

# A Guide to Funding Opportunities for Obesity Prevention and Access to Nutritious Foods

*How to Navigate the Funding Process*

Compliments of  
U.S. Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand  
New York



2013

*\*Note: This document will be continuously updated as information becomes available.*



New York State Department of Health ..... 18

- 1) Eat Well, Play Hard Initiative..... 18
- 2) Child and Adult Care Food Program..... 18
- 3) Steps to a HealthierNY ..... 19

Community and School Gardens ..... 21

*Federal Funding*..... 21

- 1) EPA Environmental Education Grants..... 21
- 2) USDA Community Facilities Program..... 22
- 3) USDA People’s Garden School Pilot Program ..... 22

*New York State Funding*..... 23

- 1) Parks & Trails New York’s Capacity Building Grants ..... 23
- 2) NYS Dept. of Ag & Markets’ Community Gardens Capacity Building Grant Program ..... 23
- 3) NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historical Preservation Environmental Protection Fund..... 23
- 4) NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation’s Environmental Justice Community Impact Grant Program..... 24
- 5) New York Agriculture in the Classroom Kids Growing Food..... 24

Letters of Support from Senator Gillibrand..... 26

## Introduction

Dear Fellow New Yorker:

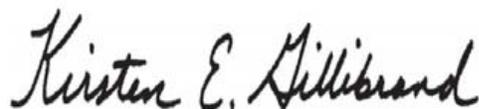
As the first New Yorker in nearly 40 years to serve on the Senate Agriculture Committee, I have been an active advocate for federal programs that help prevent childhood obesity and provide greater access to healthy foods for all New Yorkers. In order to address the rising numbers of childhood obesity, federal and state agencies have dedicated funding opportunities and initiatives to promote healthier school meals, greater sources for physical activity, as well as more efficient research methods.

Finding the resources that meet your needs in this complex web of agencies can be a difficult task. For this reason, I have created this guidebook to serve as a starting point in providing information about what resources are available to individuals, businesses, community organizations and local governments. Its contents will be updated periodically as more details become available.

My Senate website ([www.Gillibrand.senate.gov](http://www.Gillibrand.senate.gov)) is continually updated with critical information about various funding opportunities that are available to you, how to access them, and where to apply.

As you move forward with any grant opportunities, please contact Andrew Usyk, my Grants Director, for letters of support, when applicable. You can reach him in my Washington, D.C. Office at [Grants@Gillibrand.Senate.gov](mailto:Grants@Gillibrand.Senate.gov), or (202)-224-4451.

Sincerely,



Kirsten E. Gillibrand

## Federal Section I

### United States Department of Agriculture

### National Institute of Food and Agriculture

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is an agency within the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), part of the executive branch of the Federal Government. Congress created NIFA through the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008. NIFA replaced the former Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES), which had been in existence since 1994. NIFA's unique mission is to advance knowledge for agriculture, the environment, human health and well-being, and communities by supporting research, education, and extension programs in the Land-Grant University System and other partner organizations.

#### **1) Integrated Research, Education, and Extension to Prevent Childhood Obesity**

- Generate new knowledge of the behavioral (not metabolic) factors that influence childhood obesity and use this information to develop and implement effective family and/or school-based interventions for preventing overweight and obesity in preschool and early elementary school age children (ages 2-8 years).

#### **Additional Information:**

- Behavior should be defined in a broad sense to include individual patterns of behavior and how individuals respond to others and the environment.
- Because obesity is such a multifaceted problem, it is expected that the project team will have appropriate training and experience in multiple disciplines. Nutrition expertise is essential.
- Projects are expected to lead to measurable, documented changes in learning, actions or conditions in relation to obesity prevention.

#### **Eligibility:**

- Because obesity is such a multifaceted problem, it is expected that the project team will have appropriate training and experience in multiple disciplines. Nutrition expertise is essential.
- High priority will be given to projects involving populations eligible for USDA programs (*e.g.*, Expanded Food and Nutrition Education program, Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program). The rationale for the selection of any population for intervention should be documented.

#### **Contact Information:**

- Ms. Etta Saltos  
Telephone: (202) 401-5178

esaltos@nifa.usda.gov

- Ms. Susan Welsh  
Telephone: (202) 720-5544  
[swelsh@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:swelsh@nifa.usda.gov)

## 2) Childhood Obesity Prevention

- CAP seeks to bring together a multi-state, multi-institutional, and multi-disciplinary team to integrate knowledge about child nutrition, physical activity, psychology, human development, child feeding practices, parenting skills and social and environmental influences on childhood obesity to develop and implement a large-scale multifaceted intervention to prevent childhood obesity.

### Additional Information:

- CAP participants would serve as a team comprised of members working in discovery, learning, and engagement to conduct research, education and extension on an emerging or priority area to prevent childhood obesity.
- Expertise from principal stakeholders and partnerships with end user groups (e.g., parents, teachers, community leaders, etc.) is strongly encouraged.

### Eligibility:

- All applications must adhere to the requirements beginning in Part IV Applications must include all three functions of the agricultural knowledge system (research, education, and extension). Each function should be represented by one or more objectives within the application.
- Applications should involve collaborations of multiple institutions.

### Contact Information:

- Ms. Etta Saltos  
Telephone: (202) 401-5178  
esaltos@nifa.usda.gov
- Ms. Susan Welsh  
Telephone: (202) 720-5544  
swelsh@nifa.usda.gov  
<http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/childhoodobesitypreventionafri.cfm>

## 3) Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program

- Community Food projects are designated to meet the food needs of low income people while increasing the self-reliance of communities in provifind for their own food needs. These programs should also promote comprehensive responses to local food, farm and nutrition issues.

**Additional Information:**

- These projects should meet specific state, local, or neighborhood food and agriculture needs for infrastructure improvement and development as well as planning for community long term solutions by the creation of innovative activities that mutually benefit agricultural producers' and low-income consumers.
- Matching funds are not required

**Eligibility:**

- Applicants may only be private or nonprofit entities that meet the following requirements:
  - Organizations that have experience in the area of community food work, particularly concerning small and medium-size farms, including the provision of food to people in low-income communities and the development of new markets in low-income communities for agricultural producers.
  - Organizations that specialize in job training and business development activities for food-related activities in low-income communities
- [http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/community\\_food.html](http://www.nifa.usda.gov/funding/rfas/community_food.html)

**Contact Information:**

- Ms. Elizabeth Tuckermanty  
National Program Leader, Community Food Projects  
(202) 205-0241  
[etuckermanty@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:etuckermanty@nifa.usda.gov)
- Katrena R. Hanks  
Program Specialist  
(202) 401-5286  
[khanks@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:khanks@nifa.usda.gov)  
<http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/communityfoodprojects.cfm>

#### **4) Children Youth and Families At-Risk Sustainable Community Project**

- The Children, Youth, and Families at Risk (CYFAR) funding program to improve the quality and quantity of comprehensive community-based programs for at-risk children, youth, and families supported by the Cooperative Extension System. The CYFAR program mission is to marshal resources of the Land-Grant and Cooperative Extension Systems to develop and deliver educational programs that equip limited resource families and youth who are at-risk

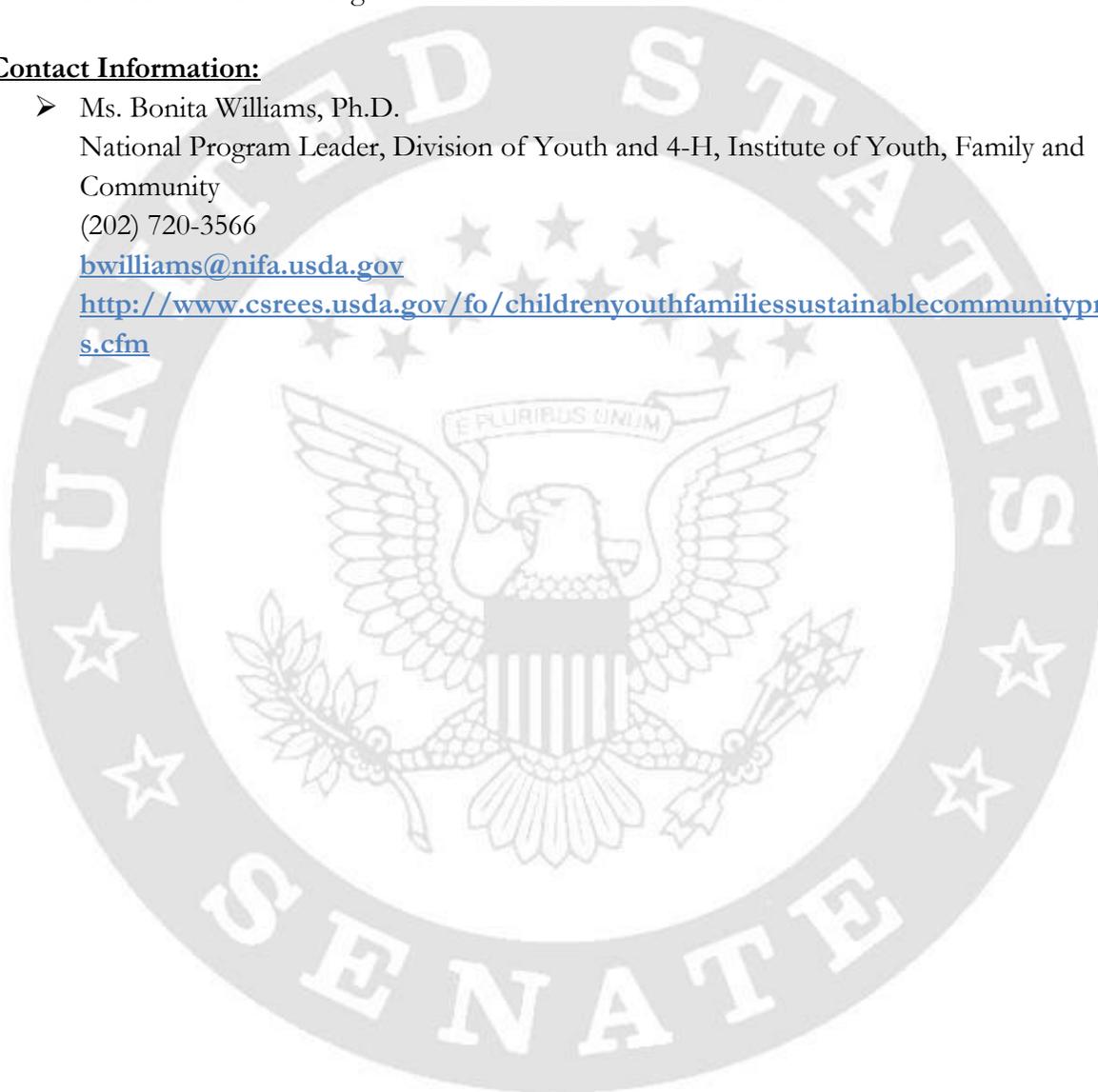
for not meeting basic human needs with the skills they need to lead positive, productive, contributing lives, including access to healthy fresh foods and battling obesity.

**Eligibility:**

- 1890 Land Grant Institutions
- 1862 Land Grant Colleges and Universities as well as the District of Columbia

**Contact Information:**

- Ms. Bonita Williams, Ph.D.  
National Program Leader, Division of Youth and 4-H, Institute of Youth, Family and Community  
(202) 720-3566  
[bwilliams@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:bwilliams@nifa.usda.gov)  
<http://www.csrees.usda.gov/fo/childreneyouthfamiliesustainablecommunityprojects.cfm>



## Federal Section II

### United States Department of Health and Human Services National Institutes of Health

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is the largest source of funding for medical research in the world, creating hundreds of thousands of high-quality jobs by funding thousands of scientists in universities and research institutions in every state across America and around the globe. NIH is made up of 27 Institutes and Centers, each with a specific research agenda, often focusing on particular diseases or body systems. Their overall goal is to strengthen our nation's research capacity, broaden our research base, and inspire a passion for science in current and future generations of researchers.

#### **1) Community-Based Partnerships for Childhood Obesity Prevention and Control: Research to Inform Policy**

- The purpose of this funding opportunity announcement (FOA) issued by the NICHD is to enhance childhood obesity research by fostering the formation of local, state, or regional teams consisting of researchers, policymakers, and other relevant stakeholders.

#### **Additional Information:**

- In order to identify research questions and hypotheses, design and implement the relevant research, and translate the research into evidence relevant to potential policy efforts in this area.

#### **Eligibility:**

- Public/State Controlled Institutions of Higher Education, Private Institutions of Higher Education, Nonprofits with 501(c)(3) IRS Status, Small Businesses, For-Profit Organizations (Other than Small Businesses), and State Governments are eligible to apply to this opportunity.

#### **Contact Information:**

- For more information, please contact:  
Phone: 301-402-7469 or 866-504-9552 (Toll Free)  
TTY: 301-451-5939  
Email: [commons@od.nih.gov](mailto:commons@od.nih.gov)

## 2) Exploratory/Developmental Clinical Research Grants in Obesity

- The goal of this initiative is to encourage exploratory/developmental clinical research that will accelerate the development of effective interventions for prevention or treatment of overweight or obesity in adults and/or children. The emphasis is thus on the development of exploratory clinical studies, pilot and feasibility studies, or small randomized clinical trials that will provide preliminary data for intervention and epidemiological studies that will inform translational/clinical research.

### Additional Information:

- The goal of this mechanism is to provide flexibility for initiating exploratory, short-term studies, thus allowing new ideas to be investigated in a more expeditious manner without stringent requirements for preliminary data.
- Such support is needed to encourage investigators to pursue new approaches, underdeveloped topics, or more creative avenues for research including new partnerships. Epidemiological research with a goal of informing translational/clinical research on prevention or treatment of obesity or overweight in adults and/or children is encouraged.

### Eligibility:

- Public/State Controlled Institutions of Higher Education, Private Institutions of Higher Education, Nonprofits with 501(c)(3) IRS Status, Small Businesses, and State Governments are eligible to apply to this opportunity.

### Contact Information:

- Sharon T. Bourque  
Grants Management Specialist  
National Institute of Diabetes, Digestive and Kidney Diseases  
6707 Democracy Blvd., Room 719  
Bethesda, MD 20892 MSC 5456  
Telephone: (301)594-8846  
FAX: (301)480-3504  
Email: [sb114m@nih.gov](mailto:sb114m@nih.gov)

## 3) Home and Family Based Approaches for the Prevention or Management of Overweight or Obesity in Early Childhood

- This program calls for innovative applications for exploratory pilot/feasibility study and small clinical trial (R21) applications to test novel approaches for the prevention or management of overweight in infants and children (up to six years of age at the time of

enrollment) in the context of the home environment, including parental/family involvement.

**Additional Information:**

- Prevention and management are generally guided by levels of age-appropriate weight status based on the 2000 CDC weight-for-length or BMI-for-age growth charts for boys or girls.
- Primary prevention is the prevention of inappropriate weight gain in children currently at a healthy weight (BMI or weight-for-length below the eighty-fifth percentile).
- Secondary prevention is the prevention of inappropriate weight gain in youths currently at risk of overweight (BMI greater than or equal to the eighty-fifth percentile to less than the ninety-fifth percentile).

**Eligibility:**

- Public/State Controlled Institutions of Higher Education, Private Institutions of Higher Education, Nonprofits with 501(c)(3) IRS Status, Small Businesses, For-Profit Organizations (Other than Small Businesses), and State Governments are eligible to apply to this opportunity.

**Contact Information:**

- Marilyn F. Rosendorf  
Grants Management Branch  
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases  
6707 Democracy Boulevard, Room 742  
Bethesda, MD 20892-5456  
Telephone: (301) 402-4625  
Fax: (301) 594-9523  
Email: [Marilyn.Rosendorf@nih.gov](mailto:Marilyn.Rosendorf@nih.gov)

#### **4) School-based Interventions to Prevent Obesity**

- This program has been designed to encourage partnerships between academic institutions and school systems, for example, those school systems involved with the Action for Healthy Kids Program. Such partnerships would involve getting baseline data on children in elementary or middle schools, devising and implementing intervention programs in a controlled fashion, and assessing dependent outcome variables at varying lengths of time after the intervention.

**Additional Information:**

- School systems are ideal places to develop and evaluate innovative interventions designed to prevent childhood obesity. Children spend much of their time in school where they can be exposed to randomized, controlled interventions.
- Entire schools within a school system can be chosen at random for either intervention or control conditions in order to reduce the possibility of cross-group contamination.

**Eligibility:**

- Public/State Controlled Institutions of Higher Education, Private Institutions of Higher Education, Nonprofits with 501(c)(3) IRS Status, Small Businesses, For-Profit Organizations (Other than Small Businesses), and State Governments are eligible to apply to this opportunity.

**Contact Information:**

- Lisa Moeller  
Grants Management Branch  
National Institute of Child Health and Human Development  
6100 Executive Boulevard, 8A17, MSC 7510  
Bethesda, MD 20892-7510  
Telephone: (301) 496-5482  
FAX: (301) 402-0915  
Email: [moellerl2@mail.nih.gov](mailto:moellerl2@mail.nih.gov)

**5) Improving Diet and Physical Activity Assessment**

- This program is aimed at advancing the quality of measurements of dietary intake and physical activity pertinent to cancer and/or other pathologies through support of research on improved instruments, technologies, and/or statistical/analytical techniques. Studies proposed in the grant applications should be aimed at optimizing the combined use of objective and self-report measures of physical activity and/or dietary intake for testing in both general and diverse populations.

**Additional Information:**

- Diet and physical activity are lifestyle and behavioral factors that play a role in the etiology and prevention of many chronic diseases such as cancer and coronary heart disease.

- They also play roles in preventing overweight/obesity and in maintaining weight loss. Therefore, diet and physical activity are assessed for both surveillance and epidemiologic/clinical research purposes.

**Eligibility:**

- Public/State Controlled Institutions of Higher Education, Private Institutions of Higher Education, Nonprofits with 501(c)(3) IRS Status, Small Businesses, For-Profit Organizations (Other than Small Businesses), and State Governments are eligible to apply to this opportunity.

**Contact Information:**

- Crystal Wolfrey  
Office of Grants Administration  
National Cancer Institute  
6120 Executive Boulevard, EPS Suite 243, MSC 7150  
Bethesda, MD 20892-7150 (for U.S. Postal Service express or regular mail)  
Rockville, MD 20852 (for express/courier delivery)  
Telephone: (301) 496-8634  
Fax: (301) 496-8601  
E-mail: [crystal.wolfrey@nih.gov](mailto:crystal.wolfrey@nih.gov)

**6) Nutrition Obesity Research Centers (P30)**

- This program seeks to establish core centers that are part of an integrated program of nutrition and/or obesity research. The objective of the Nutrition Obesity Research Centers program is to bring together basic science and clinical investigators from relevant disciplines to enhance and extend the effectiveness of research related to nutritional sciences and/or obesity, and related disorders, with clinical and/or translational applications in these areas.

**Additional Research**

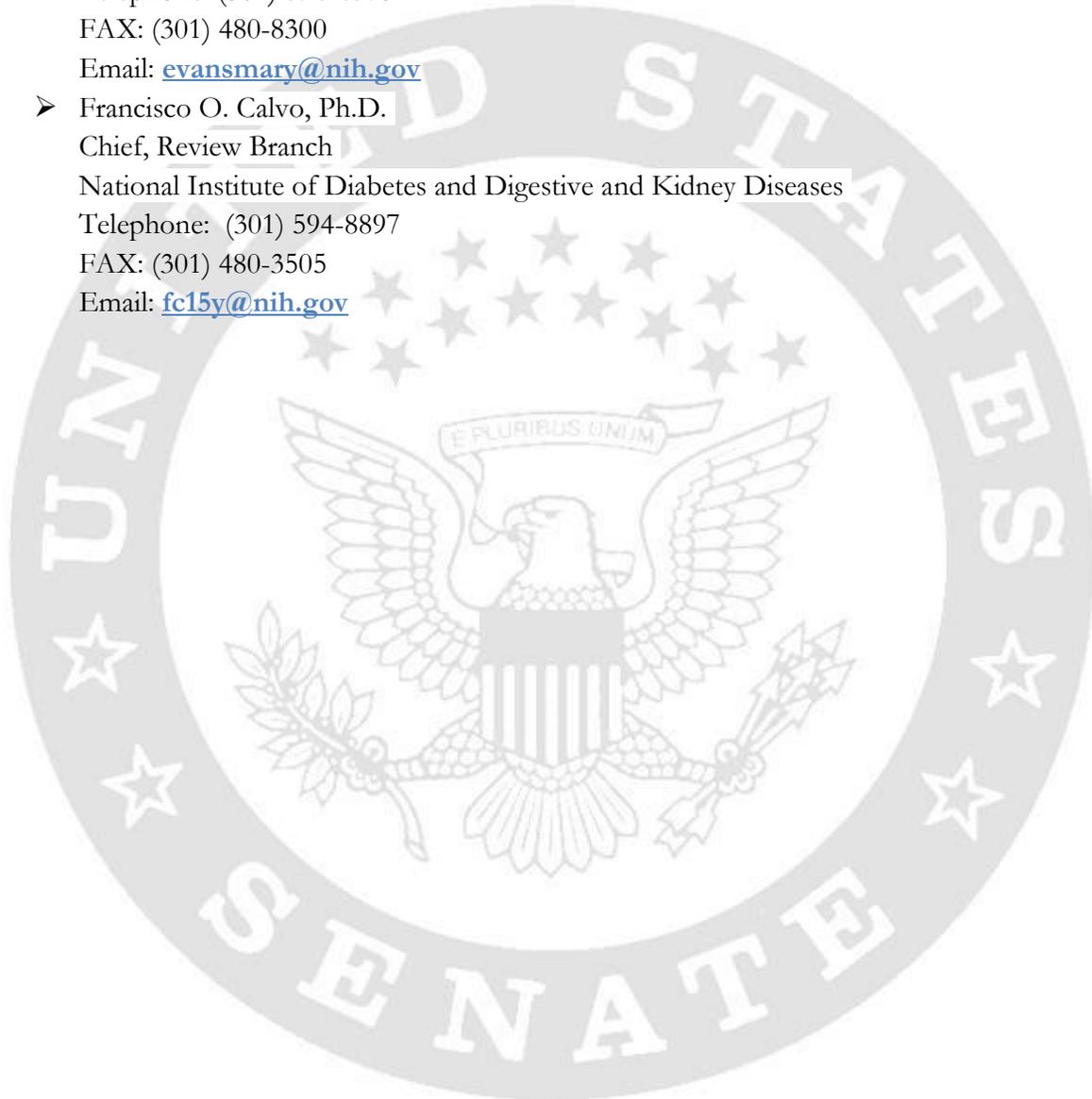
- Each proposed NORC must be organized around central themes that reflect the nutrition and/or obesity research focus of the center members.

**Eligibility:**

- Public/State Controlled Institutions of Higher Education, Private Institutions of Higher Education, Nonprofits with and without 501(c)(3) IRS Status, Small Businesses, For-Profit Organizations (other than Small Businesses), and State, County, and City Governments are eligible to apply to this opportunity.

**Contact Information:**

- Mary E. Evans, Ph.D.  
Division of Digestive Diseases and Nutrition  
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases  
Telephone: (301) 594-4578  
FAX: (301) 480-8300  
Email: [evansmary@nih.gov](mailto:evansmary@nih.gov)
- Francisco O. Calvo, Ph.D.  
Chief, Review Branch  
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases  
Telephone: (301) 594-8897  
FAX: (301) 480-3505  
Email: [fc15y@nih.gov](mailto:fc15y@nih.gov)



## Federal Section IV

### United States Department of Education

The mission of the Department of Education is to promote student achievement and preparation for global competitiveness by fostering educational excellence and ensuring equal access. The Department of Education looks to not only educate each student across our country but reaches out to each parent and guardian. The Department of Education is accessible and resourceful through the expansive span of focus areas it covers.

#### **1) Carol M. White Physical Education Program**

- The Carol M. White Physical Education Program provides grants to LEAs and community-based organizations (CBOs) to initiate, expand, or enhance physical education programs, including after-school programs, for students in kindergarten through 12th grade. Grant recipients must implement programs that help students make progress toward meeting state standards.

#### **Additional Information:**

- Funds may be used to provide equipment and support to enable students to participate actively in physical education activities. Funds also may support staff and teacher training and education.

#### **Eligibility:**

- LEAs and community-based organizations may apply.

#### **Contact Information:**

- Ms. Carlette Huntley  
United States Department of Education  
Telephone: (202) 245 – 7871  
Email: [carlette.huntley@ed.gov](mailto:carlette.huntley@ed.gov)

## Federal Section V

### United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)

HUD's mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. HUD is working to strengthen the housing market to bolster the economy and protect consumers; meet the need for quality affordable rental homes; utilize housing as a platform for improving quality of life; build inclusive and sustainable communities free from discrimination; and transform the way HUD does business.

With a focus on childhood obesity, the following opportunity can be used to develop safer and larger areas for physical activity within your community.

#### **1) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Entitlement Communities Grants**

- The Department of Housing & Urban Development awards grants to entitlement community grantees to carry out a wide range of community development activities directed toward revitalizing neighborhoods, economic development, and providing improved community facilities and services. Entitlement communities develop their own programs and funding priorities. However, grantees must give maximum feasible priority to activities which benefit low- and moderate-income persons.

#### **Additional Information:**

- To receive its annual CDBG entitlement grant, a grantee must develop and submit to HUD a **Consolidated Plan**. In the Consolidated Plan, the jurisdiction must identify its goals for these programs as well as for housing programs. The goals will serve as the criteria against which HUD will evaluate a jurisdiction's Plan and its performance under the Plan.
- Also, the Consolidated Plan must include several required certifications, including that not less than 70% of the CDBG funds received, over a one, two or three year period specified by the grantee, will be used for activities that benefit low- and moderate-income persons, and that the grantee will affirmatively further fair housing.

#### **Eligibility:**

- Principal cities of Metropolitan Statistical Areas, other metropolitan cities with populations of at least 50,000; and qualified urban counties with populations of at least 200,000 (excluding the population of entitled cities) are entitled to receive annual grants.

#### **Contact:**

- Please contact your local government to receive and pursue assistance from the Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Communities Grant.

- More information can also be found at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's website:  
<http://www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/communitydevelopment/programs>



## State Section I

### New York State Department of Health

#### 1) Eat Well, Play Hard Initiative

- Eat Well Play Hard was developed to help prevent childhood obesity and reduce long-term risks for chronic disease through the promotion of targeted dietary practices and increased physical activity. Poor nutrition and inadequate physical activity combined are the second most preventable actual cause of death in the USA. Being active builds healthy muscles, strengthens bones and helps maintain a healthy weight. It also reduces the risk of diabetes, heart attack and high blood pressure.

##### Additional Information:

- This initiative works to create opportunities that increase appropriate physical activity, consumption of vegetables and fruits while decreasing the reliance on television exposure.

##### Contact Information:

- To learn how to utilize these partnerships, please contact:  
Email: [ewph1@health.state.ny.us](mailto:ewph1@health.state.ny.us)

#### 2) Child and Adult Care Food Program

- The CACFP initiative is supported through an entitlement program from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and continues New York's commitment of promoting the health and well being of its residents.

##### Additional Information:

- Currently, more than 1,500 sponsoring organizations representing 14,000 licensed or registered center-based or family day care sites are participating statewide. On average, day care providers serve approximately 295,000 meals to children and adults each day.

##### Eligibility:

- To check your eligibility as a participant, please access the website to view the income guidelines chart: <http://www.health.state.ny.us/prevention/nutrition/cacfp/aboutcacfp.htm>
- Nonparticipating agencies and programs may apply for CACFP at any time during the year. All participating day care programs must reapply annually

##### Contact Information:

- For more information about the Child and Adult Care Food Program in New York State you may call: 1-800-942-3858 or (518) 402-7400.

### 3) Steps to a HealthierNY

- Steps to a HealthierNY (Steps) is a program that helps New Yorkers of all ages live longer lives by adopting healthy habits to prevent or lessen the effects of diabetes, asthma, and obesity.

#### **Additional Information:**

- The Steps model is unique because it addresses risk factors common to all three diseases. Steps is different because community organizations work together as partners to address common issues. This approach works to eliminate different or confusing messages and promotes the best use of resources. Steps encourage medical facilities, insurance companies, schools, worksites, local government agencies, and businesses to work together.

#### **Eligibility:**

- To have a program sponsored, it must be based around in one of the four participating New York counties (listed under Contact Information):
  - Improving food choices available in school cafeterias and vending machines
  - Creating and improving community walking trails
  - Opening schools for walking during non-schools hours
  - Training health care professionals on the latest asthma care standards and assisting them in incorporating the standards into their practices
  - Offering weight loss programs to the community

#### **Contact Information:**

- Chautauqua  
Jamestown YMCA  
101 East Fourth Street  
Jamestown, NY 14701  
Phone: (716) 664-2802 x231
- Jefferson  
Jefferson County Public Health Services  
531 Meade Street  
Watertown, NY 13610  
Phone: (315) 786-3719
- Broome  
Broome County Health Department  
225 Front Street  
Binghamton, NY 13905  
Phone: (607)778-3929
- Rockland

Rockland County Health Department  
50 Sanatorium Road building J  
Pomona, NY 10970  
Phone: (845) 364-3610



## Community and School Gardens

### *Federal Funding*

There are more than 1,000 community gardens in New York State (Department of Agriculture & Markets) and approximately 600 such gardens in New York City (NYC Parks and Recreation Department). Community gardens serve to beautify neglected public spaces, provide a place for recreation, exercise and quiet reflection and encourage the consumption of healthy foods.

Increasingly, schools in New York and around the country are growing their own gardens, too, and encouraging healthy eating, physical activity and respect for the natural world in the process. New York City's roughly 300 school gardens (The New York Times) provide opportunities for experiential learning across disciplines (GreenThumb) and can supply produce to the schools themselves, households in the neighborhood and local food banks.

#### **1) EPA Environmental Education Grants**

- Sponsored by EPA's Office of Environmental Education (OEE), Office of External Affairs and Environmental Education, supports environmental education projects that enhance the public's awareness, knowledge, and skills to help people make informed decisions that affect environmental quality. EPA awards grants each year based on funding appropriated by Congress. Annual funding for the program ranges between \$2 and \$3 million.

#### **Eligibility:**

- Any local education agency, college or university, state education or environmental agency, non-profit organization as described in Section 501(C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or noncommercial educational broadcasting entities as defined and licensed by Federal Communications Commission may submit a proposal.

#### **Contact Information:**

- Teresa Ippolito  
U.S. EPA, Region 2  
Environmental Education Grants  
Grants and Contracts Management Branch  
290 Broadway  
27th Floor  
New York, NY 10007-1866  
[ippolito.teresa@epa.gov](mailto:ippolito.teresa@epa.gov)

## 2) USDA Community Facilities Program

- Community Programs provides grants to assist in the development of essential community facilities in rural areas and towns of up to 20,000 in population.

### **Eligibility:**

- Grant funds may be used to assist in the development of essential community facilities. Grant funds can be used to construct, enlarge, or improve community facilities for health care, public safety, and community and public services. This can include the purchase of equipment required for a facility's operation. A grant may be made in combination with other CF financial assistance such as a direct or guaranteed loan, applicant contributions, or loans and grants from other sources.

### **Contact Information:**

- For Contact information for your county please access the website:  
<http://offices.sc.egov.usda.gov/locator/app?state=us&agency=rd>

## 3) USDA People's Garden School Pilot Program

- The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is announcing the opportunity for public and not-for-profit organizations to submit applications for a Peoples Garden School Pilot Program grant competition. FNS has set aside \$1 million for this pilot program. One grantee will be selected to enter into a cooperative agreement for the purposes of developing and running community gardens at eligible high-poverty schools; teaching students involved in the gardens about agriculture production practices, diet, and nutrition; contributing produce to supplement food provided at eligible schools, student households, local food banks, or senior center nutrition programs; and conducting an evaluation of funded projects to learn more about the impacts of school gardens.

### **Additional Information:**

- “Each garden must serve two or more eligible schools at which 50 percent or more of the students are eligible for free- or reduced-priced lunch.” This does not mean that one garden plot must serve two different schools but that a garden project must serve a minimum of two schools. Since we are only awarding a single award, there will be multiple schools, and each school may have its own physical garden or shared garden with partnering schools.

## ***New York State Funding***

### **1) Parks & Trails New York's Capacity Building Grants**

- Parks & Trails New York's Capacity Building Grants program for park and trail groups provides grants of up to \$3,000 to strengthen not-for-profit organizations that are working to build and protect parks and trails in communities across the state.

#### Additional Information:

- Funds can be used to assist with activities associated with organizational start-up and development, training, communications, and volunteer recruitment and management.

#### Eligibility:

- Awards will be made to local or regional organizations associated with a specific New York park or trail that is or will be open to the public. Groups must be classified by the IRS as 501 (c)(3) or operate under the fiscal sponsorship of a 501 (c)(3).

#### Contact Information:

- For more information about the Parks & Trails New York Capacity Building Grants you may call: 518-434-1583

### **2) NYS Dept. of Ag & Markets' Community Gardens Capacity Building Grant Program**

- Grants for up to \$5,000 can be used for capacity building efforts such as leadership development and organizational planning, membership recruitment activities, and strengthening a community gardens role within its neighborhood.

#### Contact Information:

- For more information about the NYS Dept. of Ag & Markets' Community Gardens Capacity Building Grant Program you may call Christina Grace: 718-722-2834

### **3) NYS Office of Parks, Recreation & Historical Preservation Environmental Protection Fund**

- The Parks application is to be used for projects to preserve, rehabilitate or restore lands, waters or structures for use by all segments of the population for park, recreation or conservation purposes, including such things as playgrounds, courts, rinks, community gardens and facilities for swimming, boating, picnicking, hunting, fishing, camping or other recreational activities.

**Contact Information:**

- For more information about the NYS Office of Parks Grant, please access the web:  
<http://nysparks.com/grants/contact.aspx>

**4) NYS Dept. of Environmental Conservation's Environmental Justice Community Impact Grant Program**

- Community gardening organizations are eligible to apply for grants to fund projects that address environmental and related public health issues. Projects must address multiple harms and risks to communities and communicate project results to the community residents.

**Additional Information:**

- Awards ranging from \$2,500 to \$50,000 will be given out for projects such as, but not limited to:
  - Green collar training programs
  - Studies to increase public awareness and understanding of environmental contamination or cleanup activities
  - Community inventories of environmental contamination
  - Demonstration projects of green rooftops for storm water abatement
  - Alternative energy projects
  - Air and water quality monitoring
  - Community gardens

**Eligibility:**

- Community organizations do not need 501©(3) non-profit status to apply.

**Contact Information:**

- NYSDEC  
Office of Environmental Justice  
625 Broadway, 14th Floor  
Albany, NY 12233-1500  
518-402-8556

**5) New York Agriculture in the Classroom Kids Growing Food**

- Annually, teachers are invited to submit garden mini-grant proposals. Schools receive a cash award to help them establish or maintain a food garden.

**Additional Information:**

- The main goals of Kids Growing Food are to increase appreciation and understanding of agriculture, nutrition and the food system by getting students involved in food gardening at school and to create "garden classrooms" that provide authentic experiences and help educators meet state and national Learning Standards

**Eligibility:**

- Elementary schools or secondary schools with an elementary partner in New York that are not previous KGF grant recipients are eligible to apply. A teacher acts as Project Director and agrees to attend one workshop. Previous grant recipients remain members of the KGF Network and, as an ongoing benefit, are invited to attend KGF workshops and other events. They may also be eligible for the KGF II Continuation Mini-Grant. All Project Directors *must* have e-mail, access to the web, and a community partner.

**Contact Information:**

- For more information about the Kids Growing Food you may call: 607-255-9253



## Letters of Support from Senator Gillibrand

While Senator Gillibrand does NOT decide which organizations are awarded grants, there are instances in which it is appropriate for the Senator Gillibrand to write a letter of support for an application. If you wish to request a letter of support for your application, you must supply Senator Gillibrand with the following:

1. A description of your organization,
2. Summary of the application,
3. a description of what the money will be used for, and
4. a draft letter of support

Please forward this information to the nearest regional office:

### **Washington D.C.**

Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand  
United States Senate  
478 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510  
Tel. (202) 224-4451  
Fax (202) 228-0282  
TTY/TDD: (202) 224-6821

### **Capitol District**

Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand  
Leo W. O'Brien Federal Office Building  
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### **Rochester Region**

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