

# Farms to Food Banks Program

*Providing Healthy Food to Hungry Families while Supporting Kentucky Farmers*

## Request for General Fund Support \$500,000 annually

### Projected annual outcomes:

- Cash flow increased by an average of \$2,250 for 200 Kentucky farmers.
- 2.5M pounds of 25 types of fresh fruits and vegetables distributed to hungry Kentuckians in all 120 counties.



**Need:** 1 in 6 Kentuckians are food-insecure, meaning they lack consistent access to an adequate diet necessary for an active, healthy life. Only 0.2% of Kentucky's cropland acreage is harvested for fruits and vegetables. Producers need support as they work to diversify from tobacco production in order to increase the economic feasibility of growing fruits and vegetables.

**Impact:** Family farms will be supported by increased cash flow and a new market for their products. Hungry Kentuckians will benefit from increased access to healthy food. Since 2011 the Kentucky Association of Food Banks' program has benefited over 200 Kentucky farmers with an average of \$1,355 in increased cash flow. Hungry Kentuckians in 117 counties have received enough produce to provide half a plate of fruits and vegetables for 5 million meals.



Farms to Food Banks funds are used to pay farmers for fresh, edible produce that would not be sold otherwise because of a lack of market for it. Produce is distributed free of charge to hungry Kentuckians through the food bank network.