



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

RELEASE DATE:

4/10/2024

PRESS RELEASE


Tuskegee University and Heart of Alabama Food Bank Awards \$50,000 to Small Farmers

Tuskegee University Cooperative Extension Program proudly announces the launch of its Black Belt Food Corridor Mini-grant program in collaboration with the Heart of Alabama Food Bank. This initiative aims to assist Black Belt farmers, small food producers, community gardens, and school gardens in addressing their specific needs. With a remarkable response of 140 applications from 12 counties in Alabama, the program emphasizes activities geared towards bolstering economic opportunities for farmers, increasing production, enhancing land stewardship, reducing food waste, and improving food access.

Of these applications, 19 projects were selected for funding. These projects showcased innovative approaches in alignment with the program's objectives. This success underscores the community's dedication to fostering sustainable agriculture and food systems in the Black Belt region, while also promoting resilience and equity within the food system.

The collaboration with the Heart of Alabama Food Bank and support from the Feeding America Equity Impact Fund were instrumental in realizing this initiative. As the Black Belt Food Corridor celebrates this milestone, it remains steadfast in its commitment to nurturing agricultural and food-related endeavors in the region. The organization anticipates the positive impact these projects will have on local economies, food access, and environmental sustainability.

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4100 US Highway 80 W. Selma, AL 36701



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The awarded farmers are as follows:

Ella Bea's Farm LLC, Wilcox County
Younger Family Farm, Marengo County
Smith Farm, Dallas County
Hale County Minority and Disadvantaged Farmers Educational Foundation,
Hale County
Man with the Green Thumb, Sumter County
Lightner's Produce, Barbour County
Perry Family Farms, Bullock County
Clayhill Farms and Gardens, Marengo County
The Local Farm Cooperative, Dallas County
New Town's Flavor Garden, Bullock County
Farm Raised Aqua/Agriculture Technologies, LLC, Perry County
Goree Farms and Consortium, Greene County
Park Crossing High School, Montgomery County
Bear Exploration Center, Montgomery County
Nixon/Times Community Garden, Montgomery County
James' Chile's Farm LLC, Greene County
Jones Farm, Sumter County
RawSoulicious Sunflower Well, Macon County
Tuskegee/Macon County Community Development Corp., Macon County

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