



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT: *Maria Otterholt, Community Health Specialist, 715-369-6110*

NORTHWOODS LEAN ANNOUNCES FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOCAL BUSINESSES AND SCHOOL DISTRICTS

Northwoods LEAN (Linking Education, Activity and Nutrition), an Oneida and Vilas County chronic disease prevention and management coalition is excited to announce their newest grant opportunities. The *“Worksite Wellness Mini-Grant”* and the *“Garden Based Nutrition Grant”* are now available for 2016. Together these grant opportunities strive to make the community a better place to live by encouraging residents to make healthy lifestyle choices.

The *“Worksite Wellness Mini Grant”* is a grant designed to help area businesses start, or expand on, a worksite wellness program. It is available for any business in Oneida or Vilas County regardless of size, and is an application for \$500.00. If an agency needs help determining an initiative to work on, we recommend utilizing the WI Worksite Wellness Toolkit (located at www.northwoodslean.org). This toolkit features a step by step guide on how to tailor a wellness program to your agency and includes a large variety of initiatives depending on your budget. The overall goal of this grant is to help agencies develop a wellness policy and to appoint a wellness coordinator or committee. The grant application can be found at www.northwoodslean.org

The *“Garden Based Nutrition Grant”* is available for any school district within Oneida or Vilas County and is an application ranging from \$500 - \$1,500.00. Last year Northwoods LEAN awarded 9 schools and afterschool programs with this grant and had amazing success! Projects ranged from classroom taste testing, raised garden beds, composting, hydroponics systems and much more. So that’s why we’re doing it again; to help more students learn about the benefits of gardening and have access to fresh produce that they may not otherwise have. The grant application can be found at www.northwoodslean.org

Both grants are due by **March 1, 2016**. Questions can be directed to Maria Otterholt, Co-Coordinator of Northwoods LEAN at (715) 369-6110 or mskubal@co.oneida.wi.us.

Northwoods LEAN is a coalition that promotes a culture of healthy living through physical activity and nutrition in Oneida and Vilas Counties

www.NorthwoodsLEAN.org