



Sustainable farming, building community and reconnecting people to the land

March 3, 2023

Grant Proposal

Susan W. Hoskins MSW, Executive Director
Friends Foundation for the Aging
P.O. Box 1081
Langhorne, PA 19047
Email: Shoskins@friendsfoundationaging.org



A Snipes Farm produce delivery to seniors

Subject: Organic Produce Deliveries Supporting the Nutritional Needs of Food Insecure Seniors in Trenton

Primary Contact: Mr. Jonathan R. Snipes, Executive Director
Snipes Farm and Education Center, Inc.
890 West Bridge Street
Morrisville, PA 19067
gayleb@snipesfarm.org
215-295-1138 x102
215-880-1231 personal cell

Website: www.snipesfarm.org
Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/snipes_farm/
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/snipesfarm/>
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@snipesfarmeducationcent7010>

Requested Amount: The requested amount is **\$20,000** from FFA. This will be combined with a potential \$5,000 grant from New Jersey Manufacturers for a \$20-25K total.

The Problem: Malnutrition in seniors (the population served) has many effects on health and body function, including increased frailty, delayed wound healing, and higher mortality - add to this the challenge of locating fresh produce in inner city locations. The site of our project, Trenton, is considered a “food desert”. Food insecurity in the U.S. is not a result of food shortages; rather, it is a result of persistent structural and racial inequalities that continue to limit communities of color and age access to better resources. It reflects the wider racial, ethnic, and class disparities caused by inequality in health, social and economic advantage.

Today, the average U.S. life expectancy is at a record high of 79 years. As individuals age, even the most independent may experience physical declines or financial hardship that strips away their independence. Add to that an increase in geographic mobility of families, and the result is millions of seniors left behind with limited transportation, concerned about personal safety, hungry and alone.

Our Actions: Snipes Farm grows USDA/PCO Certified Organic crops and is equipped to grow and deliver organic produce to seniors. The farm owns a 2022 refrigerated Sprinter van to ensure fresh, whole food



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deliveries. Program continuation is achieved through annual grant application submissions to other foundations and organizations with similar goals and has been ongoing for four years.

The Solution: The solution is to locally grow and deliver fresh organic produce to Trenton seniors. Organic foods have a higher nutrition content with more vitamins and minerals promoting overall good health. No pesticides or chemicals are used. For project experience, we have worked with seniors residing in senior housing managed by Trenton Housing Authority (THA) in recent years. This has proved to be a successful collaboration.

Budget

Trenton Housing Authority (Senior & Disabled) Public Housing	Number of shares* delivered weekly	Times 8 weeks equals	Cost per share, including chilled produce delivery = \$20
Josephson Apts. 237 Oakland St, Trenton, NJ 08618	50	400	400 x \$20 = \$8,000
Abbott Apt. 490 Hoffman Ave, Trenton, NJ	50	400	400 x \$20 = \$8,000
French Towers 630 West State St, Trenton, NJ	50	400	400 x \$20 = \$8,000
Project Total	150	1,200	\$24,000

*(In definition, a “share” is a selection of organically grown produce selected by Snipes farmers and harvested locally on Snipes Farm. Some items may be fulfilled utilizing additional local resources if quantities are not sufficient. Depending on the season, produce normally grown on Snipes Farm may include: *Cucumbers, Pac Choi, Squash, Lettuce, Swiss Chard, Tomatoes, Broccoli, Cabbage, Turnips, Apples, Kale, Scallions, Spinach, Radishes, Carrots, Peppers, Eggplant, Cantaloupe, Cauliflower, Brussels Sprouts, Radicchio, Bekana, Mizuna, Snap Peas, Onions, Garlic, Mustard Greens and Herbs.*)



Partners: Partners are the Trenton Health Team and Trenton Housing Authority, NJM Insurance (additional funding decision pending). The shares of produce will be delivered to low-income seniors living in the Trenton Housing Authority French Towers, Josephson Apartments and Abbott Apartments. Other community resources include Mercer Street Friends Center that occasionally delivers 50 bags of shelf stable



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products for residents, on a first come first served basis. Some residents receive Meals on Wheels. There are no congregate meals offered on site at these locations. NONE of the residents receive fresh produce through other programs; they look forward to their deliveries, enjoy and ask for fresh produce.

Impact: Many age-related disorders can be prevented by following proper dietary habits and consuming organic foods rich in nutrients and antioxidants. This has the potential to raise health standards of our seniors. Maintaining a nutrient-dense diet is critically important for older adults because of the impact of food intake on health. Years of research have demonstrated that diet quality has a huge effect on physical condition, cognitive condition, bone health, eye health, vascular function, and the immune system.

SFEC deliveries are tracked against the grant agreement. Client satisfaction surveys record individual impact.

Competence: Last year we delivered shares of produce throughout the growing season to 12 Bucks County senior centers in partnership with Bucks County Area Agency on Aging. Additionally, we delivered produce to low-income senior housing projects in Trenton, NJ in partnership with the Trenton Health Team and Trenton Housing Authority. We also worked with Meals on Wheels, Robert Wood Johnson Hospital and The Trenton Health Team with food deliveries, Diabetes education, recipes and healthy cooking skills. 45,782 lbs. of produce were grown and delivered to the food insecure in 2022 at no cost to the individual.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI): Our DEI statement from SFEC Employee Handbook:

Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Belonging Statement - Snipes Farm and Education Center is committed to fostering an environment of belonging by being a diverse, inclusive, and equitable organization where all board members, staff and volunteers feel respected and valued. We are committed to being nondiscriminatory and providing equal opportunities for employment, volunteering, and advancement in all areas of our work. We respect and value the diverse, authentic life experiences brought by our board, staff and volunteers. We strive to listen to their views and understand their perspectives.

In connection with our vision and mission for the benefit of the community we serve, we are committed to modeling and celebrating diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging and maintaining fair, just, and equal treatment for all. We want our staff to be representative of the population we serve. This further extends to hiring diverse vendors and consultants.



SFEC offers mentorship through our collaboration with local high schools and colleges. Our Seed-to-Fork program teaches diverse high school students farming and farm marketing with hands-on activities. Community colleges place interns at Snipes Farm to provide real-life experiences in agriculture.

Shared values: The populations we serve are people of varied economic means. We are located in a PA designated *Environmental Justice Area* where there is a greater percentage of low-income and minority populations. In addition to the feeding programs we facilitate, SFEC also offers training in nutrition and cooking as strategies for self-sufficiency. These programs include opportunities for intergenerational learning. We currently serve all Bucks County Senior Centers with nutritious whole food deliveries through a grant from the Bucks County Area Agency on Aging and the Bucks County Commissioners. Senior emotional and intellectual needs are also met as senior groups visit for farm tours and participation in food demonstrations.



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SFEC History: Believing in the power of nature and community to heal and teach, the present generation of the Snipes family, the 12th to farm in Bucks County, offered the use of its land to create a 501(c)3 nonprofit educational and charitable resource in 2008. Snipes Farm is one of only two remaining farms in Falls Township in the midst of urban and suburban development near the Delaware River. 80 acres is permanently preserved through the *Natural Lands Trust* including 25 acres of woodlands central to our education programs. Solar arrays provide 80% of our electricity. We collaborate with many schools to provide after-school activities designed to improve the academic performance and overall health of special needs, at-risk and low-income students. We work diligently to inspire students to become active stewards of the land. We provide hands-on learning at the farm, educating thousands of children in environmental, energy, nutrition and agriculture lessons, and providing summer farm day camp.

Snipes Farm has been in existence since the year 1767. Ancestors of the Snipes Family were among early Quaker settlers to Bucks County and were employed as stewards in the household of William Penn, founder of the Province of Pennsylvania. SFEC continues to express Quaker values in our work in service of our neighbors in need and care for the natural world.

If you have questions, please call me on my cell at (215) 880-1231 or email at gayleb@snipesfarm.org.

Thank you for your kind consideration,

Jonathan R. Snipes, Executive Director

Attached: Snipes Farm and Education Center 501(c)3



INTERNAL REVENUE SERVICE
P. O. BOX 2508
CINCINNATI, OH 45201

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Date: JUL 25 2008

THE FARM SCHOOL AT SNIPES
890 W BRIDGE ST
MORRISVILLE, PA 19067

Employer Identification Number:
26-1338481
DLN:
17053333305007
Contact Person:
SHERRY Q WAN ID# 31052
Contact Telephone Number:
(877) 829-5500
Accounting Period Ending:
December 31
Public Charity Status:
170(b)(1)(A)(vi)
Form 990 Required:
Yes
Effective Date of Exemption:
July 3, 2007
Contribution Deductibility:
Yes
Advance Ruling Ending Date:
December 31, 2011
Addendum Applies:
No

Dear Applicant:

We are pleased to inform you that upon review of your application for tax exempt status we have determined that you are exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Contributions to you are deductible under section 170 of the Code. You are also qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, devises, transfers or gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Code. Because this letter could help resolve any questions regarding your exempt status, you should keep it in your permanent records.

Organizations exempt under section 501(c)(3) of the Code are further classified as either public charities or private foundations. During your advance ruling period, you will be treated as a public charity. Your advance ruling period begins with the effective date of your exemption and ends with advance ruling ending date shown in the heading of the letter.

Shortly before the end of your advance ruling period, we will send you Form 8734, Support Schedule for Advance Ruling Period. You will have 90 days after the end of your advance ruling period to return the completed form. We will then notify you, in writing, about your public charity status.

Please see enclosed Publication 4221-PC, Compliance Guide for 501(c)(3) Public Charities, for some helpful information about your responsibilities as an exempt organization.

Letter 1045 (DO/CG)

THE FARM SCHOOL AT SNIPES

Sincerely,



Robert Choi
Director, Exempt Organizations
Rulings and Agreements

Enclosures: Publication 4221-PC
Statute Extension

CINCINNATI OH 45999-0046

In reply refer to: 0223260112
Mar. 25, 2010 LTR 147C 0
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00001573
BODC: TE

SNIPES FARM AND EDUCATION CENTER
% JONATHAN SNIPES
890 W BRIDGE ST
MORRISVILLE PA 19067-2327

6951

Employer Identification Number: **-***8481

Dear Taxpayer:

We received your request dated Feb. 23, 2010, asking us to update your name. We have updated your account to reflect this change.

If you need forms, schedules, or publications, you can obtain them by visiting the IRS web site at www.irs.gov or by calling toll free at 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676).

Please call Entity Team 302 at 859-669-5674 between the hours of 6:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. ET with any questions you may have.

You also can write to us at the address shown at the top of this letter's first page.

When you write to us, please attach this letter and, in the spaces below, give us your telephone number with the hours we can reach you. You also may want to keep a copy of this letter for your records.

Telephone Number () _____ Hours _____

We apologize for any inconvenience we may have caused you, and thank you for your cooperation.