Western Growers Foundation Garden Grant Application Period for California Child Care Centers and Preschools

Announcing the availability of $100,000 in garden grant funding for child care centers and preschools in California currently participating in the Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP). The grant funding is made available through a USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant and the grants are administered through the Western Growers Foundation (WGF) in Irvine, CA. The WGF is sending announcements of the preschool garden grants and access to the electronic grant application directly to all child care center agencies participating in the CACFP. The online grant applications are due to the WGF on June 30, 2011. One hundred (100) centers will be selected through a competitive grant application process to receive $1,000 each and the grantee announcements will be made in October 2011. Grant monies can be used for educational materials, garden supplies, and professional development related to preschool garden-enhanced nutrition education.

The goal of the preschool garden grants is to provide opportunities for California's youngest children to "experience" nutrition education through planting, harvesting, and then eating the fruits and vegetables they have grown. As partners in child care, you may know of a child care center or preschool participating in the CACFP that you would like to encourage to apply for this grant funding.

Unfortunately the preschool garden grants are not available to CACFP day care home sponsors and their providers at this time due to budgetary constraints at the WGF.

Below is a link to the WGF garden grant announcement and application:
http://www.westerngrowersfoundation.org/preschool-garden-grants

If you have any questions about the preschool grants or the applications, please contact WGF staff at wgf@wga.com.