Grant Program
2026 Award Book

July 2026

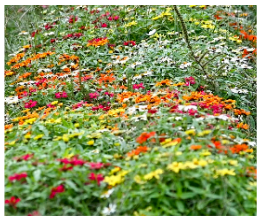




Prepared By:
Maryland Department of Housing and Community Development
Division of Business Development
Brad Fallon – Assistant Secretary
Albert Bossar – Director of Strategic Business Initiatives
Nicole Allen - NourishMD Program Manager

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FRESHEST PRODUCE


FARM STORE
ORGANIC
VEGGIES

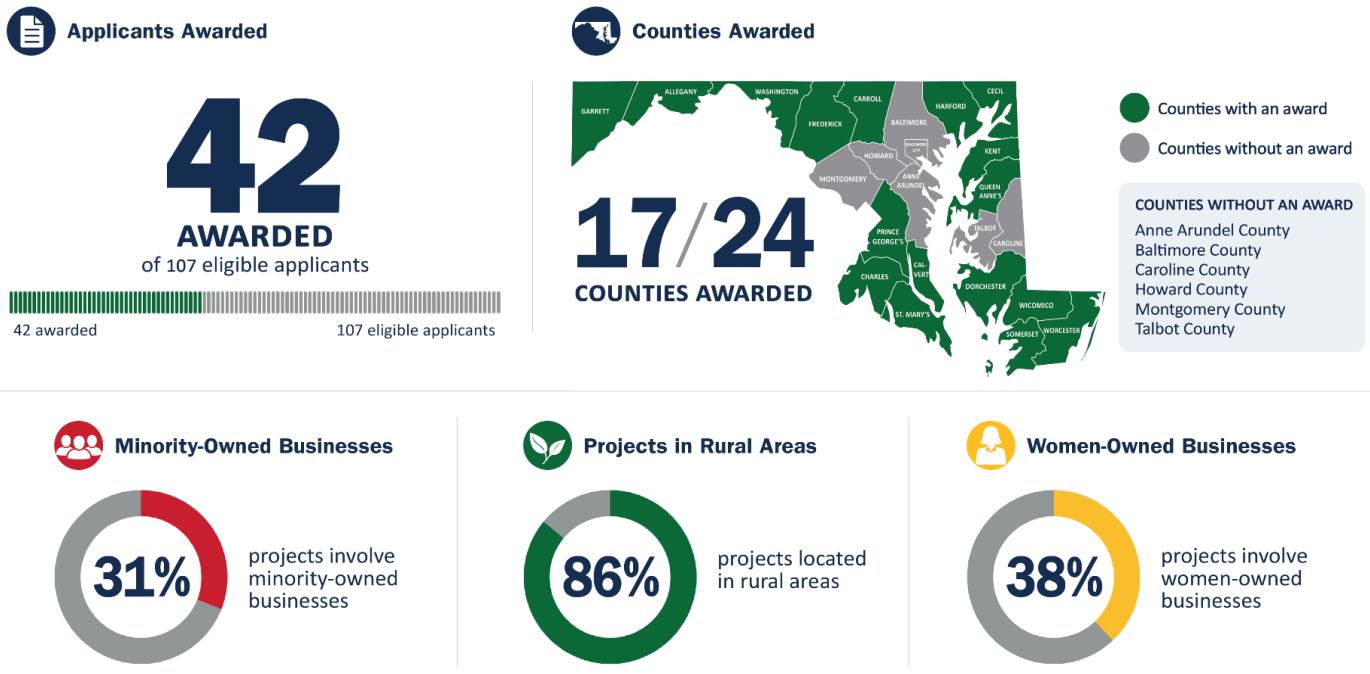

About NourishMD

The NourishMD Grant Program seeks to expand access to healthy and fresh foods in Maryland communities experiencing food insecurity by providing direct investments through grants to eligible retailers. The program targets businesses located in areas with acute need for fresh and healthy food access as provided by the Maryland Community Compass, an initiative of Governor Wes Moore's Innovation Team.

The program awards grants ranging from $25,000 to $150,000 and constitutes a funding partnership between the State and federal Rural Health Transformation Program. **[1]**

During the Fiscal Year 2026 round, the NourishMD Grant Program awarded 42 organizations across 17 Maryland counties, awarding a combined **$3.64 million** to fresh food retailers.

NourishMD 2026 Awards at a Glance



[1] The Maryland Rural Health Transformation Program is supported by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) as part of a financial assistance award to the Maryland Department of Health totaling $168,180,837.61 with 100 percent funded by CMS/HHS. The content of this document are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily represent the official view of nor an endorsement, by CMS/HSS , or the U.S. Government.

Acres4Change

Business Type: On-farm Market
County: Baltimore City
Award Amount: $100,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Expanding production capacity at the Sankofa Micro-Farm Collective and Charm City Caps with infrastructure for soil remediation, hoop houses, and mushroom production. It will distribute the funds across equipment purchases (farm tools, hoop house materials, refrigeration), leasehold improvements (concrete removal, soil remediation), and SNAP/EBT infrastructure.

Allegany County Farmers Markets

Business Type: Farmers Market
County: Allegany
Award Amount: $72,350
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Launching a Mobile Market "Veggie Van" to bring locally grown food directly to residents in rural areas who rely on SNAP and other assistance programs. Allegany County Farmers Markets will use the majority of the funds to purchase a Sprinter Van, a refrigerator unit, and a chest freezer. The remaining funds will cover commercial insurance and marketing efforts.

ALL Produce & Greenhouse

Business Type: On-farm Market
County: Garrett
Award Amount: $47,250 ($15,000 RHTP and $32,250 GO Bonds)
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Expanding a family farm retail facility to improve fresh food access in Garrett County with a new insulated year-round market building. The funding is split between equipment purchases, including a dairy/egg cooler, freezers, and a mini-split system, and leasehold improvements for the concrete floor, framing, and siding of the new structure.

Appalachian Farm & Food Alliance (AFFA)

Business Type: Farmers Market
County: Garrett
Award Amount: $25,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: AFFA will transform the Mountain Fresh Farmers Market pavilion into a year-round fresh food hub serving residents in Garrett County. The grant supports critical SNAP/EBT infrastructure upgrades, including a Smart Nutrition Station, and provides working capital for business stabilization and outreach.



Asian Supermarket

Business Type: Grocery Store
County: Frederick
Award Amount: $35,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Expanding an Asian supermarket to increase access to fresh and culturally relevant healthy foods. The grant funds energy-efficient commercial coolers, freezers, and shelving. It also supports the purchase of a modern POS system with inventory tracking, SNAP/EBT integration, tablets, and scanners.

Becky's Market

Business Type: Grocery Store
County: Somerset
Award Amount: $135,500 ($75,000 RHTP and $60,500 GO bonds)
Business Profile & Use of Funds: A family-owned corner store leveraging grant funds for building improvements and refrigeration upgrades to stabilize interior temperatures and preserve perishable inventory. The funds support the equipment purchase of a walk-in display cooler/freezer and professional services for roof replacement and insulation.

Centreville Farmers' Market

Business Type: Farmers Market
County: Queen Anne’s
Award Amount: $50,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Expanding operations to address food access gaps in rural communities. The funding will provide working capital for expansion and property preparation costs, facilitating the establishment of small-scale market hubs with non-permanent market buildings and necessary electrical installations.

Chesapeake's Bounty

Business Type: On-farm Market
County: Calvert
Award Amount: $91,000 ($51,400 RHTP and $40,000 GO bonds)
Business Profile & Use of Funds: A local food market sourcing from Maryland farmers and watermen. Funding supports electrical upgrades, refrigeration, and raised garden beds. The grant funds equipment purchases for refrigeration, a bakery oven, and raised beds, as well as leasehold improvements for a critical electrical infrastructure upgrade.



Chesterfield Heirlooms

Business Type: On-farm Market
County: Wicomico
Award Amount: $110,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Upgrading refrigeration and operational equipment (walk-in cooler, reach-in freezers) to improve food handling and reduce spoilage for the farm stand. The grant funds equipment purchases, including walk-in coolers and reach-in refrigerators and provides SNAP/EBT infrastructure with Clover Terminals.

Civic Works

Business Type: Food Co-op
County: Baltimore City
Award Amount: $76,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Civic Works aggregates locally grown fruits, vegetables, and herbs and distributes them within communities facing food insecurity. The boxes of produce put together can also include off-season snacking fruit during the colder months, and have at times

incorporated locally made cheese from locally raised cows, local coffee, local honey, and fresh-baked local bread. Civic Works distributed 22,711 lbs of fresh local produce to 1,574 customers last year. Funding from NourishMD enables Civic Works to incorporate shelf-stable, refrigerated, and frozen healthy staple foods at affordable prices and open a friendly storefront, creating the first nonprofit, community-driven food retailer within a walkable distance of home for community residents. The funding from NourishMD allows Civic Works to establish a Sari-Sari-style store in its restored historic Gorsuch Avenue firehouse, which is the headquarters of our Food & Farm programming. The grant supports the purchase of various necessary equipment purchases, nonprepared food inventory, and professional services such as a Food Facility License.

Cobb Island Public Market

Business Type: Grocery Store
County: Charles
Award Amount: $150,000 ($50,000 RHTP and $100,000 GO Bonds)
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Expanding into an adjacent 1,200 sq ft space to increase refrigeration capacity, expand fresh protein and dairy offerings, and dedicate space for healthy grocery categories. The grant funds equipment purchases for refrigeration and fresh food prep infrastructure, as well as leasehold improvements for the expansion build-out and HVAC system.

Crisfield Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitor Center

Business Type: Other
County: Somerset
Award Amount: $39,500 ($20,000 RHTP and $19,500 GO bonds)
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Establishing a "Local Food Marketplace" to provide fresh, affordable options sourced from local watermen, farmers, and food producers. The funding covers equipment purchases like refrigeration, shelving, and hydroponic towers, along with leasehold improvements for an electricity upgrade.



Daily Crisis Farm

Business Type: On-Farm market
County: Harford
Award Amount: $49,518
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Daily Crisis Farm is a family-owned, 40-cow dairy farm and Maryland's first Grade A Independent Dairy. The grant funds the equipment purchase of a refrigerated Sprinter van to facilitate their operations.

Deep Roots Farm

Business Type: Farmers Market
County: Prince George's
Award Amount: $92,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: A regenerative Black-woman-owned farm providing consistent access to fresh produce. The grant funds equipment purchases, specifically the acquisition and installation of a delivery vehicle, to serve as a mixed-use hub for produce sales and SNAP/EBT transactions.

Diamond International Mart

Business Type: Small Retail Store
County: Charles
Award Amount: $45,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Located in Waldorf, Charles County, Diamond International Mart focuses on expanding fresh food access for low-income households and food-insecure residents. The grant supports the purchase of equipment purchases, including cold rooms, a forklift, and a pallet jack, as well as the purchase of a used van.

Elijah's General Store

Business Type: Grocery Store
County: Dorchester
Award Amount: $69,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Small community grocery store expanding its retail capacity and purchasing refrigeration units and shelving to stock fresh, frozen, and minimally processed foods. The funding supports the purchase of a refrigerated van, a reach-in freezer, and a walk-in fridge.



Emily's Produce

Business Type: On-farm Market
County: Dorchester
Award Amount: $72,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: A farm stand of a family-owned farm in Dorchester County, Emily's Produce is known for its fresh produce and community-focused market operations. They will expand delivery programs and on-farm retail operations via a delivery vehicle and improved inventory management tools. The grant funds the purchase of a cargo van and various equipment, including a Square POS system, label printer, and scanners.

Farm Alliance of Baltimore

Business Type: On-farm Market
County: Baltimore City
Award Amount: $106,250
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Construction and launch of a permanent farm stand at the Black Butterfly Teaching Farm in Curtis Bay to establish a reliable retail outlet for locally grown fruits and vegetables. The funds support working capital for executive leadership and farm manager time, significant leasehold improvements for the farm stand construction, and initial inventory of local fruits and vegetables.

Flying Plow Farm & CSA

Business Type: Other (CSA/Aggregator)
County: Cecil
Award Amount: $150,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: An organic farm and distribution hub, Flying Plow will purchase a refrigerated delivery vehicle and a weatherproof walk-in cooler for pre-ordered groceries. The entire award is dedicated to equipment purchases, specifically a refrigerated van and a cooler, to expand their distribution capabilities.

Fresh Start Food and Garden

Business Type: Grocery Store
County: Kent
Award Amount: $112,000 ($97,000 RHTP and $15,000 GO Bonds)
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Fresh Start Food and Garden is a Kent County grocery store using its grant to expand fresh produce and local meat offerings with new refrigeration units, air conditioning, and a refrigerated box truck for localized distribution.



Georgia Belle Farms

Business Type: On-farm Market
County: Carroll
Award Amount: $95,000 ($45,000 RHTP and $50,000 GO Bonds)
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Small, year-round farm market transitioning from a self-serve model to a staffed retail operation. The funding enables critical electrical upgrades necessary to deploy the cold storage expansion and the full implementation of SNAP/EBT systems.



Horizon Goodwill Industries

Business Type: Grocery Store
County: Washington
Award Amount: $150,000 ($81,500 RHTP and $68,500 GO bonds)
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Developing Horizon Market, a nonprofit full-service grocery store in a designated food desert. Funding supports the final phase of construction and retail

equipment. The funds are distributed across equipment purchases (POS systems, retail carts, checkout units) and leasehold improvements (fire sprinkler system, final build-out).

Hunter's Seafood and Market

Business Type: Small Retail Store
County: Queen Anne's
Award Amount: $150,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Expanding into a full-service community food hub by renovating an adjacent building to offer fresh produce, dairy, whole grains, and a commissary kitchen. The funding will cover comprehensive leasehold improvements, including HVAC, retail building renovation, and walk-in coolers, as well as SNAP/EBT infrastructure with a new POS system and terminals.

Lyon Family Farms

Business Type: On-farm Market
County: St Mary’s
Award Amount: $100,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Renovation of a historic tobacco barn into a centralized, climate-controlled farm retail space to improve food safety control and year-round sales potential. The funds will be heavily invested in leasehold improvements, encompassing an HVAC system, concrete flooring, interior framing, electrical installation, septic system installation, and plumbing. Additionally, funds will support SNAP/EBT infrastructure, including POS equipment and broadband installation, along with professional services for permits and equipment setup.

Mayo Snackz Too

Business Type: Small Retail Store
County: Baltimore City
Award Amount: $150,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Establishing a permanent container-based food hub in Cherry Hill to provide access to groceries and prepared foods within walking distance. The grant funds equipment purchases (commercial refrigeration, freezers, shelving), leasehold improvements (container acquisition and interior buildout), and other expenses for site preparation and infrastructure.

Miller Farms

Business Type: On-farm Market
County: Prince George’s
Award Amount: $120,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Miller Farms aims to strengthen its ability to safely handle, store, and distribute fresh, locally grown food. Projects include enclosing the packing house, major electrical infrastructure upgrades, and a commercial ice machine. The funds support the

purchase and installation of an ice machine, the installation of a loading dock and garage doors, and comprehensive electrical upgrades to support expanded refrigeration, cold storage, and temperature-controlled distribution.



Nelia African Market

Business Type: Grocery Store
County: Frederick
Award Amount: $65,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Specialty grocery store providing culturally relevant Caribbean and African food products. The funds are distributed across equipment purchases for refrigeration, freezers, and produce displays and short term staffing costs for onboarding and managing the expanded fresh food inventory.

Oasis Fresh Foods Market

Business Type: Grocery Store
County: Charles
Award Amount: $41,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Oasis Fresh Foods Market aims to strengthen the long-term operational stability of the store while expanding access to fresh and nutritious foods. The grant supports the purchase of an upgraded point-of-sale system, enabling the market to support WIC transactions and enhance current SNAP capabilities.



Ocean City Organics

Business Type: Grocery Store
County: Worcester
Award Amount: $55,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Retail market upgrading its infrastructure to expand capacity for fresh and frozen foods. The grant funds a combination of equipment purchases, including refrigerators, freezers, scales, and updated HVAC systems, as well as a concrete pad, electrical panel upgrades, and an automatic door.

Oreofe International Food Market

Business Type: Grocery Store
County: Charles
Award Amount: $150,000 ($85,000 RHTP and $65,000 GO Bonds)
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Transforming a neighborhood grocery store into a higher-capacity community food hub by installing energy-efficient refrigeration and building a dedicated "Fresh Zone". The funds support equipment purchases for storage and display equipment, and leasehold improvements to renovate the fresh and healthy space.





Red Acres Hydroponics

Business Type: On-farm Market
County: Kent
Award Amount: $43,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Expanding the existing farm store into a farm building to increase space for hydroponic lettuce, dairy, eggs, and local produce. The grant funds the purchase of essential equipment, including commercial refrigeration, freezers, and a modern POS system. It will also cover electrical upgrades for expanded cold storage capacity, a wheelchair-accessible door, and SNAP/EBT infrastructure enhancements.



Ritchie Rations

Business Type: Grocery Store
County: Washington
Award Amount: $11,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Neighborhood grocery store expanding into a larger space. Funding supports refrigeration, freezers, shelving, and SNAP/EBT payment capability.
The awarded funds support the purchase of refrigerators, freezers, and display shelving, as well as to cover the cost of a phone line necessary for SNAP/EBT transactions.

Russell Brothers Farm

Business Type: On-farm Market
County: St. Mary's
Award Amount: $37,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: A fourth-generation family farm expanding retail and storage capacity. The grant funds a significant equipment purchase for a walk-in freezer expansion. It will also cover retail space renovation and accessibility, along with necessary equipment to accept SNAP and Maryland Market Money.

Sennel Gardens

Business Type: Farmers Market
County: Prince George's
Award Amount: $95,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Sennel Gardens expands urban agriculture and food access efforts. The project will launch a weekly farmers market in Seat Pleasant and position Sennel Gardens as the administrative hub for the Food Access Coalition of Prince George's County. Grant funds support market startup costs, SNAP/EBT and WIC payment systems, marketing and outreach, staffing for market coordination and food distribution, and training programs for new farmers. Additional investments will enhance a four-season hoop house, and a food-safe wash and pack station to enable year-round production.

Shlagel Farms

Business Type: On-farm Market
County: Charles
Award Amount: $25,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Shlagel Farms is a year-round on-farm market providing direct access to fresh fruits, vegetables, and farm-raised meats. The grant supports the purchases of equipment to expand commercial refrigeration capacity, including freezers, refrigerators, display tables, scales, and shopping carts.

Shore Acres Artisans & Farmers Market

Business Type: Grocery Store
County: Wicomico
Award Amount: $150,000 ($15,000 RHTP and $135,000 GO Bonds)
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Establishing a Healthy Food Access Hub with a 40x120-foot covered pavilion to allow year-round operations and fresh food distribution. The grant heavily supports leasehold improvements, including the pavilion structure, a storage hub, and electrical work. Additional grant funding supports the purchase of equipment purchases like refrigerators and freezers.



Simmons Center Market

Business Type: Grocery Store
County: Dorchester
Award Amount: $149,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Modernizing a historic facility to improve food safety and energy efficiency including a roof replacement, energy-efficient windows, and a modern HVAC system. The grant heavily supports these leasehold improvements, alongside providing working capital to support operations during the construction phase.

Snow Hill Food Rite

Business Type: Grocery Store
County: Worcester
Award Amount: $90,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Improving infrastructure and cold storage capacity for this neighborhood grocery store to consistently stock fresh produce, dairy, and meats. The grant funds equipment purchases, including produce and meat displays, and freezer upgrades. Finally, the grant supports SNAP/EBT infrastructure, including a new POS system and an ADA checkout counter.

Superfresh Supermarket

Business Type: Grocery Store
County: Baltimore City
Award Amount: $110,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Expanding produce inventory, developing a dedicated healthy food aisle, and supporting in-store education and sampling to encourage healthier purchasing. The grant supports equipment purchases (mobile demo carts, shelving, portable cooking equipment, bulk displays) and initial inventory of items like beans, lentils, nuts, and seeds.

The Capital Market (TCM)

Business Type: Farmers Market
County: Prince George's
Award Amount: $106,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: The Capital Market is an organization that centers food-systems and leverages cultural capital to revitalize communities through advocacy, education, small-business support and land-use development. Since forming in 2018, TCM has hosted more than 130 farmers markets and healthy food activations in Prince George's County, and worked with more than 75 Maryland-based farmers and food producers. The grant supports the BlueLine Agrihub project developed in collaboration with Gethsemane United Methodist Church. The funds primarily support the buildout of the AgriHub, a food processing and commercial kitchen space. Additionally, the grant supports the purchase of equipment including a trailer, market tents, and three commercial-grade, weatherproof outdoor refrigeration units.

Three Sisters Farm

Business Type: On-farm Market
County: Garrett
Award Amount: $33,500 ($23,500 RHTP and $10,000 GO bonds)
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Completing an on-farm retail building to provide year-round access to fresh locally raised food and accept SNAP benefits. The grant funds equipment purchases, such as a walk-in freezer and merchandiser displays, and leasehold improvements, including insulation, light fixtures, and paving.

Veggie Van Mobile Market - Farm to School Frederick

Business Type: Mobile Market
County: Frederick
Award Amount: $100,000
Business Profile & Use of Funds: Expanding a mobile market with refrigeration and SNAP-compatible POS systems to distribute local food. The grant supports the purchase of equipment, specifically acquiring a delivery truck, outfitting it with refrigeration, electrical systems, and branding, to enhance mobile market operations.