

# The Food Trust

Ensuring That Everyone Has Access To Affordable, Nutritious Food



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**December 8, 2014**

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## **The Food Trust Receives \$900,000 Grant from Newman's Own Foundation**

*Part of innovative nationwide Nutrition Cohort to improve nutrition access and education*

PHILADELPHIA, PA — The Food Trust has been awarded a \$900,000 grant from Newman's Own Foundation, the independent foundation created by the late actor and philanthropist Paul Newman. The funding, to be given as \$300,000 per year for three consecutive years, supports The Food Trust's participation in a special Nutrition Cohort — a national group of six nonprofits and one research organization that will each bring distinctive expertise and programming to collaborate and collectively pursue greater impact.

The Cohort is being developed by Newman's Own Foundation to help improve health among children and families in underserved communities through fresh food access and nutrition education. It is an innovative approach that creates a network of peers, each with unique and complementary knowledge and experience, to share best practices and collectively accelerate systems change on a national level.

Through the support of Newman's Own Foundation, The Food Trust will strengthen and expand multifaceted interventions to ensure that low-income children and families across the region are provided with healthy food access, nutrition education and the parental support needed to develop lasting healthy eating habits. Over the next three years, The Food Trust will work to expand our core programs in high-need areas, both in communities where we already work, and in new communities that seek to replicate our programs.

"This significant grant from Newman's Own Foundation will have a huge impact on our ability to increase nutritious food access and encourage healthy choices," says **Yael Lehmann**, executive director of The Food Trust. "With the generous support of Newman's Own, we can grow The Food Trust's Healthy Corner Store Initiative, youth leadership program, farmers' markets and so much more."

Adds **Lisa Walker**, managing director of Newman's Own Foundation: "There is tremendous potential in combining the knowledge, experience and national networks of these organizations to accelerate the impact of improving nutrition in urban and rural communities. We are inspired by the early progress being made by The Food Trust, and we are excited about bringing several organizations together through the Cohort."

The other five Nutrition Cohort organizations are: Fair Food Network (Ann Arbor, MI), FoodCorps, Inc. (New York, NY), National Farm to School Network (Chicago, IL), Wellness in the Schools (New York, NY) and Wholesome Wave

(Bridgeport, CT). Tufts University's Friedman School of Nutrition (North Grafton, MA) will provide research assistance to lend expertise in nutrition and evaluate the Cohort's impact.

Newman's Own Foundation will work with the Nutrition Cohort over a three-year period to coordinate efforts and brainstorm ideas for improving nutrition. The Foundation is providing \$4.5 million in grants for the Cohort program as part of its overall \$10 million support of nonprofits that increase fresh food access and nutrition education in underserved communities. Other funding has been allocated to 29 nonprofits across the country that are focused on nutrition initiatives.

For more information about the Nutrition Cohort, visit [newmansownfoundation.org](http://newmansownfoundation.org).

### **About The Food Trust**

The Food Trust, a nonprofit founded in 1992, strives to make healthy food available to all. Working with neighborhoods, schools, grocers, farmers and policymakers, The Food Trust has developed a comprehensive approach that combines nutrition education and greater availability of affordable, healthy food. To learn more about The Food Trust, visit [thefoodtrust.org](http://thefoodtrust.org).