

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (January 15)

### Western Upper Peninsula Farm to School Project Launches \$750 Kitchen Upgrade Grant for Schools

The Western Upper Peninsula Farm to School program is excited to announce the launch of a new **Kitchen Upgrade Grant** for school food service directors. This grant offers up to **\$750** to enhance kitchen facilities, enabling schools to better process and prepare locally sourced food.

The goal of the grant is to help schools improve their capacity to serve fresh, local ingredients in school meals, supporting both student health and local farmers. Eligible expenses include kitchen equipment, tools for food preparation, and minor renovations, making it easier for schools to incorporate local food into their menus.

“We are thrilled to offer this funding to help schools expand their local food use,” said [Spokesperson Name], [Spokesperson Title]. “By making these small but impactful upgrades, schools will be able to provide healthier meals to students while strengthening our local food systems.”

The grant is open to all K-12 schools in the Western Upper Peninsula. Food service directors or individuals responsible for kitchen management are invited to apply.

#### Key Details:

- **Maximum Grant Amount:** \$750 per applicant
- **Eligibility:** Public and private K-12 schools in the Western Upper Peninsula
- **Deadline to Apply:** February 15, 2025
- **Eligible Uses:** Kitchen equipment, tools, minor renovations, or staff training related to processing local foods

Interested applicants can access the application and further details at <https://forms.gle/sHA8ud3ofm9CBbDP6>. For additional information, contact Rachael Pressley at [rpressley@wuppd.org](mailto:rpressley@wuppd.org).

The Western Upper Peninsula Farm to School program works to connect schools with local farms to provide students with nutritious meals while fostering sustainable agriculture. This grant is part of our continued commitment to supporting schools in enhancing their food service operations.