

Food Justice Momentum Team  
August 10, 2010  
*Funding Opportunity for Group Discussion*

**Grant Opportunity:**

The Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has \$5 million available in Fiscal Year (FY) 2010 for a Hunger-Free Communities grant competition. Through the Hunger-Free Communities Grants, FNS seeks to identify new strategies or combinations of strategies that support the creation of Hunger-Free Communities by helping fund research, planning, and hunger relief activities including but not limited to: food distribution, community outreach, initiatives that improve access to food, and the development of new resources and strategies to reduce or prevent hunger and food insecurity.

**Connection to Food Justice Momentum Team:**

The Hunger-Free Communities grant is not limited to food distribution activities. Looking at the goals of the grant, this funding opportunity has the potential to meet some of the Food Justice Momentum Team's goals of local food production and economic empowerment. In particular, Goal #8 suggests having "initiatives for alleviating food shopping constraints through the development of creative food resources".

**Preliminary Ideas:**

Objective #1: To provide additional, creative access to land for City Heights community members to grow their own food.

Potential Activities:

- Create a database of surplus fruit trees
- Create a neighborhood team of gleaners to harvest food for food pantry donation
- Create a database of available yards for others to grow , connect aspiring growers with land
- ???

Objective #2: To build upon food production skills to offer economic opportunities in food processing and food business to City Heights community members.

Potential Activities:

- Create a community kitchen
- Offer reduced rental rates, grants and technical assistance to help people start, sustain and grow their food enterprises.
- ???

Objective #3: ???

An idea for TCE and the FJMT is to consider forming a non-profit organization (501c3) for City Heights around food projects. This 501c3 can manage the kitchen and be the community's hub for food justice.