded: \$255,000 in 2004 for 3-year period.

Since 1991, Garden Harvest has worked to alleviate hunger and improve nutrition by establishing community farms that teach people of all ages and backgrounds how to grow food organically and sustainably, and by providing about 300,000 pounds of produce to 105 agencies each year. Their 2004 Community Food Project, “Animal Husbandry for Food Security”, provides much-needed protein to low income people in both urban and rural areas by producing and selling goat’s milk and eggs at steeply discounted prices, and by donating excess goats, sheep, and chickens to poor rural citizens. The animals’ manure and weed control will increase the farm’s donations of fresh organic produce to emergency food agencies that feed the hungry. The project also offers training to unskilled persons from poor rural areas such as Appalachia, increasing the area’s self-reliance.

Red Wiggler Foundation, Clarksburg

Grant awarded: \$11,010 in 2006 for 1-year period

The Red Wiggler Foundation was established in 1996 to create meaningful jobs for adults with developmental disabilities, engaging them in the business of growing and selling high quality vegetables in Montgomery County, Maryland. They have run a successful CSA in since 1996, now with 80 participants. The Foundation’s 2006 Creating Fertile Ground project aims to evaluate and assess the nutritional needs of low-income, disabled adults living in group homes. Working with professional nutritionists, they will develop an evaluative questionnaire to assess the potential social and economic impacts of expanding their work. The results of the survey will also help to determine special training needs for the staff of the farm, and to develop a narrative of these needs that can be shared with the community, employees, potential farmers, and patrons.