
Fiscal Year 2024 Description of Funded Projects

Number of Grants Awarded: 4
Amount of Funds Awarded: \$4,749,842.00

For more information, please visit the grant program's website:

<https://www.ams.usda.gov/services/grants/mgfsp>

NOTE: The below project descriptions were provided by the grant recipients.

Alaska Division of Agriculture

Recipient: Alaska Division of Agriculture, Juneau, AK

Project Type: Initiative

Award Amount: \$2,235,219.76

Micro-Grants for Food Security Program

The Alaska Division of Agriculture will conduct a grant proposal opening for the 2024 Micro-Grants for Food Security Program (MGFSP). The MGFSP grants are available to all individuals, Indian Tribes or tribal organizations, qualifying nonprofits, and federally funded educational facilities. The Individual awards are arranged by project type and will be reimbursement awards, prioritized by the number of direct beneficiaries and indirect beneficiaries the project supports, and the degree of food insecurity in their region determined by either the SNAP food assistance program ranked census areas or the Economic Innovation Group Distressed Communities Index. Organizations will apply with a project proposal as usual, and both types of applicants will be scored by a Review panel of experts familiar with Alaskan Agriculture and regions, using the measures of food insecurity rank, and direct and indirect beneficiaries. Projects and qualifying activities in 2024 are grouped under the broader categories of Gardening; Greenhouse; Livestock, Poultry, and Apiary; and Food Processing and Storage.

CNMI Division of Agriculture

Recipient: Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Division of Agriculture, Saipan, MP

Project Type: Initiative

Award Amount: \$139,701.24

FY2024 Feed CNMI Project

The CNMI DOA is applying for funds under the Micro-Grants for Food Security Program and, if approved, will subgrant the funds, minus the three percent for administration purposes, to eligible farmers, ranchers and other interested individuals to implement their projects consistent with the requirements

of the program, which is to increase the quantity and quality of locally grown food through small scale farming, herding, and livestock operations in communities that have significant levels of food insecurity and import a significant quantity of food. The CNMI has been a recipient of these funds from the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service for the past four years, with over forty funded projects and the number continues to grow as more funds become available and more people become aware of the program to benefit the farmers and ranchers on Saipan, Tinian and Rota. The announcement for the availability of funds will be made in the local papers for three days within three consecutive weeks and, on the radio, to discuss program requirements, deadlines and other important information. The announcement will also be available on the DOA website at <https://dlnr.cnmi.gov/agriculture.html>. The series of announcements will ensure the greatest number of eligible entities are reached, as the radio station usually interviews guest speakers during morning commute hours.

Furthermore, the staff will utilize virtual workshops via Zoom to benefit applicants and interested individuals who are residing on the neighboring islands of Tinian and Rota.

Guam Department of Agriculture

Recipient: Guam Department of Agriculture, Hagatna, GU

Project Type: Initiative

Award Amount: \$139,701.24

Enhancing Local Food Production and Security: GDOAG's MGFSP Initiative in Guam

The Guam Department of Agriculture (GDOAG) will administer the Micro-Grants for Food Security Program (MGFSP) to address food insecurity by enhancing the production and quality of locally grown food within Guam's communities. With Guam relying on imports for over 90% of its food consumption, this initiative aims to strengthen the local agricultural sector and improve access to nutritious, homegrown food. The program will provide sub-awards to support small-scale gardening, livestock activities, and projects focused on increasing food availability and improving food knowledge on the island facing food insecurity.

To promote the MGFSP and its Request for Applications (RFA), GDOAG will utilize a multifaceted outreach strategy. This includes announcements on their official website and social media platforms, as well as through emails, fliers, press releases, and local radio. Additionally, GDOAG will engage NGO partners and leverage their existing close-knit farming community to expand the program's reach. The objective is to attract a diverse range of participants, including NGOs, farmers, local media, and other stakeholders.

Following the promotion phase, GDOAG will implement a competitive RFA process open to the public, aiming to identify and support projects that can significantly contribute to enhancing food security in Guam. Through these efforts, GDOAG seeks to develop a more resilient and self-sufficient food system on the island.

Hawaii Department of Agriculture

Recipient: Hawaii Department of Agriculture, Honolulu, HI

Project Type: Initiative

Award Amount: \$2,235,219.76

Micro-Grants for Food Security Program Fiscal Year 2024

The Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) will identify the eligible entities, defined as those entities that are physically located in the state of Hawaii, specifically on the islands of Hawaii, Maui, Molokai, Lanai, Oahu and Kauai.

The entities will engage in outreach activities to increase the quantity and quality of locally grown food for individuals, families, neighborhoods and communities in areas that are food insecure.

The Hawaii Department of Agriculture (HDOA) will administer the MGFSP by using a fixed amount award system for individuals and proposals (RFP) for organizations.