



## New Mexico COVID-19 Local Food Supply Chain Response Fund

### Fund Overview

The New Mexico COVID-19 **Local Food Supply Chain Response Fund (the Fund)** has been designed to provide funding to address gaps in and disruptions to the local food supply chain in New Mexico. It is being supported by a number of foundations and is housed at the New Mexico Farmers' Marketing Association. The purpose of the Fund is to provide resources to farmers, CSAs, food hubs, food distribution groups, and others in the local food supply/ value chain in response to production and market disruptions brought on by COVID-19. The Fund will consider project applications from anywhere within the state of New Mexico. Tribal organizations and those that serve underserved communities are especially encouraged to apply.

### Types of Funding:

There are two types of project funding available through this "Round 2" Fund:

1. Round 1 Post-Deadline/Individual Producer Grants: Only those individuals who have already applied (after the initial April deadline) are currently eligible. There will not be any new "Individual Producer" applications accepted. If you fall into this category you do not need to reapply.
2. Collaborative Grants: 501c3 nonprofits, groups working with a fiscal sponsor, educational institutions, and federally- recognized tribes operating in New Mexico are eligible to apply. Funding for these grants can range from \$2,500 - \$15,000 and should be used within 6 months. Funds will be provided as unrestricted operating funds. Those eligible for this Round 2 funding:
  - a. New Collaborative Applicants
  - b. Post-deadline Applicants: If you applied after our April 27<sup>th</sup> deadline, please reapply since the questions have changed.

### Funding Priorities

For this second round of grant funding, we are emphasizing collaborative projects that address the food system and benefit both farmers and customers. A collaborative project is at least two organizations working together or one organization working with/benefiting multiple farmers/producers.

- Collaborative projects among local food supply chain actors—producers,

aggregators, farmers' market organizers, CSA operators or managers, non-profits, and others—should seek to support, organize, develop, or execute new or expanded marketing opportunities in the local food system resulting from COVID-19 issues.

- The Fund will also prioritize collaborative projects that address needs of smaller-scale to midsize growers as well as projects that link local food production with access to local food for lower-income consumers, where feasible.
- A few examples include but are not limited to:
  - a. A group of farmers offering a multi-farm CSA may need funding to provide better access to low-income consumers either through delivery services, food subsidies, or both.
  - b. A group of farmers who want to collaborate to more efficiently serve a market that has arisen as a result of the pandemic and may need technology support, transportation, or other financial resources
  - c. A farmer or group of farmers and a market outlet that partner together to process Double Up Food Bucks sales.
  - d. A collaborative group that comes together to improve the local food content for free-meal-eligible school age children, or provide food to low-income communities.

#### **Timeline:**

Applications will be available on **June 18** at FarmersMarketsNM.org and NewMexicoFMA.org. Applications will be accepted for 10 days. **The deadline is Sunday, June 28 at midnight.**

#### **Eligibility:**

For Collaborative Grants:

- The applying organization must be operating in New Mexico and either hold 501c3 non-profit status from the IRS, or have a fiscal sponsor with 501c3 status, be an educational institution, or be a federally-recognized tribe.
- Initially, organizations may only submit one application to the Fund; additional requests may be considered at a later time depending on the duration of the crisis and availability of funds.

**Geographic Focus Areas:** Collaborative Grants can be implemented anywhere in New Mexico. Organizations working with or in tribal communities are especially encouraged to apply.

#### **Reporting:**

- Individual Producer Grant recipients will be expected to provide a short report (written or video) at the end of the year. We don't need anything fancy, just a

summary of what was accomplished. It's highly likely we will be checking in mid-season for a short phone call or visit.

- Collaborative Grant recipients will be expected to provide a short report (written or video) at the conclusion of the grant. We don't need anything fancy, just a summary of what was accomplished. It's highly likely we will be checking in mid-season for a short phone conversation or visit.

**Applications:** Easy Google forms will ask the following questions. The application is also available in Spanish.

[Collaborative Grant \(linked here\)](#)

- Applicant organization name
- Primary contact
- Email address
- Street address
- Phone number
- Geographic area of proposed project:
- Is your organization a 501c3 nonprofit, are you an educational institution, or a federally-recognized tribe?
- If no, share fiscal sponsor information
- \$ Amount Requested (must be between \$2500 - \$15,000)
- Please describe what you intend to do with the funding requested? (250 word limit)
- How do the collaborators in your project conduct outreach to their communities? (250 word limit)
- How does the project benefit vulnerable communities? (250 word limit)
- How does the project benefit local farmers or ranchers? Please list the farmers and ranchers who will benefit from the project, and the county/counties they live in. (250 word limit)
- Do you consider the collaborators and the community you are serving in your project as "historically underserved producers" or "limited resource entities"? (The Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (2018 Farm Bill) includes provisions that address the unique circumstances and concerns of socially disadvantaged, beginning, limited resource, and veteran farmers and ranchers ("historically underserved producers"). If unsure, please visit: [https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/people/outreach/slbfr/?cid=nrcsdev11\\_001040](https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/national/people/outreach/slbfr/?cid=nrcsdev11_001040))
- Please provide the ethnic/demographic information for the collaborators in your project:
- Please provide the ethnic/demographic information for the community being served in your project

Questions regarding the Fund:  
Sarah Grant, [sarahg@farmersmarketnm.org](mailto:sarahg@farmersmarketnm.org)  
505-983-4010 x2

**A big thank you to our funders!**

