Mini Grant Funding for Farm-to-Senior Center

Farm-to-Institutions Overview
Farm-to-Early Care: Began 3 years ago, currently serving 25 early care centers sourcing farm fresh foods for their institutional meals, conducting food demonstrations, and providing farm-share boxes to families and staff.

RFP Goal:
This funding targets our expansion into Senior serving centers/institutions based on our Farm-to-Early Care model.

Timeline: through June 2017, but looking for sustainable* models/projects
*PICH funding aims to create systems change, please speak to how your project can/will be sustainable past June 30th

Funding: Can be up to $10,000, typically smaller amounts based on number of applicants.

Q & A

Q: Is it required to source from Corbin Hill?
A: No. Alternative vendors/farmers can be considered. Restoration and PICH will prioritize local farmers, farmers of color, farmers and vendors who value food justice, and/or organic farmers/growers. If you have an existing vendor, please provide information in the application about how the existing vendor/farmer values Restoration/PICH priorities around food access.

Q: Should Applicants submit name/contact information (on application) of existing vendor/s?
A: We recommend you submit an application and include the name of the vendor in the RFP for review/further consideration. Please describe how the vendor meets Restoration and PICH values. (Our values are the following: 1. Racial Equity: Communities of color, those most disenfranchised, benefit from community development as active agents, healthy consumers, producers, owners, fair wage workers, and distributors; 2. Community Engagement: Work is transparent and inclusive, and diverse members of the community are actively engaged as agents of change; 3. Vulnerable Populations and Communities: Populations historically marginalized and most vulnerable will be lifted up and prioritized; and 4. Family and Community Development: work supports family health and economic vitality. Supports whole families from birth through entire life cycle.

Q: Does this RFP provide funds/assistance with transportation?
A: If you already work with an existing vendor/farmer transportation will not be impacted. Corbin Hill will deliver for orders over $250 – so transportation should not be an additional issue.

Q: Is there a list of the costs of wholesale foods through Corbin Hill?
A: Yes, interested applicants can be provided a list of wholesale prices, please note produce availability and costs change seasonally.

Q: Does “fresh” mean organic?
A: Not necessarily, the mandate for this grant is about local, fresh foods which can also mean organic/pesticide free or conventionally grown. More direct engagement with farmers is the goal. Essentially, we want to encourage Senior Centers to not use canned or frozen items.

Q: Are there any existing policies, food justice frameworks that speak to the systems change prioritized for this grant?
A: We can send examples, but we want this to be about policy and systems change within your organization.