



Healthy Food Financing Initiative in Puerto Rico

Western Food and Agro-Processing Center

Brightwood Development Corp., a Massachusetts Community Development Corporation, has established a food and agricultural products processing and distribution facility in western Puerto Rico with support from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

Brightwood and its affiliated non-profit organization Partners for Community, Inc. (www.partnersforcommunity.org) have been active in Puerto Rico since 2007, promoting community economic development and environmental initiatives with a staff of five professionals and two locations. The Food and Agro-Processing Center supports local producers of healthy and organic vegetable products for distribution in Puerto Rico and the U.S. Hispanic market. The project is financed by participating businesses and by Partners for Community as well as HHS. Additional investment is being sought from foundations, corporations related to Puerto Rico's large pharmaceutical industry, and from USDA and the Treasury as partners in the federal Healthy Foods Financing Initiative.

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