



**Strengthening Connections in Rural Southwest Wisconsin  
Application for Seed Money for 2024**

SW Counties: Dane, Green, Iowa, Lafayette, Grant, Sauk, Crawford, Vernon, and Richland

When we plant seeds, we have faith that a crop will be forthcoming. Food, Faith and Farming Network is offering Seed Money for new initiatives that extend our mission in Southwest Wisconsin and address the issues raised in our 2018 Rural Listening/Networking Sessions as updated to include current concerns. While we highly recommend applying for projects that are stated as priorities below, other worthy initiatives will be considered. *Please be aware that we will not fund projects for more than two consecutive years. You are welcome to reapply for a **new** initiative anytime after you received your first grant.*

In addition to evaluating whether a project meets our mission and priorities, we will consider these criteria: Does it:

- 1) address a significant community issue;
- 2) outline an innovative solution to confronting the issue;
- 3) build a network of individuals/groups to collaborate on the issue and
- 4) demonstrate energy and commitment to achieve the stated goals?

Priority Issues:

- Faith connections between land and people
- Production/sale of local foods
- Sustainable/regenerative farming
- Farmers’ markets
- Local food systems
- Agricultural processing facilities
- Transitioning farms to the next generation
- Farm and/or non-farm labor training
- Rural community development initiatives
- Sacred land and water stewardship
- Climate change/chaos mitigation

<b>Expectations of Project</b>	<b>Expectations of the Network</b>
Aligns with mission of the Network	Provides seed money to advance projects
Addresses one or more of our prioritized areas	Serves as a sounding board for projects
Is supported by a network of interested parties	Provides input on networking possibilities
Has clearly defined actions and outcomes	Publicizes projects on our website
Informs the Network of project progress	Provides help in publicizing projects

**Size of available Seed Money project funding:** Maximum of \$1500

**Deadline:** January 30, 2024

**Awardees notified:** February 27, 2024

**Questions may be directed to:** [foodfaithandfarmingnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:foodfaithandfarmingnetwork@gmail.com)

**Please email completed application to**  
**[foodfaithandfarmingnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:foodfaithandfarmingnetwork@gmail.com)**  
**by January 30, 2024**