

**ARC AREA DEVELOPMENT
Pre Application
Project Proposal Summary
(2 page maximum)**

Project Title: Training Center Equipment, Feed & Seed

Project Grantee: Scott Park, Greenville County

Grantee Contact: 301 University Ridge, Suite 3800, Greenville, SC 29601,
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County (ies) Served: Anderson, Cherokee, Greenville, Oconee, Pickens, and Spartanburg. All counties are categorized as 'transitional' with the exception of Cherokee County being 'distressed'.

Basic Agency: N/A: this application is for equipment only

Goal/Strategy:

This project focuses on the following ARC **Goal:** *Develop and Improve Appalachia's Infrastructure to Make the Region Economically Competitive.* Specifically, the project will address the following State **Strategy:** *Support local-level planning that encourages regional solutions to infrastructure problems and sustainable policies for development that prioritize and target limited resources.*

Purpose:

A successful application of this funding results in providing funds to equip the Upstate local food hub, called the Feed & Seed. The equipment will fill commissaries with appropriate items for a canning/freezing line as well as a commissary for artisanal animal breakdown.

Funding:

	Amount	Percentage	Source	Status
ARC	\$250,000	50%		Pending
FEDERAL	\$			
STATE	\$		Clemson, Greenville Tech, Tri-County Tech, Spartanburg Tech	
LOCAL	\$5,000		Greenville County	Committed
PRIVATE	\$245,000		Feed & Seed, Ballentine Equipment	In process
TOTAL	\$500,000	100%		

Description:

- Description of major activities to be conducted as part of the project.
- Address who, what, where, when and how for each major activity.
(1-2 paragraphs)

Rationale:

- Local, regional and/or state need for project
- Problems and/or issues that project will alleviate
- Critical circumstances that compel project to be funded by ARC
(1-2 paragraphs)

Multiple studies have pointed to the need for a local central marketplace for wholesale and value-added products in the Upstate SC. Overall, the regional marketplace is challenged to meet demand for local food products. The first study completed in 2012 identified a food hub as one of the infrastructure components in greatest need (Greenville Area Food System Assessment). Two follow-up studies, one from a Lowcountry SC partner, the other drafted by Greenville County, focused in on the feasibility of a local food hub's success. Both studies affirmed the need from growers for additional access to the wholesale marketplace for both produce and proteins.

The Feed & Seed, specifically the produce and protein commissaries, will serve as the central location for education, value-added processing, certification training, business to business connections, and improving pathways to retail and wholesale marketplaces. This processing line is one of the missing pieces in the Upstate food system and will serve to release the logjam to production while expanding the marketplace for new products. We want to leverage ARC's interest in job creation and improved job skills in Appalachia through which residents have more ready access to high demand environment.

Benefits:

- Increasing potential marketplace of value-added products
- Improves price structure for raw products when productivity is higher than demand
- Affords a nearby solution to local producers for processing small batch value-added products
- Offers real-world experience to technical college curriculum
- Offers a fully-equipped teaching venue for Clemson Extension programming

Performance:

Outputs (immediate results)

- Increased classes and classroom hours for specialty processing
- Increased number of people with ServSafe certifications
- Increased number of products/businesses incubated

Outcomes (measured over time)

- Expansion of technical college certifications and accreditation to real world experience
- Improved capacities of local products to meet demand
- Expanded marketplace for local products