



PRESS RELEASE

April 13, 2022

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NJEDA BOARD APPROVES CREATION OF THE FOOD SECURITY PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM

Establishes a Pilot Program to Provide up to \$1.5 Million to Improve Food Access and Food Security in New Jersey

Trenton, N.J. (April 13, 2022) – The New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) Board today approved the creation of the Food Security Planning Grant Program, which will provide up to \$1.5 million in grant funding to improve food access and food security in New Jersey. The program, which was established under the New Jersey Economic Recovery Act of 2020 (ERA), will competitively award grants of up to \$125,000 to municipal governments, county governments, and/or redevelopment agencies that serve an area that includes a New Jersey Food Desert Community (FDC). The Food Security Planning Grant Program is NJEDA's first pilot program designed to fund the development of plans to improve food access across the state's FDCs.

Today, nearly one in 11 New Jersey households reports not having enough to eat within the seven-day week. Additionally, out of the nearly nine million people who reside in New Jersey, approximately one million live in an NJEDA-designated FDC. Ensuring access to nutritious, affordable, and culturally-relevant food is a key component in building a stronger and fairer New Jersey economy, as well as ensuring a sustainable local food system in every community. The Food Security Planning Grant Program is one tool that NJEDA will deploy to empower local government entities and redevelopment agencies to develop and submit plans to improve food access while transforming distressed assets that have presented a hindrance to economic growth.

"Reducing food insecurity serves as a critical component of building a stronger, fairer, and more equitable New Jersey economy," said **New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy**. "Creative, methodical approaches such as this planning grant position New Jersey as a national leader in the fight to alleviate food insecurity. By investing in local communities and entrusting local leaders, this program will develop solution-driven and geographically-appropriate plans that will serve New Jerseyans for generations to come."

"It is often taken for granted that so many of us never have to worry when and where our next meal will come from," said **Assembly Speaker Craig J. Coughlin**. "By approving the Food Security Planning Grant Program, New Jersey is taking a crucial step forward to reduce the prevalence of food insecurity in our communities. By providing funding for place-based proposals, NJEDA is advocating for each municipality, zip code, and family currently located within a designated FDC."

"Currently, approximately 10 percent of New Jersey households report not having enough food on a weekly basis," said **NJEDA Chief Executive Officer Tim Sullivan**. "Under Governor Murphy's leadership, New Jersey has taken a comprehensive approach to designate 50 FDCs. With this first step, we aim to design and deploy effective program, empower local communities, local government, anti-hunger advocates and others to begin thinking about place-based strategies which can lower the rates of food insecurity. Every New Jersey resident, regardless of zip code, should have access to healthy and nutritious foods, and today's pilot program is a testament to our state's commitment to ensuring that no community is left behind or forgotten."

"NJEDA's Food Security Planning Grant Program serves as a testament that in New Jersey, economic security is directly linked with the health and success of our communities," said **NJEDA's Executive Vice President of Economic Security Tara Colton**. "Access to healthy and nutritious food is not just a public health necessity, but is vital to community development. This program is an important step forward in the fight to reduce rates of food insecurity in New Jersey."

Full details on the Food Security Planning Grant Program can be found [here](#).

[About the NJEDA](#)

The New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) serves as the State's principal agency for driving economic growth. The NJEDA is committed to making New Jersey a national model for inclusive and sustainable economic development by focusing on key strategies to help build strong and dynamic communities, create good jobs for New Jersey residents, and provide pathways to a stronger and fairer economy. Through partnerships with a diverse range of stakeholders, the NJEDA creates and implements initiatives to enhance the economic vitality and quality of life in the State and strengthen New Jersey's long-term economic competitiveness.

To learn more about state resources available to New Jersey entrepreneurs and early-stage companies, visit <https://www.njeda.gov> and follow @NewJerseyEDA on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

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May 9, 2023

NJEDA Awards Over \$1 Million Through Food Security Planning Grant Program

Trenton, N.J. (May 9, 2023) – The New Jersey Economic Development Authority (NJEDA) has awarded nine grants totaling over \$1 million to seven county and municipal governments to support the development of plans to improve food access and food security by leveraging and repurposing distressed assets in New Jersey's Food Desert Communities (FDCs).

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PRESS RELEASE

May 9, 2023

NOTICE OF CCRC BOARD MEETING

Please be advised that the next Capital City Redevelopment Corporation Board Meeting will be held in person and via teleconference on **Tuesday, May 16, 2023**, at 11:00 am.

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PRESS RELEASE

May 5, 2023

NOTICE OF CSIT ANNUAL BOARD MEETING – 5/12/2023

A meeting of the Commission of Science, Innovation and Technology (CSIT) Board has been scheduled for Friday, May 12, 2023, at 10:00 am.

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