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**THE FOOD PROJECT RECEIVES LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT GRANT FROM NEWMAN’S OWN FOUNDATION**

*Funding will support growth and sustainability through training.*

**Lincoln, Massachusetts – March 16, 2019** – The Food Project has been awarded a $7,000 grant from Newman’s Own Foundation, the independent foundation created by the late actor and philanthropist, Paul Newman. The award to The Food Project was made by Newman’s Own Foundation as part of its commitment to support internal professional and leadership development for nutrition-focused nonprofits.

The grant to The Food Project will support a two-day staff training facilitated by consultants from VISIONS, Inc.—a nationally recognized diversity consultant whose mission is to equip individuals, organizations, and communities with the tools needed to thrive in a diverse world; remove structural and cultural barriers that prevent full and equitable participation; and help create environments where differences are recognized, understood, appreciated, and utilized for the benefit of all.

“One of The Food Project’s hallmarks is the ability to work across difference and to collaborate with others.” said Jen James, Managing Director of The Food Project. “Working with VISIONS Inc. allows our entire staff, many of whom are recent hires, to be trained in the reliable methods that foster cross-cultural dialogue and allow for authentic and purposeful team-building.”

“Over time, our commitment to nutrition has expanded beyond program support,” said Kelly Giordano, Managing Director of Newman’s Own Foundation. “Professional development funding for The Food Project can be critical in helping to foster their growth and sustainability for long-term impact.”

The Food Project is dedicated to creating a thoughtful and productive community of youth and adults from diverse backgrounds who work together to build a sustainable food system.

**About The Food Project**

Since its founding in 1991, The Food Project has grown into a nationally-recognized nonprofit organization that works at the intersection of youth, food, and community. The Food Project brings together youth and adults from diverse backgrounds to grow healthy food for communities in need while working to improve local food systems. The Food Project envisions a world where youth are active leaders, diverse communities feel connected to the land and each other, and everyone has access to fresh, local, healthy, affordable food.

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