



NEWS RELEASE

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Waterford School District Receives \$44,900 USDA Farm to School Planning Grant

November 19, 2012, Waterford, Mich. – The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has awarded the Waterford School District \$44,900 in funding for a Farm to School Planning Grant. This first-ever USDA Farm to School Grant will help the District in planning farm to school programs that improve access to local foods.

The Waterford School District's objectives of the project include identifying local resources that will facilitate implementation of farm to school; identifying local foods and appealing recipes to add to the menu so that local foods are available during as much of the year as possible; providing training so that food service staff are fully prepared to implement farm to school; educating district and community leaders on strategies for successful implementation of farm to school; and creating a farm to school plan with short- term and long-term goals. In addition, this grant will allow the District to improve student nutrition, encourage healthy eating choices, and help students understand where their food comes from.

Of the 68 projects awarded across the United States, Waterford is the only school district in Michigan to receive this highly competitive award. “I’m proud to help announce this farm-to-school grant which will help the Waterford School District put more local foods on the menu,” said U.S. Representative Gary Peters. “This innovative program not only helps ensure that our children get nutritious meal at school, but also supports local farmers and reduces greenhouse gases, resulting in a stronger, healthier community.”

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