

SR#2014-1425



STAFF REPORT



DEPARTMENT: Clark County Public Health

DATE: April 15, 2014

SPECIFIC REQUEST: Clark County Board of Commissioners approval to apply for a Farm to School "Support Services" grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). If awarded, Clark County Public Health will receive \$100,000 in funding for a two-year period.

PUBLIC HEALTH STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

<input type="checkbox"/> 1 – Ensure public safety and increase community resilience	<input type="checkbox"/> 4 – Link public health, primary care, behavioral health, oral health, and community resources in alignment with health care reform
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 2 – Increase opportunities for healthy living	<input type="checkbox"/> 5 – Demonstrate excellence in local public health practice and management
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 3 – Increase opportunities for every child to have a healthy start	<input type="checkbox"/> 6 – Other

BACKGROUND Consistent with Strategic Initiatives 2 and 3, and as part of our key focus on influencing the conditions that promote good health for everyone through community partnerships, Clark County Public Health is working with local schools to support Farm to School opportunities. Connecting farms and schools is a recognized best practice that positively influences economics to nutrition. Farm to School programs provide food system education to students and connect local farmers to school meal programs. This grant funding would support comprehensive public health strategies aimed at improving the food environment by increasing access to fruits and vegetables in school meal programs across our county.

Farm to School is the practice of sourcing local foods for school nutrition programs and providing nutrition education opportunities to students that focus on agriculture and health. The goal of the program is to improve access to healthy foods and support regional farms. This grant will assist participating school districts to source local foods, track local purchases, support culinary trainings for school nutrition staff, and provide food system education activities to students attending targeted schools to encourage the consumption of fruits and vegetables. Food system education activities would be conducted in partnership with Washington State Extension and would include farm field trips, taste-tests, and farmer-in-the-classroom activities.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

In the fall of 2013, Clark County Food System Council members interviewed the directors of nutrition services at local school districts to learn more about their programs and local purchasing practices. Clark County school meal programs serve delicious, nutrient-rich foods, but lack the resources to implement a fully developed Farm to School strategy. Clark County Food System Council members strongly advocate Farm to School programs because of the potential for school meal programs to affect the local agricultural economy, food system and the health of children in our community. School nutrition directors in Clark County are also enthusiastic about collaborating with Public Health on increasing Farm to School opportunities for their students. Washington State Extension's staff has committed to partner with Public Health to coordinate farm field trips at the 78th Street Heritage Farm for 3rd and 4th grade students at participating schools.

Handwritten initials/signature

*Prevent disease * Promote healthy choices * Protect food, water and air * Prepare for emergencies*

HEALTH EQUITY

Nutrition and agricultural education opportunities will be targeted at 3 and 4th graders at schools with the highest levels of students that qualify for free and reduced-price meals. Increasing availability and access to healthier food choices is a key strategy for addressing health inequities and assuring children have opportunities to build healthy eating habits that can protect against chronic diseases in later life.

ACTION REQUESTED

- Clark County Board of Commissioners approval to apply for a Farm to School "Support Services" grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).

BUDGET AND POLICY IMPLICATIONS

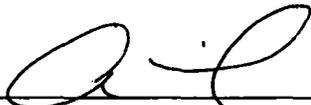
This funding is not included in our current biennial budget. The funding period for this opportunity will be December 1, 2014 through Nov 30, 2016. The award is for two years.

FISCAL IMPACT

Yes (see attached form) No

DISTRIBUTION

Alan Melnick, Clark County Public Health
Tricia Mortell, Clark County Public Health
Cyndie Meyer, Clark County Public Health
Jeff Harbison, Clark County Public Health
Belinda Walker, Clark County Public Health
Kathy Smith, Clark County Public Health



Alan Melnick, MD MPH CPH
Public Health Officer/Administrator

Approved: *April 15, 2014 SR 7514*
BOARD OF CLARK COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



Tom Mielke, Chair

David Madore, Vice-Chair

FISCAL IMPACT ATTACHMENT (Completed by Finance Manager)

I. A – Describe the type of revenue (grant, fees, etc.)

General Fund

Fund #/Title	Current Biennium		Next Biennium		Second Biennium	
	GF	Total	GF	Total	GF	Total
1025 / Federal USDA Farm to School Grant		12,500		87,500		
Total		12,500		87,500		

II. A – Expenditures summed up

Fund #/Title	FTE's	Current Biennium		Next Biennium		Second Biennium	
		GF	Total	GF	Total	GF	Total
1025 / Public Health			12,500		87,500		
Total			12,500		87,500		

III. B – Expenditure by object category

Fund #/Title	Current Biennium		Next Biennium		Second Biennium	
	GF	Total	GF	Total	GF	Total
Salary/Benefits		5,105		35,735		
Contractual		2,063		14,441		
Supplies		1,125		7,875		
Travel		1,256		8,792		
Other controllables		2,951		20,657		
Capital Outlays						
Inter-fund Transfers						
Debt Service						
Total		12,500		87,500		