

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL AFFAIRS



Department of Agricultural Resources

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Agricultural Grant Writing Assistance List

This page is a directory of individuals and organizations that may assist individuals, farms, farmers, or organizations that need assistance with grant writing, grant related research, and project management.

An Agricultural Grant Writing Assistance List was stated as a priority in the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources' (MDAR) Environmental Justice Strategy, to "explor[e] outside options to provide grant writing support to farmers, especially those in EJ communities and providing technical assistance training opportunities in a more general manner so that when applications are made available, EJ community applicants feel better prepared to respond".

Assistance with grant writing support was a key need uncovered in listening sessions with partner farmers and organizations, and while MDAR cannot assist farmer with grant writing, our hope is that this directory will be a helpful resource to Massachusetts farmers. However, utilizing grant writing services is not required or expected for applicants of MDAR grants.

IMPORTANT NOTE: *The grant applicant will be responsible for contacting and screening any consultant they may hire and arranging their own agreements/contracts, including fee structures (if any). MDAR emphasizes that successful grant applications require significant involvement from the applicant. Using a vendor from this list does not provide any MDAR applicant with an advantage during the evaluation process.*

Descriptions have been edited for brevity. Contact the individual vendor for more information.

Borderland Partners Sharon, MA Contact: Paula De Santiago 617-901-1144 pdesantiago@borderland-partners.com Geographic Region Served: Statewide	501(c)3: No Organization services and experiences: Borderland Partners offers full life cycle grant support, from research and writing to post-award project Management. Experience includes grant project administration, background searches and organizational research, grant writing, and project design and evaluation. Particular expertise in formal and informal education and training. Language Access: Bilingual English/Spanish. Experience with Environmental Justice: Has worked statewide in Massachusetts, including in Justice40 and low-income communities.
Taproot Embodied Practice, LLC Holyoke, MA Contact: Caitlin Marquis 413-539-3292 caitlin@taprootembodied.com	501(c)3: No Organization services and experiences: Serves people, groups, and organizations through coaching, consulting, research, writing and facilitation. Experience includes

<p>Geographic Region Served: Statewide</p>	<p>planning and implementing projects within the food system sector, including seven pilot food system projects. Language Access: In-house intermediate Spanish. Translation and interpretation services available as needed. Experience with Environmental Justice: Experience developing and implementing food access program to serve low-income communities. Experience working in direct partnership with Environmental Justice Communities, Low-Income Communities, and Historically Underserved Farmers to design, implement, and procure funding for projects and programs that benefit those communities. Experience working cross-linguistically with immigrant populations on developing, implementing, and procuring funding for local food distribution programs.</p>
<p>KHW Strategies, LLC Kingston, NY Contact: Kara Weinstein 301-367-2578 karahweinstein@gmail.com</p> <p>Geographic Region Served: US and International</p>	<p>501(c)3: No Organization services and experiences: Works with food producers and related nonprofits and companies to develop regional food systems and regenerative agriculture. Experience with all types of food producers from livestock farmers to dairy processors to vegetable producers. Experience working on all levels of grants from private, state, and federal grants as well as managed projects after award. Language Access: Open to working with third party or with client on language access needs. Experience with Environmental Justice: Prioritizes and has experience working with historically underserved clients.</p>
<p>Gintis Consulting, LLC Northampton, MA Contact: Valerie Gintis 413-244-8405 valeriegintis@gmail.com</p> <p>Geographic Region Served: All</p>	<p>501(c)3: No Organization services and experiences: Offers prospecting, strategic development planning, grant writing and project management to help clients secure funds for innovative projects and capital campaigns. Experienced writers and researchers offering individualized solutions for non-profits. Language Access: None. Experience with Environmental Justice: Experience writing grants for farms, food justice organizations, non-profit food distribution sites, pantry programs, community kitchens, and youth educational programs focused on food justice and farming.</p>
<p>A.H. Consulting Fairhaven, MA Contact: Abigail Hevey 315-882-1723 Abigail.hevey@gmail.com</p> <p>Geographic Region Served: In-person: Southeastern MA, Virtual: Any geographic region (with potential to serve the other regions of the Commonwealth dependent on the assistance needed)</p>	<p>501(c)3: No Organization services and experiences: Grant planning/strategizing, grant review/editing, 1:1 coaching/assistance with grant preparation, budget assistance, grant systems planning/setup, preparing boilerplate information, grants research assistance, grants management guidance. Experience writing and managing federal, state, municipal, and private foundation grants. Grants manager for local food hub with experience writing program-focused, general operations, and capital</p>

	<p>grant proposals supporting local food, food access, and agriculture.</p> <p>Language Access: If necessary, would work to identify interpreter.</p> <p>Experience with Environmental Justice: Experience writing grants for local food and agriculture that often have focus on Environmental Justice and Low-Income Communities, and/or Historically Underserved Farmers, has experience writing grants for organizations focusing on serving youth in Low-Income and Environmental Justice communities, and general economic development. Familiarity with funders and programs that focus on serving these communities specifically, and with writing grants supported by information gathered from Low-Income and Environmental Justice communities. Comfort working with all communities.</p>
<p>Stewards Unlimited, LLC. McDonald, TN Contact: Stephen Ussery 423-284-8221 stephen@stewardsunlimited.com</p> <p>Geographic Region Served: Across the US, including several in Massachusetts</p>	<p>501(c)3: No</p> <p>Organization services and experiences: Experience with business development, including researching opportunities, developing strategic project plans, securing funding through proposal development. Experience working with agriculture, environmental technology, business/workforce development, and youth education/empowerment.</p> <p>Language Access: None.</p> <p>Experience with Environmental Justice: Experience working with numerous organizations led and tailor services to Environmental Justice Communities, Low-Income Communities, and Historically Underserved Farmers (including Farmers of Color, Limited Resource Farmers, Beginning Farmers, Veteran Farmers, Woman-owned Businesses, and Immigrant/Refugee Farmers).</p>
<p>Ascend Nonprofit & Business Solution LLC. San Antonio, Texas Contact: Daniela Paz 830-293-4007 info@ascendnbs.com</p> <p>Geographic Region Served: United States</p>	<p>501(c)3: No</p> <p>Organization services and experiences: Specializes in grant training, coaching, research ,writing, and compliance. Experience working with nonprofits, government entities, and for-profit businesses. Experience working in areas like economic development, sustainability, health, engineering, and with foundations, banks, and government agencies.</p> <p>Language Access: None.</p> <p>Experience with Environmental Justice: Experience collaborating with numerous nonprofits and government entities spanning diverse service areas, including environmental justice, sustainability, and wraparound services for low-income and historically underserved communities.</p>
<p>Root and Sprout Grant, C. P.O. Box 717 Littleton, MA Contact: Amy Tarlow-Lewis 978-431-0190 info@rootandsprout.me</p>	<p>501(c)3: No</p> <p>Organization services and experiences: Provides grant writing and project services to for-profit and nonprofit farms, schools, food security, and agricultural-related entities. A special focus is on the transition to organic,</p>

<p>Geographic Region Served: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, and Rhode Island</p>	<p>regenerative farming, food systems or other climate or green energy projects. Language Access: None. Experience with Environmental Justice: Experience working with environmental justice communities through food security work. Grant-writing experience focuses on environmental justice communities and senior citizens.</p>
<p>The Modern Scribe Albany, NY 12207 Contact: Alycia Bacon 518-935-0259 alycia@themodernscribe.com Geographic Region Served: All</p>	<p>501(c)3: N/A Organization services and experiences: Grant Sourcing and Research, Grant Writing and Application Preparation, Submission and Follow-up, Grant Management and Reporting, DEIB Facilitation, Focus Group and Survey Research Language Access: Can work with a translator Experience with Environmental Justice: Experience in community engagement, organizing, leadership, civic engagement and advocacy. Experience addressing equity and access to resources, developing sustainable agriculture programs, advocating for policies to reduce environmental burdens, and facilitate educational workshops for historically underserved communities.</p>
<p>Farm Credit East, ACA Greenwich, NY 12834 Contact: Heather LaPierre 860-741-4380 https://www.farmcrediteast.com/en/SERVICES/Grant-Writing#grantinquiry Geographic Region Served: Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Rhode Island and Vermont</p>	<p>501(c)3: No Organization services and experiences: Grant writing and coordination for farmers, commercial fishermen, forest products producers and agribusinesses to identify grant readiness, understand what makes a competitive grant application, and write grant applications. Language Access: None. Experience with Environmental Justice: Experience supporting entrants through innovative products and services that contribute to their growth and success. https://www.farmcrediteast.com/FINANCING/Beginning-Farmer-Programs</p>
<p>Ren Constas Cottkill, NY 12410 Contact: Ren Constas 607-351-6359 Geographic Region Served: Northeast</p>	<p>501(c)3: No Organization services and experiences: Works with organizations and individuals to develop grant proposals from concept to finished application. Language Access: Se habla español. Experience with Environmental Justice: I am a beginning farmer myself, and a White queer and genderqueer person. I have farmed and been in community with other underserved farmers of various lived experiences and identities. I bring respect and value for each person. I understand and continue to expand my understanding about how agriculture is built on systems that abuse power, resources, and our humanity.</p>

<p>Food Scribe Consulting, LLC Boston, MA 02066 Contact: Christine Becker 617-694-6144 cbecker@foodscribeconsulting.com</p> <p>Geographic Region Served: Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, and Rhode Island</p>	<p>501(c)3: N/A</p> <p>Organization services and experiences: Grant writing, RFP Design, Theory of Change Design; Logic Model Design; Program Design and Evaluation, Quant and Qual Data Analysis, Internal and External Communications (press releases, annual reports, marketing, etc.)</p> <p>Language Access: Intermediate Spanish proficiency</p> <p>Experience with Environmental Justice: Served as the Co-Chair for the Mayor's Food Access Agenda with the Boston Food Access Council to design food security policies targeting coordination and collaboration among urban food system stakeholders in Greater Boston. Supported regional seed client to scale operations with Harvard Food Law and Policy Clinic targeting underserved farmers and EJ communities. Designed RFP and Logic Model for aquaponics infrastructure on farm funding serving EJ constituents in SE Massachusetts. Designed grant portfolio for food media organization and nonprofit supporting school gardens in public school system and low-income communities. Published articles highlighting MA farms and fishers.</p>
<p>Regenerative Farms, Inc. Ashfield, MA 01330 Contact: Mary Johnson 413-475-0864 Development@regenerativefarms.org</p> <p>Geographic Region Served: US and Global</p>	<p>501(c)3: Yes</p> <p>Organization services and experiences: Capacity building support and training provided to entrepreneurs in farm, forest and value-added food processing. Specialized in regenerative and organic diversified agriculture. Holistic management, farm financials, business and marketing planning, grant research, writing and management.</p> <p>Language Access: We have a LEP plan and can adapt our communications to welcome individuals with limited English proficiency with funding support.</p> <p>Experience with Environmental Justice: These are the communities we primarily serve in the US and 10+ countries around the world. 25-year track record supporting diverse individuals from under-represented groups and with Limited English Proficiency.</p>
<p>Eloquenti Pittsfield, MA 01201 Contact: Emma Miller 781-489-3360 info@eloquenti.com</p> <p>Geographic Region Served: Across the US, including Massachusetts</p>	<p>501(c)3: No</p> <p>Organization services and experiences: Offers a full spectrum of grant support services, including grant writing and editing, grant review, grant consulting and coaching, grant research assistance, and grant management guidance. Experience with all major federal, state, and private foundation grants, serving both nonprofits and businesses.</p> <p>Language Access: English, Spanish, Portuguese, French, Chinese (Mandarin)</p> <p>Experience with Environmental Justice: Experience collaborating with Environmental Justice Communities, Low-Income Communities, and Historically Underserved Farmers. Has assisted numerous organizations in</p>

	<p>addressing the unique challenges faced by these groups, from food access initiatives to sustainable farming practices. Has secured funding through grant writing, with a focus on projects that promote economic development, food justice, and environmental sustainability. Committed to working cross-linguistically with diverse communities, ensuring that our services meet the specific needs of these communities.</p>
<p>Dexterity Management Boston, MA 02125 Contact: Molly Singer 202-258-0760 msinger@dexmgmt.com</p> <p>Geographic Region Served: Massachusetts</p>	<p>501(c)3: No</p> <p>Organization services and experiences: Grants writing firm with 50 years experience. Depth of knowledge working with rural MA communities, low-income stakeholders, and local governments. Services include grants prospecting, writing, creating stock language, creating systems for grants writing. Also skilled at corporate partner development and sponsorships.</p> <p>Language Access: Spanish speaking staff</p> <p>Experience with Environmental Justice: Over 20 years experiencing working with Environmental Justice populations. Currently working on 2 EJ projects and 1 project with Asylum Seekers.</p>
<p>ALK Consulting Worcester, MA Contact: Ali Kane 774-402-0855 Hello@alkaneconsulting.com</p> <p>Geographic Region Served: Statewide</p>	<p>501(c)3: No</p> <p>Organization services and experiences: ALK Consulting offers LGBTQIA+ workshops, advising services, and grant writing for organizations committed to authentic inclusion for staff members, visitors, donors, and community partners of all genders and sexualities. ALK Consulting Services prioritizes compassionate curiosity to develop effective allies that value the diversity of the LGBTQIA+ community.</p> <p>Language Access: None.</p> <p>Experience with Environmental Justice: Has experience writing grants for public gardens and community health centers, as well as other organizations that support historically underserved communities.</p>
<p>Squared Compass Austin, TX Contact: Josh Lawton 571-232-8300 Jlawton@squaredcompass.com</p> <p>Geographic Region Served: Country-wide</p>	<p>501(c)3: No</p> <p>Organization services and experiences: Square Compass specializes in grant writing, grant research, and project management services. Squared Compass crafts grant proposals, identifies funding opportunities, and manages projects from inception to completion.</p> <p>Language Access: Squared Compass does not provide language access services directly. Experience collaborating with language service providers.</p> <p>Experience with Environmental Justice: Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business with experience working with organizations veterans, farmers and other historically underserved populations. Specializes in grant research, writing, and management, with experience writing grants to reduce carbon emissions, support</p>

	veterans' physical and mental health, secure funding for farmers and nonprofit organizations, and help schools expand training programs in high-demand occupational fields.
National Proposal Pros Arlington, VA Contact: Jill Burnie 703-615-9798 jill@nationalproposalpros.com Geographic Region Served: Nationwide	501(c)3: No Organization services and experiences: National Proposal Pros. provides grant searches, management and writing of a proposal from inception to completion. This includes technical writing, editing, creating content. 18 years of experience in proposal management and writing, have won bids for federal, state, local and city RFPs. Language Access: None Experience with Environmental Justice: Experience working on FEMA bids.
Dawn Soriano, LLC Greater Boston Area, MA Contact: Dawn Soriano dawnsoriano70@gmail.com Geographic Region Served: Nationwide	501(c)3: No Organization services and experiences: Experience securing and managing administrative aspects of grant preparation. Offers personalized solutions to meet customer needs, including researching and evaluating appropriate grants, writing and customizing grant proposals, and preparing financial and narrative reports – guaranteed to use awarded funding according to set mandates and timelines. Event planning management, marketing materials and technical support provided as needed. Language Access: Open to working with clients to provide language access as needed. Experience with Environmental Justice: Experience working with Low-Income and Environmental Justice Communities. Interested in expanding proficiency with Historically Underserved Farmers (Farmers of Color, Limited Resources, Beginning, Veterans, and Immigrants/Refugees).
Vernitsky/Potts, LLC Salt Lake City, UT Contact: Colleen M. Vernitsky-Potts colleen@vernitskypotts.com Geographic Region Served: Nationwide	501(c)3: No Organization services and experiences: Provides grant readiness, grant research, grant writing/preparation, grant management and follow up reporting support. Experience securing funds for agriculture, food systems, and food security. Language Access: Willing to work with a third party, if needed, to facilitate language access. Experience with Environmental Justice: Experience working with Environmental Justice Communities, Low-Income Communities, and Historically Underserved Farmers, to include Farmers of Color, Limited Resources, Beginning, and Immigrants/ Refugees.
GTC 360 Advisors Austin, TX Contact: George C. Tagg Jr. 202-351-9718 George.tagg@gtc360.com Geographic Region Served: Nationwide	501(c)3: No Organization services and experiences: Provides grant consulting/strategy, grant research, grant writing and application, grant management and administration. Experience securing federal, state, and local funding across sectors such as education, workforce development, transportation, sustainability and infrastructure. Provides

	<p>strategic and technical assistance to navigate complex opportunities from Federal and State agencies.</p> <p>Language Access: Has strategic advisors within our team who are fluent in English and Spanish that can support non native English speaking clients.</p> <p>Experience with Environmental Justice: Experience working with Environmental Justice Communities, low-income populations, and historically underserved farmers, including Farmers of Color, limited-resource producers, beginning and veteran farmers, and immigrants or refugee stakeholders. Experience designing inclusive initiatives that support these communities within federally funded programs.</p>
<p>Capital Strategic Solutions, LLC. Hudson, MA Contact: Jennifer Thompson, CDO/Partner jennifer@capital-strategic-solutions.com 508-690-0046</p> <p>Geographic Region Served: MA and New England</p>	<p>501(c)3: No</p> <p>Organization services and experiences: Massachusetts certified Women-Owned Business specializing in grant writing and administration. Assists cities and towns in MA and New England by researching, writing, and managing a wide range of state and federal grants. Provides guidance through every phase of grant process, from identifying opportunities to securing funding and ensuring successful project implementation.</p> <p>Language Access: Works closely with MAPA translation services and can easily provide assistance to clients in multiple languages.</p> <p>Experience with Environmental Justice: Experience working with Environmental Justice Communities, low-income populations, and historically underserved groups. Has supported municipalities and organizations in securing grant funding, conducting community outreach, and developing inclusive policies that prioritize equitable access to resources, services, and opportunities.</p>
<p>WISSEN, Inc. Brookline, MA Contact: Natasha Goldman ngoldman@natashagoldman.com 315-825-5894</p> <p>Geographic Region Served: Nationwide</p>	<p>501(c)3: No</p> <p>Organization services and experiences: 5 years of experience helping organizations define fundable grant projects; aligns projects to funders; and write grant applications.</p> <p>Language Access: None.</p> <p>Experience with Environmental Justice: Experience securing funding for Environmental Justice Communities, Low-Income Communities, or Historically Underserved Individuals.</p>
<p>Inputs for Growth for Sustainability & Sanity Florence, MA Contact: Philip Korman 413-320-8475 philkorman@comcast.net</p> <p>Geographic Region Served: New England, with a focus on MA</p>	<p>501(c)3: No</p> <p>Organization services and experiences: Offers grant research and writing, plus training on relationship building with funders. Coaches directors and boards, facilitates strategic planning, and ensures a varied funding mix. Brings deep experience in nonprofit leadership, individual fundraising, community engagement and board service with a multicultural organization. Dedicated to strengthening diverse organizations through sustainable development.</p>

	<p>Language Access: None (though glad to subcontract out to provide those services).</p> <p>Experience with Environmental Justice: Led two organizations over two decades that developed programming and collaborative relationships with low-income and historically underserved farmers and organizations. Also served on the board of an immigrant and refugee farmer organization for nine years and consulted with numerous groups that work with low-income and underserved farmers.</p>
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