



CT GROWN FOR CT KIDS GRANT

FY 22 Awardees!!

Bristol Child Development Center: Little Chefs

Bristol Child Development Center will operate a six-month online gardening and culinary program called, "Little Chef," where students and their families participate in interactive sessions to educate the children and families on the value and use of CT Grown products. Through this project, there will be an instructional garden workshops and a series of home culinary workshops where participants will receive a box of ingredients from CT producers and a voucher to the Bristol Farmers Market.

East Hampton Public Schools: Memorial School Garden

East Hampton Public Schools will expand farm to school programming for pre-kindergarten through third grade students at Memorial Elementary School by building a large, raised bed garden and installing an indoor grow tower. They will develop and integrate classroom and outdoor lessons utilizing the garden on topics like food, nature, and farming. Additionally, they will involve students in the garden through extracurricular activities including the creation of a Garden Ambassador program, a monthly newsletter, and integration of garden produce into the Middle School Cooking Club.

Stepping Stones Museum in Norwalk: ELLI Classrooms Farm to School Learning Project

Stepping Stones museum will expand farm to school program for pre-school learner in their Early Language and Literacy Initiative through developing and integrating a comprehensive farm to school curriculum along with experiential experiences utilizing the school garden, virtual and in person farm field trips and materials to take home and involve the student's families. Additionally, they will purchase CT Grown farm products to integrate into students lunches several times a month.

Groton Public Schools: Growing Groton's Farm to School Program

Groton Public Schools will expand farm to school programming for elementary and pre-school students at Thames River Magnet School (TRMS) by building new raised garden beds and constructing a hydroponic system. They will develop classroom lessons on agriculture, plant life cycles, nutrition, and healthy food choices. Additionally, they will integrate produce from the school garden and hydroponic operation into student taste tests at TRMS cafeteria and provide students with a personal hydroponic system to bring home and to practice growing their own food.

Hartford Public High School: Hartford Public High School Greenhouse

Hartford Public High School will establish and operate a hydroponic greenhouse at Hartford Public High School, with the Keney Park Sustainability Project (KPSP). They will create and implement four units of comprehensive curricular materials related to agriculture, nutrition, and technology at HPHS and establish a paid internship program, with the Connecticut nonprofit, ReadyCT, for 10 or more students in the Engineering and Green Technology (EGT) career pathway to assist with operations and programming for the hydroponic greenhouse.

Lauren Little Edutainment, Hartford: Traveling School Yard Tour Program

Lauren Little Edutainment will renovate the existing garden at Mary Hooker Environmental Magnet School (MHEMS). She will work with school staff to develop classroom curriculum and outdoor lessons on food, nature, and farming utilizing the garden at MHEMS and conduct field trips to Keney Park Sustainability Project (KPSP) and the Free Center (FC) in Hartford with students.

Meriden Public Schools: Creating Equitable Opportunities Through Farm to School Connection

Meriden Public Schools will develop a Farm to School Action Plan with pro to be implemented in the 2023-2024 school year. The aim of the Action Plan is to establish programming that will provide Meriden students with impactful hands on and experiential learning opportunities. Additionally, with project funding, there will be school visits to Deerfield Farm and Norton Brother's Fruit Farm as well as the purchase of garden supplies and indoor herb garden grow kits.

Naugatuck School District: #NaugyGrows

Naugatuck Public Schools will provide 300 third grade students with an on-farm field trip experience to make connections between farming and the food with their program partner, Litchfield County UConn 4H. Additionally, they will enable the students to grow food in the classroom throughout the 2022-2023 school year using tower gardens and related lessons.

New Britain Public Schools: Smith School Garden Expansion

Smith School in New Britain will use program funds to expand their existing garden by adding additional beds and to purchase needed garden tools and a toolshed to store all their equipment. Smith School works with New Britain roots to manage their school garden.

Regional YMCA of Western CT: Regional Y Gardening Programs

The Regional YMCA of Western CT will create a gardening program to reach students in the Greenknoll School Age Program in Brookfield; they will develop classroom curriculum and outdoor lessons on food, nature, and farming utilizing the garden. Additionally, they will enhance the YMCA Children Center's Garden by creating new opportunities for field trips and speakers which integrate gardening and nutrition programming throughout the year in classroom and summer programs.

Torrington Public Schools: Torrington Produce Pilot

Torrington Public Schools will increase the percentage of CT Grown produce used in school meals in Torrington Public Schools by 100% through purchasing CT grown produce from the NWCT Food Hub. They will introduce Torrington students to the availability of CT Grown produce through engagement activities and communication. With project funds they will also implement a new purchasing platform in Torrington Public Schools to facilitate purchasing of CT Grown produce and provide training to Torrington Public School educators and school food service staff across six pilot schools to integrate CT Grown produce and associated activities into student meals.

West Haven Child Development Center: Farm to Table, Expanding Preschool Children's Worldview

The West Haven Child Development Center will provide students with an on-farm educational experience at Massaro Community Farm (MCF). They will develop and implement classroom lessons on farming, gardening, and nutrition education through incorporation of literacy, art, and music activities; incorporate CT Grown produce into student snacks and online family home cooking demonstrations; and provide 40 families with farm produce to participate in online home cooking demonstrations. They will also use funds to provide the center's staff with monthly professional development opportunities related to Farm to School.

Winchester Public Schools: Winchester School Produce Pilot

Winchester Public Schools will develop a pilot CT Grown product purchasing program for The Winchester Public Schools. The project will purchase a diverse range of fresh CT Grown produce from the NW CT Food Hub to incorporate into school meals in Winchester public schools. Additionally, the project will incorporate both educational learning opportunities for students such as "Try it Tuesdays" and professional development for educators and food service staff to facilitate sustainable programming.

Yellow Farmhouse Education Center: Experiential Professional Learning for CT Family & Consumer Science Teachers

Yellow Farmhouse Education Center will develop and implement year-round online and in-person professional development (PD) for Family and Consumer Science (FCS) teachers to gain competence in incorporating farm to school content into curriculum. They will host monthly online PD sessions on topics such as but not limited to aquaculture, seed breeding, animal husbandry, and beekeeping. Additionally, they will facilitate 15 professional development workshops during the 2022-2023 school year including a summer institute for Family and Consumer Science teachers.