

CT GROWN FOR CT KIDS

Grant Program Report



Connecticut Department of Agriculture

450 Columbus Blvd.
Hartford, CT



Executive Summary

- Established under P.A. 21-2, S.364, Effective July 1, 2021, and codified July 1, 2023, Chapter 169 Sec. 10-215I, the Connecticut Grown for Connecticut Kids Grant (CTG4CTK Grant) is administered by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DOAG) to assist in the development of farm-to-school programs in local or regional boards of education, regional educational service centers, cooperative arrangements pursuant to section 10-158a of the general statutes, childcare centers, group childcare homes and family childcare homes as described in section 19a-77 of the general statutes, or any organization or entity administering or assisting in the development of a farm-to-school program that:
 - Increase the availability of local foods in child nutrition programs;
 - Allow educators to use hands-on educational techniques to teach students about nutrition and farm-to-school connections;
 - Sustain relationships with local farmers and producers;
 - Enrich the educational experience of students;
 - Improve the health of children in the state; and
 - Enhance the state's economy.

The statute also establishes a CTG4CTK Advisory Committee which assists DOAG with reviewing applications and providing technical assistance to grant recipients with the development and implementation of awarded farm-to-school programs.

Background

An initial \$250,000 in funding to the CTG4CTK Grant was allocated in Public Act 21-2, utilizing American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). In FY23, an additional allocation from Public Act 22-118 increased the funding from \$250,000 to \$500,000.

In the 2023 legislative session, the program was appropriated state funding for FY24 and FY25 at \$1 million annually. Additionally, a one-time \$2 million ARPA allocation was made for the purpose of funding projects which implemented shipping container growing systems in connection with schools. Given the connection with farm to school, DOAG chose to run this one-time allocation as a supplemental program under the CTG4CTK Grant.

Process

DOAG administered the grant in FY22 and FY23 with one funding round each year in which applicants were able to apply for \$24,999 per project with a timeline of up to 18 months.

Projects awarded in FY22 completed their projects by September 30, 2023.

Projects awarded in FY23 have contracts effective from February 1, 2023, through July 30, 2024.

Results and Conclusion

DOAG received 131 applications requesting a total of \$1,984,710 in funds. In consultation with the advisory board, the agency awarded funds to 46 projects totaling \$677,176. The remainder of the funds, \$72,824, was initially reserved to cover the agency's administrative cost but will be reallocated to fund additional grant awards in FY24.

Grant-funded projects reached approximately 16,071 students including projects awarded in twenty-three programs in Alliance Districts and nine school readiness programs between FY22 and FY23 programs.

Over the two rounds of grant applications, the CTG4CTK program has been one of DOAG's most competitive programs, with a high number of applications and requested funds. This grant program has responded to, and filled a gap, to enhance the farm to school landscape in the state while providing the needed capital for agriculture and nutrition-based K-12 and early childcare projects.

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Grant Overview

Eligibility

The following entities are eligible to apply for the CTG4CTK Grant:

- Local or regional boards of education;
- Regional educational service centers;
- A cooperative arrangement pursuant to section 10-158a of the general statutes;
- Childcare centers, group childcare homes and family childcare homes as described in section 19a-77 of the general statutes; or
- Any organization or entity administering or assisting in the development of a farm-to-school program.

Awarding Priorities

Priority in scoring is given to those entities:

- Located in Alliance Districts, as defined in section 10-262u of the general statutes;
- Providing school readiness programs, as defined in section 10-16p of the general statutes; or
- Demonstrating broad commitment from school administrators, school nutrition professionals, educators, and community stakeholders.

History

Establishing a state-wide farm to school grant program has long been a desire of the CT Department of Agriculture and the [CT Farm to School Collaborative \(CTFTSC\)](#), a statewide farm to school network of which CT DOAG is a founding member alongside the CT State Department of Education and the School Nutrition Association of Connecticut, among many others.

Chapter 169 Sec. 10-215I, effective July 1, 2023, the Connecticut Grown for Connecticut Kids Grant (CTG4CTK Grant) is administered by the Connecticut Department of Agriculture (DOAG) through a combination of financial and technical assistance to help develop farm-to-school programs that:

- Increase the availability of local foods in child nutrition programs;
- Allow educators to use hands-on educational techniques to teach students about nutrition and farm-to-school connections;
- Sustain relationships with local farmers and producers;
- Enrich the educational experience of students;
- Improve the health of children in the state; and

- Enhance the state's economy.

The statute also mandates a CTG4CTK Advisory Committee which assists the department in reviewing applications and providing technical assistance to grant recipients in the development and implementation of farm-to-school programs.

In the 2023 legislative session, the program was allocated state funding for FY24 and FY25 at \$1 million annually.



Fiscal Year 2024 Grant Summary

The application to submit proposals for Fiscal Year 2024 CTG4CTK Grant was open from October 6, 2023, through December 14, 2023. [The announcement](#) was made during the CT Grown for CT Kids Week in October of 2023. Applicants could apply for up to \$50,000 with \$900,000 allocated to funding for grant awards. The program categories were consistent from the 2023 program with four categories available:

- Track 1: Connecticut Farm to School (K-12) Local Procurement Grant
- Track 2: Connecticut Farm to School (K-12) Experiential Learning Grant
- Track 3: Connecticut Producer Capacity Building Grant
- Track 4: Connecticut Farm to Early Care and Education (ECE) Grant

DOAG received 73 applications requesting more than \$1.7 million in funding. Award notifications were made in January 2024.

There was a new track established for the FY24 program made available through a \$2 million ARPA allocation for the purchase and integration of shipping container growing systems into schools. DOAG received 15 applications requesting more than \$3.5 million in funding. Award notifications were made in February 2024.

Advisory Committee and Reviewers FY24

1) Office of Early Childhood	Pamela Levasseur
2) Office of Early Childhood	Kimberly Paluska
3) Foodshed Network	Ali Ghiorse
4) New Britain ROOTS	Jenna VanDonselaar
5) School Nutrition Association of CT (SNACT)	Becky Tyrell
6) CT Education Association	Lisa Thomas
7) FoodCorps	Dawn Crayco
8) Roots2Rise	Kimberly Hughes
9) NW CT Food Hub	Kay Carroll
10) CT Farm to School Institute	Molly Deegan
11) Bristol Child Development Center	Jo Lopez
12) UConn Extension	Shannon Raider-Ginsburg
13) Hotchkiss School	Mike Webster
14) UConn Extension	Shuresh Ghimire
15) West Haven Child Development Center	Dr. Patrice Farquharson

Applicants were able to receive technical assistance with writing their proposals from Jiff Martin, Sustainable Food System Educator at UConn Extension (Tracks 1 & 3), Joey Listro of New Britain ROOTS (Track 2), and Monica Belyea from CT Department of Public Health (Track 4). Cyrena Thibodeau and Hannah Carty from CT DOAG held weekly office hours for the shipping containers (Track 5). Technical assistance was offered in English and Spanish, including office hours for Track 4.

DOAG has developed a post-award technical assistance plan through the development of an **REP** which was released on February 26, 2024. Proposals will be solicited for an entity to help awardees further embed farm to school initiatives in their classrooms and cafeterias. This will improve project completion and long-term sustainability of the programs beyond the grant lifespan. ([CT Bid Board](#) Solicitation # 24DAG0010AA)

Fiscal Year 2023 Grant Summary

The application to submit proposals for the Fiscal Year 2023 CTG4CTK Grant was open from September 15, 2022, through November 15, 2022. Applicants could apply for up to \$24,999. The program categories were revised from the 2022 program to four new categories for the FY23 program.

- Track 1: Connecticut Farm to School (K-12) Local Procurement Grant
- Track 2: Connecticut Farm to School (K-12) Experiential Learning Grant
- Track 3: Connecticut Producer Capacity Building Grant
- Track 4: Connecticut Farm to Early Care and Education (ECE) Grant

CHANGES TO FY23 GRANT PROGRAM

- Modifications to grant categories
- Creation of microgrants (a simplified application for projects \$5,000 or less)
- Translation of application into Spanish

A webinar was held October 6, 2022, for interested applicants to hear about the grant purpose, application requirements, and to ask questions. There were 123 registrants for this webinar.

Applicants were again able to receive technical assistance with writing their proposals from Jiff Martin, Sustainable Food System Educator at UConn Extension and Sherlene Rodriguez, also of UConn Extension, who are both key partners in CT farm to school initiatives. In group coaching sessions by track, they spent four hours with 39 individuals, and jointly 37 hours while in one-on-one sessions with 36 applicants. This significant investment in assisting interested applicants demonstrates one of the many ways that farm to school partners in the state were invested in the success of this program.

DOAG received a total of 72 complete applications, totaling \$1,022,284.91, spanning all four categories from CT public schools, Early Childhood Education Centers, Non-Profits, and small businesses partnering with schools, farmers, and boards of education.

72 Applications Received Totaling More Than \$1,022,000 in Requests

Advisory Committee Members FY23

1) Department of Public Health	Jennifer Vinci
2) Office of Early Childhood	Kimberly Paluska
3) CT State Department of Education	Monica Pacheco
4) CT Association of Boards of Education	Janice Cupee
5) CT Association of Boards of Education	Becky Tyrell
6) CT Education Association	Lisa Thomas
7) FoodCorps	Dawn Crayco
8) Roots2Rise	Kimberly Hughes
9) NW CT Food Hub	Kay Carroll
10) School Nutrition Association of CT (SNACT)	Denise DiMare
11) School Nutrition Association of CT (SNACT)	Erin Perpetua
12) UConn Extension	Shannon Raider-Ginsburg

Awardees

Thirty-two (32) proposals were funded in Fiscal Year 2023, totaling \$452,169 in grant awards.

Applicants were notified of their award on December 22, 2022. Projects began on February 15, 2023, and extend through August 31, 2024, in compliance with ARPA mandates.

The awardees are as follows:

- **All Our Kin: Increasing Farm-to-School Initiatives Within Family Childcare Programs** \$11,105.00
- **Bright Beginnings of Fairfield, LLC: Bright Beginnings of Fairfield** \$5,000.00
- **Bristol Child Development Center: Little Chef** \$18,600.00
- **Bristol Public Schools: Seed to Table** \$24,090.00
- **Brooklyn Elementary School: BES Greenhouse Project** \$24,999.00
- **Center Elementary School East Hampton: Community Greenhouse** \$24,530.00
- **Charles Barrows STEM Academy: Farming in Education Technology** \$5,000.00
- **Charter Oak International Academy: Exploration of our Learning Garden Habitat** \$11,000.00
- **Cheshire Public Schools: Cheshire Greenhouse** \$24,625.00
- **Cobblestone Farm: Scaling Up Root Production** \$5,000.00
- **Common Ground High School: Increasing FTS Procurement at Common Ground** \$24,085.00
- **Community First School, Hartford: Farm to School Community** \$12,215.00
- **Creative Kids Daycare: CKD Grow Box Expansion** \$4,270.00
- **East Granby Public Schools: Nourish My Soul Farm to School** \$24,910.00
- **Glastonbury-East Hartford Elementary Magnet School: CREC GEHMS CTG4CTK** \$24,955.00
- **Lauren Little Edutainment: Tasting the Seasons** \$18,850.00
- **Hungry Reaper Farm: Wash & Pack Improvement** \$5,000.00

- **Hunts Brook Farm:** High Tunnel Materials \$5,000.00
- **KNOX Foundation:** Expanding FTS Program through Education and School Gardens \$20,400.00
- **Maple Bank Farm:** Caterpillar Tunnel \$4,830.00
- **Middletown PS:** Track 2 Experiential Learning \$24,670.00
- **New Britain ROOTS:** Expanding Farm to School in New Britain \$20,435.00
- **Ponus Ridge STEAM Academy:** Edible U \$5,685.00
- **Sunset Farm:** Farm to School Wash Station Expansion \$4,355.00
- **Sweet Acre Farm:** Cooler Build \$5,000.00
- **Thames Valley Council for Community Action (TVCCA):** Promoting Healthy Food Choices: A Partnership between ECE and Local Farmers \$5,000.00
- **Thy Neighbor's Farm:** Season Extension Equipment \$4,920.00
- **Town of Manchester/Early Childhood Collaborative (MECC):** MECC FTS Program \$23,285.00
- **Watertown Public Schools:** Watertown Grown 4 Watertown Kids \$6,150.00
- **West Haven Development Center:** Onto Stage 2: Farm to ECE, Expanding Children's Worldview \$24,990.00
- **Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School:** Growing, Eating, Learning \$24,999.00
- **YMCA Hartford Region.:** YWCA Hartford Region Early Learning Center FTS Program \$4,315.00

Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Summary

Expense Category	Funds	
Total Funds Allocated to Grantees	\$452,169.00	
DOAG Administrative Cost	\$47,831.00	
Total FY 23 Program Budget	\$500,000.00	
Grant Recipients	Funds Awarded and Encumbered	Funds Dispersed as of 1/12/24
All Our Kin, Inc.	\$11,105	\$0
Bright Beginnings of Fairfield, LLC	\$5,000	\$4,691.90
Bristol Child Development Center	\$18,600	\$9,300
Bristol Public Schools	\$24,090	\$12,045
Brooklyn Elementary School	\$24,999	\$12,499
Center Elementary School East Hampton	\$24,530	\$12,265
Charles Barrows STEM Academy (Walden Farm)	\$5,000	\$5,000
Charter Oak International Academy (Town of West Hartford)	\$11,000	\$5,500
Cheshire Public Schools	\$24,625	\$0
Cobblestone Farm	\$5,000	\$0
Common Ground	\$24,085	\$12,042.50
Community First School, Hartford (Gardeners to Farmers Greenhouse)	\$12,115	\$6,107.50
Diane Matulis (Creative Kids Daycare)	\$4,270	\$2,444
East Granby Public Schools (Nourish My Soul, Inc.)	\$24,910	\$12,455
Glastonbury-East Hartford Elementary Magnet School (Capitol Region Education Council)	\$24,955	\$12,477.50
Lauren Little Edutainment at Mary Hooker Magnet School	\$18,850	\$9,425
Hungry Reaper Farm	\$5,000	\$5,000
Hunts Brook Farm	\$5,000	\$5,000
KNOX Foundation	\$20,400	\$10,200
Maple Bank Farm	\$4,830	\$2,415
Middletown Public Schools	\$24,670	\$12,335
New Britain ROOTS	\$20,435	\$0
Ponus Ridge STEAM Academy (Norwalk Town Treasurer)	\$5,685	\$2,842.50
Sunset Farm	\$4,356	\$2,177
Sweet Acre Farm	\$5,000	\$2,500
Thames Valley Council for Community Action TVCCA]	\$5,000	\$0

Thy Neighbors Farm	\$4,920	\$4,902
Manchester Early Childhood Collaborative [MECC] (Town of Manchester)	\$23,285	\$11,643
Watertown Public Schools	\$6,150	\$0
Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School (Town of Bloomfield)	\$24,999	\$0
West Haven Child Development Center Inc.	\$24,990	\$12,495
YWCA Hartford Region Inc.	\$4,315	\$2,157.50
Total FY23 Program Awards	\$452,559.90	\$189,919.40

Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Summary

Of the 14 grant awards made in FY22, 13 grantees closed out their award by September 30, 2023. Hartford Public School requested and received a one-year extension on their grant project.

Expense Category	Funds
Total Funds Awarded to Grantees	\$225,007.00
Total Funds Spent	\$207,507.00
Total FY 22 Remaining Funds	\$17,500.00

DOAG reallocated the remaining funds to unawarded but high scoring microgrant proposals (\$5,000 and under) from FY23 with project end dates of July 31, 2025.

- **Chanticleer Acres:** Harvest, Wash & Pack \$4,683.27
- **Stone Acres Farm:** Farm Storage Improvement \$4,749.52
- **River Ridge Farm & Market:** Root Washer \$3,600.00
- **Plainville Community Schools:** Harvest of the Month \$4,467.21

Additionally, DOAG had previously reserved \$25,000.00 for grant administration costs. These funds were not spent on administrative costs and will be allocated to additional grant awards in FY24.

Program Evaluation

The CTG4CTK grant program has seen significant interest demonstrated by the number of applications received each funding round and by the level of partner engagement throughout the process. DOAG has received positive community engagement with the program and sees it as an important component of DOAG's farm to school efforts, including agriculture and nutrition education, student hands-on growing opportunities, and expanding markets for CT producers.

Projects funded through the CTG4CTK grant program are an investment in students, producers, and educators throughout the state. The projects focus on improving the state's food system and engaging students to learn where their food comes from, how to grow food, and expanding access to local nutritious foods, all of which can encourage healthy eating habits thereby working to improve child health outcomes.

The FY22 CTG4CTK grantees have completed their projects, and all have much to celebrate and showcase for their efforts. The FY23 grantees have through September 2024 to complete their projects and we anticipate many positive outcomes - several have completed their grants already and are shown in the success stories section below.

The inaugural CT Farm to School Institute took place in summer of 2023 and offered the opportunity to four CTG4CTK grantees to further deepen their planning and commitment to farm to school. The CT Farm to School Collaborative continues to support the program and regularly showcases grantees on social media and in monthly statewide meetings.

**Number of Students Impacted:
16,071 students.**

**Total Funding Awarded to Alliance Districts and/or Readiness Program:
\$395,943.00.**

Success Stories

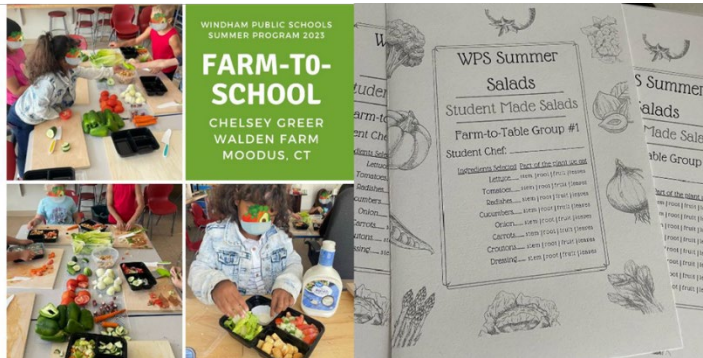
Hungry Reaper Farm, Morris, CT



The purpose of this project was to invest in equipment and materials that would allow us to harvest, wash, and pack salad greens in a more efficient manner while maintaining the appropriate food safety standards for farm to school sales via the Northwest Connecticut Regional Food Hub. While we already sell to schools and salad greens already make up a significant portion of our crop plan, we see expanding our production as an opportunity to provide Connecticut grown produce to the schools in our region year-round. The materials purchased will allow us to have dedicated containers for both harvesting and packing, and the equipment purchased will expedite both our harvest and post-harvest processes. With our previous processes, we were harvesting crops by hand and allowing greens to air dry after washing. Mechanical harvesting will not only be faster, but lead to a higher quality second growth on salad greens for school sales. Our greens spinner will also increase quality by enhancing the shelf life of the products after they have left the farm.

Our project, though relatively small in scale and scope, will have a lasting impact on our farm and the schools we provide produce. Our hope was to invest in equipment and materials that would allow us to grow high quality salad greens year-round as a strategy to keep CT grown produce in school cafeterias through the winter. This will not only improve our farm's viability, but also allow us to provide nutritional food for students without interruption. This project has also allowed us to adopt efficiencies on our farm that have previously been unattainable, again contributing to our overall viability. The time saved from these efficiencies will allow us to produce more food at a higher quality both for schools and our other markets. We hope that have an uninterrupted presence in schools will allow food service directors to continue to increase the share of produce being sourced from Connecticut farms. This prospect is extremely exciting, and our work with schools has been one of the most fulfilling developments in our farming careers to date.

Walden Farm, Moodus, CT



Chelsey Greer, a current K-12 Educational Technology teacher in Charles H. Barrows STEM Academy in Windham CT had many students in her class that did not know where their food came from. Many of the kids' answers included the grocery store, the convenience store, or fast-food restaurants. Chelsey, as an educator in her field, wanted kids to learn where food really started off on farms with farmers and how the world is making strides in technology to be able to control food production by computers.

The project started off with kids learning about seeds, soil, and how to start plants. The students planted over 400 different seeds including watermelon, honeydew melon, cherry tomatoes, beef steak tomatoes, yellow squash, and zucchini. The students then learned the weekly and daily maintenance of caring for plants. The students placed the starter plants in small portable greenhouses and watched them grow. Once the vegetable start plants were large enough for transplanting Walden Farm picked up the plants and delivered them to the farm. Once the students transferred the plants to Walden Farm of Moodus. Chelsey turned her focus to guiding the students on their next agricultural journey. Students were introduced to farming technology through the open source project FarmBot and had the students watch a video on what the FarmBot could do. In some of her lessons for the students Chelsey had each student create a farm plot in the program with vegetables that the Walden Farm bought for the students to plant. The students' plots included watermelon radishes, watermelon, tomatoes, "cucamelon," carrots, broccoli, igloo lettuce and bell peppers.

While this was all happening at the school, Casey Greer, gathered the supplies to build the FarmBot and put together the FarmBot with a camera system to live stream to the students the work they were working on. This allowed the students to operate the FarmBot from the classroom and watch the live stream in real time and gather ideas on what functions they wanted to try next with the FarmBot. The Students then watched what tools could be made from 3D printing from a rotary head trimmer, to a weeder that can be custom made, to water nozzle heads. The students took those ideas and presented different attachments that they might consider building for the future. Mrs. Greer then presented a video on laser weeding on a large scale to the classroom and how that would be used on a small scale like this with a customizable attachment.

Grantee Descriptions and Usage of Funds

Fiscal Year 23

All Our Kin, Inc.: Increasing Farm-to-School Initiatives Within Family Childcare Programs \$11,105.00. Host a Farm to Table Event for families and children in their Family Childcare Network, host a farm to school workshop with seedling distribution for educators, and provide up to six \$500 stipends for six educators to build their own garden.

Expense Category	Awarded Funds
Salary & Fringe	\$ 2,780.00
Materials & Supplies	\$ 2,900.00
Contractual/Subcontractor	\$ 1,800.00
Other (Educator Stipends)	\$ 3,000.00
Other (Venue Rental)	\$ 400.00
Other (Travel)	\$ 225.00
	\$ 11,105.00

Bright Beginnings of Fairfield, LLC: Bright Beginnings of Fairfield \$5,000.00. For the purchase of a tower garden, produce for students' snacks, and agricultural education books to integrate into farm to school curriculum at each of three Family Childcare centers.

Expense Category	Awarded Funds
Materials	\$ 4,550.00
Other (Field Trips)	\$ 450.00
	\$ 5,000.00

Bristol Child Development Center: Little Chef \$18,600.00. Bristol Child Development Center will operate a monthly online and in person gardening and culinary program called, "Little Chef," where students and their families participate in interactive sessions, including taste tests, to educate the children and families on the value and use of CT Grown products.

Expense Category	Awarded Funds
Materials & Supplies	\$ 9,300.00
Other (Farmers Market vouchers)	\$ 1,600.00
Other (Field Trip Transportation and Event)	\$ 1,700.00
Other (CT Grown Produce)	\$ 6,000.00
	\$18,600.00

Bristol Public Schools: Seed to Table \$24,090.00. Bristol Public Schools will pilot after school and summer enrichment agriculture and nutrition programming at Ivy Drive and Greene Hills Elementary school through the installation of a new greenhouse and tower gardens. They will also host a family fall festival and dinner.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Salary & Fringe	\$ 6,200.00
Equipment	\$ 3,776.00
Materials & Supplies	\$ 14,114.00
	\$ 24,090.00

Brooklyn Elementary School: BES Greenhouse Project \$24,999.00. Brooklyn Elementary School will purchase and install a greenhouse on their campus for students to gain hands on learning experience growing fruits and vegetables.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Materials & Supplies	\$ 24,999.00
	\$ 24,999.00

Center Elementary School East Hampton: Community Greenhouse \$24,530.00. Center Elementary will build a greenhouse for use by its 4th and 5th grade students in class planting days, garden clubs, and after school programming. The school will also work with students in East Hampton High School and primary school to utilize the greenhouse.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Salary & Fringe	\$ 1,361.76
Subcontractor/Consultant	\$ 10,080.00
Equipment	\$ 9,635.92
Materials & Supplies	\$ 3,452.32
	\$ 24,530.00

Charles Barrows STEM Academy: Farming in Education Technology \$5,000.00. Charles Barrows will work with local Walden Farm to expand the urban farming program at the school by adding two Farmbots and a small greenhouse for seed starting in the technology department of the school.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Materials & Supplies	\$ 5,000.00
	\$ 5,000.00

Charter Oak International Academy: Exploration of our Learning Garden Habitat \$11,000.00. The school will work with Root2RISE and Lauren Little Edutainment to develop a series of lessons to integrate into one of their STEM inquiry units at each grade level for PK-5 as well as holding field trips for students to area farms.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Salary & Fringe	\$ 1,200.00
Materials & Supplies	\$ 2,000.00
Contractual/Subcontractor	\$ 7,800.00
	\$ 11,000.00

Cheshire Public Schools: Cheshire Greenhouse \$24,625.00. Installation of a greenhouse located at their alternative high school for use by the student culinary program. The greenhouse will be centrally located and available to the whole district after the first year.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Equipment	\$ 15,825.00
Subcontractor/Consultant	\$ 8,800.00
	\$ 24,625.00

Cobblestone Farm: Scaling Up Root Production \$5,000.00. Purchase of a flame weeder and root washer to expand sales of root vegetables to districts such as Mansfield, Windham, Coventry, and UConn's Child Development Lab.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Materials & Supplies	\$ 5,000.00
	\$ 5,000.00

Common Ground High School: Increasing Farm-to-School Procurement at Common Ground \$24,085.00. To expand capacity for their farm to school programming including produce processing, student cooking, and education. Additionally, will contribute to stipends for Green Job Corps high school students.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Salary & Fringe	\$ 6,250.00
Subcontract/Consultant	\$ 1,695.00
Materials & Supplies	\$ 6,214.00
Other (Field Trip Costs)	\$ 701.00
Other (CT Grown Produce & Transportation)	\$ 4,525.00
Other (ServSafe Training & test)	\$ 900.00
Other (Stipends for Students)	\$ 3,800.00
	\$ 24,085.00

Community First School, Hartford: Farm to School Community \$12,215.00. Gardeners to Farmers Greenhouse located at the Swift Factory in Hartford's Northeast neighborhood will build a garden for use by students and families of the Community First school for K-3rd graders.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Salary & Fringe	\$ 1,575.00
Materials & Supplies	\$ 8,840.00
Contractual/Subcontract	\$ 300.00
Other (Insurance)	\$ 1,500.00
	\$ 12,215.00

Creative Kids Daycare: CKD Grow Box Expansion \$4,888.00. Creative Kids Daycare will expand the number of growing boxes they have on their property to increase student engagement and purchase CT Grown produce for use in student snacks and CSA shares for families.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Materials & Supplies	\$ 4,748.00
Other (Trips)	\$ 140.00
	\$ 4,888.00

East Granby Public Schools: Nourish My Soul Farm to School \$24,910.00. East Granby schools will work with nonprofit Nourish My Soul to create a wheelchair accessible outdoor garden, new farm to school curriculum, and professional development for teachers to implement the curriculum.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Salary & Fringe	\$ 6,250.00
Materials & Supplies	\$ 17,660.00
Other (Teacher Stipends)	\$ 1,000.00
	\$ 24,910.00

Glastonbury-East Hartford Elementary Magnet School: CREC GEHMS CTG4CTK \$24,955.00. Building of raised garden beds, the integration of school garden lessons and activities, taking PreK and first grade students on a field trip to AuerFarm or Penfield farm, and hosting two family evenings showcasing student work and using produce from garden for student taste tests.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Equipment	\$ 5,582.00
Materials & Supplies	\$ 7,179.00
Other (Transportation Costs)	\$ 3,499.00
Other (Field Trip Admissions)	\$ 5,545.00
Other (Farmer Visits to School)	\$ 3,150.00
	\$ 24,955.00

Lauren Little Edutainment: Tasting the Seasons \$18,850.00. Lauren will work at Hartford's Mary Hooker Environmental Science Magnet School to create and implement a multi session agricultural and nutrition education program and purchase CT Grown produce for a student farmers market.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Salary & Fringe	\$ 4,440.00
Materials & Supplies	\$ 7,910.00
Other (CT Grown Produce)	\$ 6,000.00
Other (Farmer Stipends)	\$ 500.00
	\$ 18,850.00

Hungry Reaper Farm: Wash and Pack Improvement \$5,000.00. Hungry Reaper will purchase equipment that will allow them to expand their production and sale of greens to area schools through the Northwest CT Food hub.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Materials & Supplies	\$ 5,000.00
	\$ 5,000.00

Hunts Brook Farm: High Tunnel Materials \$5,000.00. Hunts Brook will purchase and install a high tunnel to allow for year-round lettuce production for sale to area public schools including Groton Public Schools.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Materials & Supplies	\$ 5,000.00
	\$ 5,000.00

KNOX Foundation: Expanding Farm-to-School Program through Education and School Gardens \$20,400.00. KNOX will expand their existing Farm to School programming at multiple Hartford schools by building a new garden at Burns Latino, hosting a Public Ally fellow to teach garden and nutrition education at Burns Latino, Noah Webster, and West Middle, integrating fresh produce into the village backpack program, and hosting three events for student to learn from KNOX farmers.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Salary & Fringe	\$ 4,620.70
Materials & Supplies	\$ 14,279.30
Other (Farmer Stipends)	\$ 1,500.00
	\$ 20,400.00

Maple Bank Farm: Caterpillar Tunnel \$4,830.00. Maple Bank Farm will purchase and install a caterpillar tunnel to expand their growing production to schools through the Northwest CT Food hub.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Salary & Fringe	\$ 297.00
Materials & Supplies	\$ 4533.00
	\$ 4830.00

Middletown Public Schools: Track 2 Experiential Learning \$24,670.00. Middletown public schools will work with local Cold Spring Farm to take multiple student field trips with 4th graders to experience and participate in the full process of growing and harvesting carrots. Carrots will then be integrated into student meals.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Subcontract/Consultant	\$ 16,670.00
Other (Transportation Costs)	\$ 8,000.00
	\$ 24,670.00

New Britain ROOTS: Expanding Farm to School in New Britain \$20,435.00. Increase ROOTS' ability to deliver programs and services to New Britain school district establishing a new elementary school greenhouse, installing wash/pack stations and sheds at multiple schools, and working with a local beekeeper to host professional development sessions for all district Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math (STEAM) teachers.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Salary & Fringe	\$ 4,086.00
Equipment	\$ 6,949.00
Subcontract/Consultant	\$ 2,400.00
Materials & Supplies	\$ 7,000.00
	\$ 20,435.00

Ponus Ridge STEAM Academy: Edible U \$5,685.00. Ponus Ridge to expand garden and nutrition education during the school year with FoodCorps and in summer enrichment programs taught by the Carver Center.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Salary & Fringe	\$ 950.00
Materials & Supplies	\$ 4,735.00
	\$ 6,685.00

Sunset Farm: Farm to School Wash Station Expansion \$4,355.00. Sunset farm will create a covered wash station complete with sinks, sprayers, tanks, and water heater to improve food safety and facilitate increased produce sales to Naugatuck Public Schools.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Materials & Supplies	\$ 4,355.00
	\$ 4,355.00

Sweet Acre Farm: Cooler Build \$5,000.00. Will purchase and install a walk-in cooler in their new wash station to use for produce bound for wholesale and schools.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Materials & Supplies	\$ 5,000.00
	\$ 5,000.00

Thames Valley Council for Community Action (TVCCA): Promoting Healthy Food Choices: A Partnership between ECE and Local Farmers \$5,000.00. Will work with Malerba Farm and Lakeview Farm to purchase produce for student meals and on-site farmers markets at New London and Taftville locations.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Materials & Supplies	\$ 5,000.00
	\$ 5,000.00

Thy Neighbor's Farm: Season Extension Equipment \$4,920.00. Thy Neighbor's Farm located in Torrington will purchase two hoopouses to increase production to schools through the Northwest CT Food hub.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Materials & Supplies	\$ 4,920.00
	\$ 4,920.00

Town of Manchester/Manchester Early Childhood Collaborative (MECC): MECC Farm-to-School Program \$23,285.00. Manchester Early Childhood Collaborative, who serves on Manchester's school readiness council to support prenatal to age eight, will create a farm to school curriculum for preschool students with taste testing and engage families through a farmers market voucher and accompanying home activities.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Materials & Supplies	\$ 3,335.00
Other (Farmers Market Vouchers)	\$ 16,200.00
Other (CT Grown Produce)	\$ 3,750.00
	\$ 23,285.00

Watertown Public Schools: Watertown Grown 4 Watertown Kids \$6,150.00. Watertown public schools will implement taste testing with CT Grown products at five districts throughout the 2023-2024 school year.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Salary & Fringe	\$ 1,485.00
Other (CT Grown Produce)	\$ 4,665.00
	\$ 6,150.00

West Haven Development Center, Inc: Onto Stage 2: From Farm to ECE, Expanding Children's Worldview \$24,990.00. WHCHDC will expand their farm to school programming to all preschoolers and infant/toddlers. They will work with Massaro Farm to conduct field trips, student agricultural learning, and teacher professional development.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Materials & Supplies	\$ 2,180.00
Subcontract/Consultant	\$ 5,500.00
Other (Transportation)	\$ 3,600.00
Other (CSAs)	\$ 1,800.00
Other (Professional Development)	\$ 1,200.00
Other (Video Development)	\$ 1,800.00
Other (Field Trips)	\$ 8,910.00
	\$ 24,990.00

Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School: Growing, Eating, Learning \$24,999.00. Wintonbury Early Childhood Magnet School will work with Micro2Life Farm, AuerFarm, and the Harris Agriscience Center to create a complete agricultural and nutrition education and experiential learning experience for students.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Salary & Fringe	\$ 4,282.00
Subcontract/Consultant	\$ 19,717.00
Other (Stipends)	\$ 1,000.00
	\$ 24,999.00

YMCA Hartford Region, Inc.: YWCA Hartford Region Early Learning Center Farm-to-School Program \$4,315.00. For the installation of nine raised beds at their Hartford and East Hartford Early Learning Centers for students to learn to grow fruits and vegetables and for integration into existing curriculum.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Salary & Fringe	\$ 862.00
Materials & Supplies	\$ 3,453.00
	\$ 4,315.00

FY 2023 Budget Reallocation

Chanticleer Acres: Harvest, Wash, & Pack \$4683.27. Chanticleer Acres will purchase harvest totes and a salad dryer to improve farm efficiency for farm to school Sales.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Materials & Supplies	\$ 4,683.27
	\$ 4,683.27

Plainville Community Schools: Purchase CT Grown Product \$4,467.00. Plainville Community Schools will utilize the funds to purchase CT Grown Produce for their students.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Other (CT Grown Produce)	\$ 4,667.00
	\$ 4,667.00

River Ridge Farm & Market: Root Washer \$3,600.00. River Run will purchase a root washer to improve farm efficiency for Farm to School Sales.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Materials & Supplies	\$ 3,600.00
	\$ 3,600.00

Stone Acres: Purchase Bins and Shelving \$4,749.52. Stone Acres will purchase a root washer to improve farm efficiency for farm to school Sales.

<u>Expense Category</u>	<u>Awarded Funds</u>
Materials & Supplies	\$ 4,749.52
	\$ 4,749.52

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE PROGRAM AND TO READ THE FY22 ANNUAL REPORT, PLEASE VISIT

<https://portal.ct.gov/DOAG/ADaRC/ADaRC/Grants/CT-Grown-for-CT-Kids-Grant/Success-Stories>