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Media Contact: Nicki Morgan - Director of Communications

Nicki@GatewayFarmers.org, 314.561.7010 Ext 4

Known & Grown STL Announces 2026 STL Distribution Microgrants to Boost Local Food Access in the St Louis Region

St Louis, MO — 9/3/2026 — Known & Grown STL is proud to announce the launch of its 2026 STL Distribution Microgrant Program, an initiative dedicated to increasing the availability of fresh, local food throughout the St Louis community. By providing targeted funding to area farmers and ranchers, the program aims to strengthen the local food system and ensure more St Louis residents can access healthy, sustainably grown products from nearby producers.

The STL Distribution Microgrant is open to farmers located within the St Louis foodshed—200 miles of St Louis—who use sustainable farming practices and sell or donate their harvest to the community. Grants will help fund essential tools and infrastructure, such as harvest and post-harvest equipment, cold storage, packaging supplies, and transportation solutions. The goal is to help producers overcome logistical barriers so they can deliver more high-quality, local food to markets, retailers, and families across the region.

“A strong local food system is vital for the health, resilience, and food security of our community,” said Rae Miller, Director of Operations and co-founder of Known & Grown STL. “These microgrants make it possible for more farmers to get their products to our neighbors—keeping food dollars in our region, reducing environmental impact, and building connections and trust between those who grow our food and those who eat it.”

The 2026 initiative—made possible with the financial support of Missouri Foundation for Health—prioritizes limited-resource and beginning farmers, BIPOC-owned and woman-owned farms, as well as producers serving low-income and low-access communities. By investing directly in these farmers, Known & Grown STL aims to foster a more equitable and resilient food system rooted in community health.

The application window for the STL Distribution Microgrant is currently open and closes Monday, September 14. Interested farmers and ranchers can learn more and apply at <https://knownandgrownstl.org/2026-stl-microgrants/>.

About Known & Grown STL:

Known & Grown's mission is to strengthen community food systems by providing sustainable farmers, both current and future, with education, technical assistance, and resource support through collaborative partnerships that bridge connections between producers, buyers, and consumers in rural, suburban, and urban communities within 150 miles of Saint Louis.

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