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### **FLORIDA FOOD BANK AWARDED FEDERAL FUNDS UNDER USDA COMMUNITY FOOD PROJECT PROGRAM**



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By: [Richard M. Blau](#), Regulated Products Section Chair

Tallahassee, Florida, is one of the communities that recently received funding from the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), part of the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA). NIFA this week announced a nearly \$10 million investment through the **Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program** (CFPCGP). Those funds will be invested in [29 Community Foods Projects](#) across America.

One of those grant recipients, the **Frenchtown Neighborhood Improvement Association** (FNIA) of Tallahassee, Florida, is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization that works locally to advocate for healthier food options, promote entrepreneurship, and facilitate economic advances through its work. The CFPCGP grant awarded FNIA a total of \$374,021 for use in 2023.

This funding was made possible through the **American Rescue Plan Act**, which President Joe Biden signed into law to bolster USDA's food and nutrition security efforts. CFPCGP grants promote communities' self-reliance to provide for their community members' unique food needs.. Community food projects, powered by a network of stakeholders across the food system, support

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small to medium farmers, producers, and processors in urban, rural, tribal, and insular areas. The CFPCGP program also provides communities a voice in food system decisions and supports local food markets to fully benefit the community, increase food and nutrition security, and stimulate local economies.

For more information about future CFPCGP grant opportunities, visit the USDA's NIFA Website at: [https://www.nifa.usda.gov/?utm\\_content=&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_name=&utm\\_source=gov\\_delivery&utm\\_term](https://www.nifa.usda.gov/?utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=gov_delivery&utm_term), or contact GrayRobinson's [Nationwide Food Law Group](#) via telephone at **(866) 382-5132** or via email at [foodlaw@gray-robinson.com](mailto:foodlaw@gray-robinson.com).



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Richard M. Blau leads the GrayRobinson Nationwide Alcohol Industry Team, focusing on the laws that govern the production, importation, marketing, distribution, and sale of alcoholic beverages throughout America. Richard works with all levels of the alcohol industry's "three-tier system," as well as providers who are not licensees. He has represented international alcohol beverage importers and domestic manufacturers, statewide wholesaler trade groups and regional distributors, and retailers (including multistate on- and off-premises chains). Richard has achieved numerous peer-related accolades for his legal work, including **Chambers and Partners** - Nationally ranked as "Band 1" for Alcohol Beverage Law & Food Law; **Best Lawyers in America** - Nationally listed for Food and Beverage Law.