



ENSURING THAT EVERYONE HAS ACCESS  
TO AFFORDABLE, NUTRITIOUS FOOD AND  
INFORMATION TO MAKE HEALTHY DECISIONS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Twitter: @thefoodtrust**

**Contact:**

Carolyn Huckabay

[chuckabay@thefoodtrust.org](mailto:chuckabay@thefoodtrust.org)

p: 215-575-0444

## **Pennsylvania Farm to Early Care and Education Champion Awardees Announced**

*The Food Trust Awards \$7,500 in Mini-grants*

**WHAT:** The Food Trust is excited to announce this year's recipients of the **Pennsylvania Farm to Early Care and Education Champion Award**. Recognized for their commitment to teaching young children about growing food and connecting them to their agricultural communities, awardees were selected through a competitive proposal process and will receive \$500 each to support various programming efforts.

"The awardees are being recognized for innovative approaches to connecting children, staff and families with healthy, local foods and teaching them about Pennsylvania's rich agricultural history," says **Jamese Kwele**, Program Manager at The Food Trust. "From culturally relevant practices to robust family engagement strategies, recipients of this award are providing high-quality care and learning environments while teaching children healthy eating habits and supporting local farmers."

They also represent a range of early care and education settings, such as child care centers, family child care, private preschools, Head Start programs and Pre-K Counts, and serve a diverse group of children. From rural Montour County to bustling Philadelphia and everything in between, young children and their families are learning about healthy, local foods and the people who grow them through these dedicated organizations.

Each of the following organizations will receive \$500 in mini-grants:

- Angels' Place, Inc. (Allegheny County, PA)
- Blair Christian Academy And Child Care Center, Inc. (Philadelphia County, PA)
- CAP Child Care (Lancaster County, PA)
- Columbia Child Development Program - Berwick Head Start (Columbia County, PA)
- Creative Play Day School (Chester County, PA)
- Denise K. Cressman Family Child Care (Montour County, PA)
- Early Literacy Academy (Philadelphia County, PA)
- Easter Seals of Southeastern Pennsylvania (Montgomery County, PA)

- Just Like Home LLC (Jefferson County, PA)
- Methodist Services (Philadelphia County, PA)
- Seton Hill Child Services (Westmoreland County, PA)
- Somerset County Head Start - Conemaugh Township Center (Somerset County, PA)
- The Growing Place Child Care Center (Monroe County, PA)
- The Willow School (Montgomery County, PA)
- TLC Learning Center (Allegheny County, PA)

### **About The Food Trust**

The Food Trust, a nonprofit founded in 1992, strives to ensure that everyone has access to healthy, affordable food and information to make healthy decisions. Our Farm to Early Care and Education Awards program is made possible through generous funding by the **W.K. Kellogg Foundation**. To learn more about The Food Trust's farm to school work, visit [thefoodtrust.org](http://thefoodtrust.org).