

Healthy Meals Incentives Initiative: Spread the News



United States Department of Agriculture



**USDA Food and
Nutrition Services**

Child Nutrition Programs

December 5, 2023

2:45– 3:45 PM



Today's Speakers

Sheldon Gordon, MS, RD

Director – Nutrition, Education, Training, and Technical Assistance Division,
USDA FNS, Child Nutrition Programs

Rob Bisceglie, MA

Chief Executive Officer - Action for Healthy Kids

Emma Kitzman

Nutrition Program Manager – Action for Healthy Kids

Veronica Jalomo

Farm to School Coordinator – Northwest Indiana Food Council



Today's Objectives

- Provide states with information to help SFAs apply for Healthy Meals Incentives (HMI) Recognition Awards and School Food System Transformation Challenge sub-grants.
- Participants will have information to promote the HMI Recognition Awards and School Food System Transformation Challenge sub-grants and to recognize SFAs for the great work they are doing.

Spread the news!



Healthy Meals Incentives Initiative (HMI)

Improving the nutritional quality of school meals with innovative ideas, best practices, training and food systems transformation.



**Grants for
Small/Rural
School Food
Authorities
(SFA)**



**Recognition
Awards**



**School Food System
Transformation
Challenge Sub-Grants**



**Healthy Meals
Summits**



United States Department of Agriculture

fns.usda.gov/school-meals/hmi





HEALTHY MEALS INCENTIVES



ACTION FOR
HEALTHY
KIDS 

In partnership with



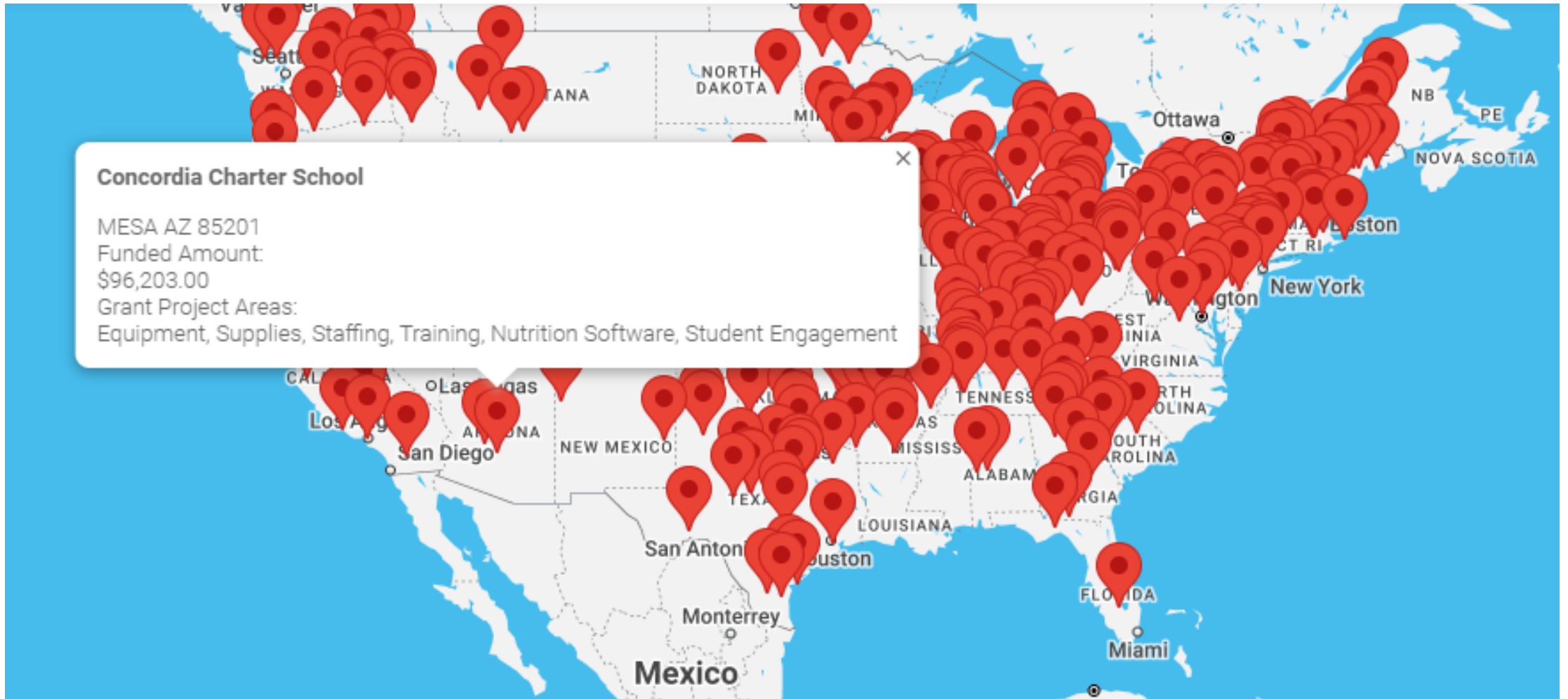
Grants for Small and/or Rural School Food Authorities

Competitive Grants for Small and/or Rural SFAs experiencing challenges in the improvement of the nutritional quality of their school meals

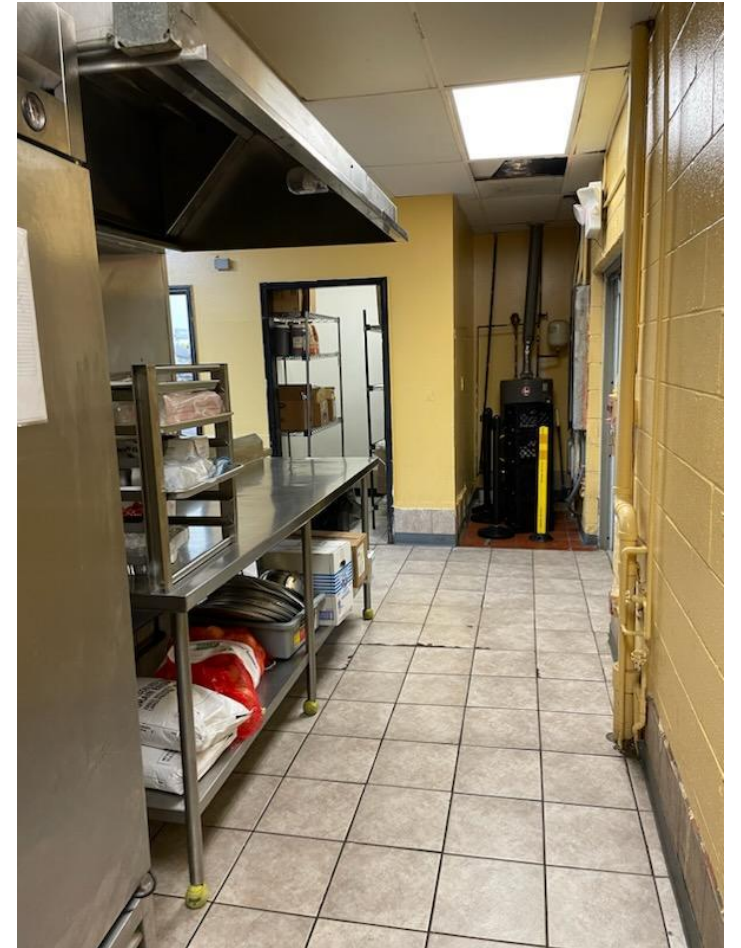
- ❖ Nearly \$30 million in grants awarded
- ❖ 264 SFA's receiving up to \$150,000 each
- ❖ Across 44 States and the District of Columbia
- ❖ Greatest needs for funding included equipment, staffing and supplies
- ❖ Grantees receive technical assistance from AFHK's team, including RMC Health and Chef Ann Foundation



Grants for Small and/or Rural School Food Authorities



Amana Academy School Visit




**HEALTHY
MEALS
INCENTIVES**



Action for Healthy Kids Nutrition Program Managers



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Attend a National Healthy Meals Summit!

Join the adventure!

❖ Summits will take place in St. Louis and Las Vegas:

- April 9-10, 2024 in St. Louis
- October 22-23, 2024 in Las Vegas
- October 23-24, 2025 in Las Vegas

❖ Celebrate the accomplishments of recognized and awarded SFAs

❖ Share best practices and lead a national conversation about the critical importance of school meals

❖ Network with peers and school nutrition partners



Join Us in Co-promoting This Work

Join the adventure!

School meals roundtable at La Follette High School talks health, taste



- ❖ Together, we can increase visibility for our work and meet shared objectives
- ❖ Successful school meals roundtable event last week in Madison, WI





Follow Us On
Social Media



Thank You!



Join the adventure!



School Food System Transformation Challenge Sub-Grants



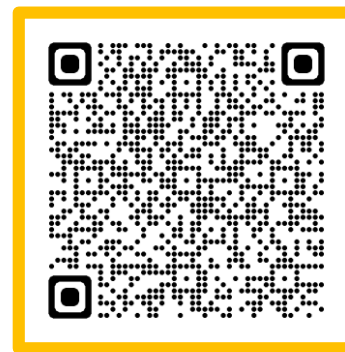
HMI: School Food System Transformation Challenge Sub-Grants Cooperative Agreements

❖ Awardees:

- Center for School and Community Partnerships at Boise State
- Chef Ann Foundation
- Full Plates Full Potential
- Illinois Public Health Institute

❖ Goals:

- Support local and regional food systems
- Expand school food procurement pathways
- Engage supporting organizations
- Balance Regional and National focus



Partnerships for Local Agriculture & Nutrition Transformation in Schools

❖ PLANTS:

- Chef Ann Foundation
- November 27 RFA release
- Funds projects led by groups of local partners
- Transforming school food supply chains
- Build and strengthen relationships among community-based stakeholders and SFAs



A program of the
Chef Ann Foundation



Supporting Community Agriculture and Local Education Systems

❖ Project SCALES:

- Center for School and Community Partnerships at Boise State University
- November 27
- Encourage innovative partnerships between schools/producers/growers/processors
- Transformation of the school food system



SCALES

Supporting Community Agriculture
& Local Education Systems



Stay Tuned for More!

❖ Full Plates Full Potential

- Equipment grant
- Local foods grant
- Student engagement grant

❖ Illinois Public Health Institute

- Lake Michigan School Food System Innovation Hub
- 2 grants – smaller or larger projects

❖ RFAs will be released early 2024



Healthy Meals Incentives Initiative (HMI)



Grants for Small and/or Rural SFAs

- Awarded August 7, 2023



School Food System Transformation Challenge Sub-Grants

- PLANTS and SCALES RFAs open now
- Full Plates Full Potential and Illinois Public Health Institute RFAs opening early 2024



Recognition Awards

- Open through June 30, 2025
- All SFAs eligible to apply



Healthy Meals Summits

- April 9-10, 2024 in St. Louis
- October 22-23, 2024 in Las Vegas
- October 23-24, 2025 in Las Vegas



Spread the News

- ❖ Include information about the Recognition Awards and SFST Challenge Sub-Grants in regular communications to SFAs
- ❖ Personally invite SFAs to *join the adventure* and apply for one or more of the Recognition Awards
- ❖ Highlight SFAs that have received a Recognition Award or HMI grant on your webpage and on social media



Questions?

Find More Information Here

 fns.usda.gov/school-meals/hmi



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