

California Department of Food and Agriculture

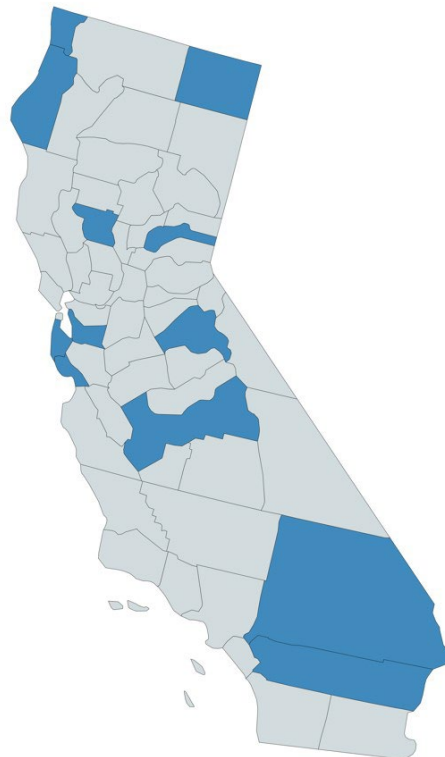
Farm to Community Food Hubs Grant Program

2025 Awarded Projects

Background

The California Department of Food and Agriculture awarded grants to **12 projects, collectively totaling \$13,750,000**, as part of the Farm to Community Food Hubs Grant Program (Program). The California Legislature established the Program to incentivize the creation and permanency of public-serving aggregation and distribution enterprises (i.e., community food hubs) by investing in planning activities and piloting investments in the aggregation and distribution infrastructure needed to (1) increase purchasing of local, environmentally sustainable, climate-smart, and equitably produced food by schools and other institutions, (2) build a better food system economy, (3) support the local farming and Indigenous food production economies, (4) accelerate climate adaptation and resilience and (5) employ food system workers with fair wages and working conditions. Projects must prioritize serving California food producers using environmentally sustainable practices, underrepresented food producers, such as socially disadvantaged producers and those operating on 500 acres or less, and prioritize selling California-grown food to institutions, especially public schools, food banks, and nonprofits serving low-income communities.

Projects are based in 12 counties.



Overview of Awards

12 total awarded projects

\$13,750,000 total funds awarded

Track 1 Planning
42% (5) of awards
\$1,108,688.50

Track 2 Infrastructure and Operations
58% (7) of awards
\$12,641,311.50

33% of awardees are food producers

17% of awardees are California Native American Tribes or Tribal-led nonprofit organizations

Of the 75% of awardees that have been operating food hubs for less than 5 years, **almost half** do not currently operate food hubs.

Project Locations | [View the interactive awards map](#)

Projects are based in **12 counties**.

67% are in Northern CA

17% are in Central CA

17% are in Southern CA

42% are in rural areas

Producer Partners

Of the **159** California food producers that Track 2 awardees expect to source from, on average:

98% use sustainable, climate-smart, or regenerative practices

97% operate on 500 acres or less

71% are socially disadvantaged

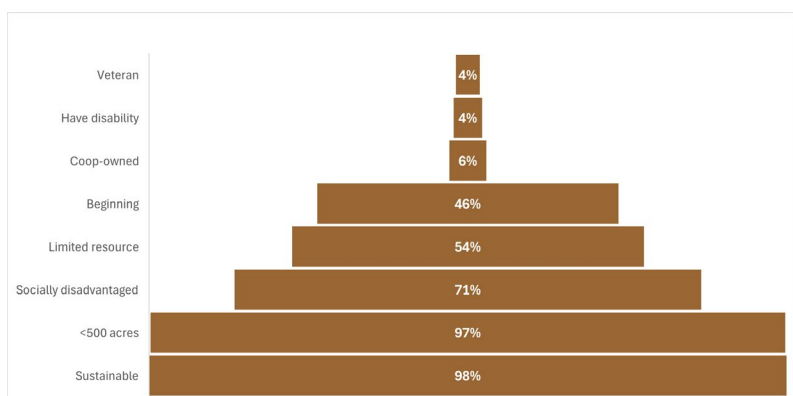
53% are limited resource producers

46% are beginning producers

6% are cooperatively owned

4% are veterans

4% have a disability



Track 1 Planning Award Summaries

5 projects | \$1,108,688.50 total

Project Title

Feeding the Future: The Colusa Food Hub Planning Project

Organization

Colusa County Resource Conservation District

Award Amount

\$249,895

Location

Colusa County

Colusa County Resource Conservation District (CCRCD) aims to help Colusa County growers aggregate their supply and sell fresh, local products collectively to schools, food banks, and other nonprofit and public institutions. CCRCD will engage growers involved in past and current RCD programs, as well as those connected with the Colusa County Chamber of Commerce, Colusa County Office of Education, Colusa County Farm Bureau, and the Ministerial Association of Colusa County. The project will develop a food systems assessment for the county, a feasibility study for the Colusa Food Hub, and a business plan for the Colusa Food Hub, including a funding plan for the first five years of operations.

Project Title

Planning for Institutional Partnerships and Expansion of Modoc Harvest's Rural Community Food Hub

Organization

Modoc Harvest

Award Amount

\$163,501.50

Location

Modoc County

Modoc Harvest is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that will leverage this project to scale its food hub to serve institutional buyers. The project will develop a clear roadmap for expanding the food hub in a strategic and sustainable way by creating a business plan to serve institutional buyers, a financial strategy to develop long-term sustainability, and an infrastructure plan that identifies necessary improvements to increase efficiency and organizational capacity. The organization is partnering with Modoc Medical Center, the Fort Bidwell Indian Community, the Pit River Tribe, and the local UC Cooperative Extension office to develop and align local food procurement programs.

Project Title

Sherman Produce Market Food Hub Expansion

Organization

Sherman Produce Market

Award Amount

\$250,000

Location

Fresno County

Sherman Produce Market is a Black-owned, producer-led food hub based in southwest Fresno that will develop a comprehensive, community-informed plan to guide its transformation into a fully functional, cooperative food hub. This planning process will allow the organization to build systems intentionally, assess infrastructure needs, engage farmer and buyer partners, and ensure long-term financial and operational sustainability. The project team will develop a strategic organizational development plan, sustainable financial plan, physical infrastructure roadmap, logistics and distribution systems plan, and a targeted marketing and communications strategy.

Project Title
Farm Fresh Markets

Organization
Square One Foundation

Award Amount
\$240,000

Location
Santa Cruz County

Square One Foundation is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that will leverage this project to design a comprehensive feasibility study and strategic plan to guide the development of a producer-led food hub that strengthens market access, infrastructure, and institutional procurement pathways for socially disadvantaged, beginning, small scale, veteran, and disabled farmers in Los Angeles, Santa Cruz, Sacramento, and Yolo counties. Through a comprehensive food system assessment, the initiative functions as both a market channel and a support hub, providing integrated support in farm management, market development, financial planning, and buyer engagement.

Project Title
TEDA, Inc. Community Food Hub Study and Planning

Organization
Tuolumne Economic Development Authority, Inc. / Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians

Award Amount
\$205,292

Location
Tuolumne County

The Tuolumne Economic Development Authority (TEDA), Inc. is a unit of the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians, with the purpose of aiding the Tribe in furthering their economic development goals. TEDA Inc. will leverage this funding to assess the feasibility and develop a comprehensive plan for a community-based food hub that serves the Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians and surrounding rural communities. The project prioritizes food sovereignty, economic development, and sustainable local agriculture. The team will develop a feasibility study, business plan, market analysis, marketing strategy, and financial plan. The project will evaluate the local and regional capacity for food production, aggregation, processing, and distribution using inclusive and culturally responsive stakeholder engagement, targeting Tribal farmers, institutional buyers, community members, and nonprofit partners.

Track 2 Infrastructure and Operations

7 projects | \$12,641,311.50 total

Project Title
Coastside Local Food Hub: Expanding Equitable Market Access for Small-Scale and Underserved Producers on the Central Coast

Organization
Brisa Ranch

Award Amount
\$1,994,069.75

Location
San Mateo County

Brisa Ranch will collaborate with the San Mateo County Resource Conservation District, Kitchen Table Advisors, and TomKat Ranch Educational Foundation to establish the Coastside Local Food Hub. The new food hub is a farmer-led aggregation and distribution hub that expands equitable market access for small-scale and historically underserved producers along the Central Coast. The project will provide shared infrastructure, crop planning, and delivery logistics, and strengthen the viability of climate-smart and socially disadvantaged farms. The project will provide services for food producers, such as cold and dry storage, access to dry bean processing equipment, and food safety support, and aims to deliver to public schools, food banks, universities, and other institutional buyers across Northern and Central California.

Project Title

Gather & Grow Food Hub: Connecting communities, nourishing traditions, growing a resilient food future

Organization

Del Norte and Tribal Lands Community Food Council

Award Amount

\$1,999,975.62

Location

Del Norte County

Del Norte and Tribal Lands Community Food Council is a Tribal-led nonprofit organization that will establish a 15,526 square-foot regional food hub to serve Del Norte County and the Tribal lands of the Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation, Yurok Tribe, and Elk Valley Rancheria. In partnership with the Del Norte Healthcare District, the food hub will bridge long-standing infrastructure gaps within a remote region, featuring cold and dry storage, aggregation space to support institutional purchasing, a processing kitchen, a community retail store, and an agricultural tool lending library for food producers. The project is being implemented in partnership with Del Norte Healthcare District and a coalition of stakeholders, including Open Door Community Health Centers, the Family Resource Center Food Bank, local Tribes, CalFresh Healthy Living, County Office of Emergency Services, and economic development agencies.

Project Title

Expanding Critical Food Resources on the North Coast through Harvest Hub

Organization

North Coast Growers' Association

Award Amount

\$2,000,000

Location

Humboldt County

North Coast Growers' Association is a membership led agricultural support nonprofit organization that operates Harvest Hub, a food hub serving Humboldt, Del Norte, and Trinity counties. The project will expand the food hub's current infrastructure, delivery range, staffing, and internal systems to meet the needs of public schools, California Native American Tribes, food banks, and community centers. Funding will enable the food hub to implement and analyze revenue potential from aggregation infrastructure funded by USDA's Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure Grant and strengthen partnerships with other food hubs in the North Coast region.

Project Title

Old Grove Kitchen: Scaling Farm-to-School Processing Capacity in Greater Los Angeles

Organization

Old Grove Orange

Award Amount

\$1,800,000

Location

San Bernardino County

Old Grove Orange, a farmer-led food hub and the state's longest-running K-12 Farm to School food hub, will build a commercial processing kitchen to scale its impact and meet the increasing demand from public institutions for minimally processed, locally grown fruits and vegetables. After conducting a successful three-year pilot to provide the region's school food marketplace with pre-cut and individually wrapped offerings, the project aims to serve +25% more small/mid-scale farmers in the Greater Los Angeles region and add 10 new K-12 school district partners across Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside, and Orange counties, reaching an additional 150,000 students.

Project Title

Centro de Agricultura - Raul y Familia

Organization

Raul and Family Farms, Inc.

Award Amount

\$1,494,708.33

Location

Riverside County

Raul and Family Farms Inc., a small-scale family farm owned by first-generation and predominantly Spanish-speaking farmers, will establish a new producer-led community food hub that primarily serves Spanish-speaking farmers. In response to the closure of the Riverside Food Hub, a major local market channel, and the lack of culturally relevant resources for fellow farmers- of-color, the food hub aims to educate, strengthen and facilitate market access for under-resourced farmers. The project will include building a packing house, acquiring aggregation and distribution equipment, and providing food safety training and regulatory support for farmers as the food hub sells to public schools and food banks.

Project Title

Saba Food Hub Expansion

Organization

Saba Grocers Initiative

Award Amount

\$2,000,000

Location

Alameda County

Saba Grocers Initiative is a nonprofit food hub that will increase its aggregation and delivery capacity to enhance food access, economic resilience, and local food system sustainability in the East Bay. The project will support localizing and diversifying the food hub's sourcing practices to include hyper-local urban farms, while also continuing to aggregate from rural Black, Indigenous, and farmers of color. The expansion includes capital improvements and service enhancements to meet growing demand and ensure sustainability, including a solar-powered electrical grid, expanded cold storage, upgraded digital ordering infrastructure, packing and co-branding services, and marketing materials. The project promotes food justice and public health by increasing access to fresh, culturally relevant food in public schools, food banks, and East Bay corner stores.

Project Title

Enhancing the Sierra Nevada Public
Serving Food System from Farm to Fork

Organization

Tahoe Food Hub

Award Amount

\$1,352,557.80

Location

Nevada County

Tahoe Food Hub is a nonprofit food hub that will improve organizational resilience to enhance market access to public institutions for small/mid-sized producers. The project will invest in technology, equipment, supplies, and training to improve food and worker safety, food traceability, and strategic planning that will help increase purchasing of regionally grown foods in rural areas and expand the volume and diversity of products sold to wholesale institutional buyers. The project aims to offer at least 10 new cut-pack items by partnering with an intermediary processing facility currently in development, increase revenue by more than 50%, and increase efficiency by 15-20% to save labor hours and product losses, and increase their producer network by 30%.