

**Buncombe County FY2020 Strategic Partnership Grants
Application Summary Sheet**

Project	Community Garden Network Support
Organization	Bountiful Cities

Amount Requested	\$15,000	Strategic Priority or Sustainability Goal	Local Economy/Food
New or Renewal Request	New	Commissioner Districts Served	District 1

Organization Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mission is to be the urban agriculture resource of Asheville and Buncombe County. Supports urban agriculture through weekly cooking and gardening education for over 1,000 school-based youth with FEAST program, and supports over 36 area community gardens through our free Community Garden Network (CGN) in the areas of education, infrastructure, supplies, technical assistance, volunteer organizing, workday organizing, Tool and Seed Libraries, etc.
Project Description	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This project includes four neighborhood-based educational sessions in low wealth communities which have no active community garden currently. The workshops will include childcare and interpretation where needed, and will inform community residents of the history, benefits, and opportunities associated with growing food, and particularly community gardening. Additionally, the project directly supports eight low wealth communities or families with professional consultation, labor, and materials to start gardens. Priority will be given to projects resulting from the neighborhood workshops. The professional services will be provided by Bountiful Cities' edible landscaping program, G2G, with reduced service fees, in addition to the many ongoing resources and activities of the CGN program which all new gardens will access. Our goal is to increase the number of people growing food in their communities, bolstering the food system and increasing food security.
People Served	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The four low wealth neighborhoods served by this program's workshop and garden installation involve populations which most frequently experience systemic marginalization, and are primarily communities of color. We estimate that between 120 and 180 people of all ages will be directly impacted by these eight new gardens. The four educational workshops will likely see between 15 and 35 participants at each, directly benefiting around 100 people, mostly adults in these same neighborhoods
Outcomes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Four free educational/informational workshops for neighborhood residents of low wealth communities, with at least 80 total residents in attendance. Eight new family and/or community gardens will be designed and installed in low wealth communities with priority given to projects which arise from the neighborhood information sessions. These gardens will result in at least 120 people accessing fresh produce in their communities.

Budget			
Amount Funded FY2019	n/a	Increase Request	n/a
Project Budget	\$44,800	Total Organization Budget	\$387,681
Other Funding Sources: City of Asheville, Grace Covenant, Buncombe Parks & Rec, Mission Community Investment Foundation			

Additional Information
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Organization received a County Recreation Grant of \$5,993 in FY2019

Community Garden Network Support

FY2020 Strategic Partnership Grants

Bountiful Cities

Ms. Darcel Eddins Bountiful Cities
PO Box 898
Asheville
Asheville, NC 28802

nicole@bountifulcities.org
O: 8282574000
M: 828-257-4000

Ms. C. Nicole Hinebaugh

PO Box 898
Asheville
Asheville, NC 28802

nicole@bountifulcities.org
O: 8287776572

Application Form

Question Group

Please complete the form below and upload the required files for your application. Organizations submitting more than one project must complete one submission form for each project. Incomplete applications will not be considered.

Priority is given to nonprofit organizations with projects that contribute to Buncombe County's strategic priorities or sustainability goals.

For FY2020, no Strategic Partnership Grant applications will be considered for the strategic priorities "Affordable Housing" or "Early Childhood Education." Funding for affordable housing projects is managed through Buncombe County's Affordable Housing Services Program. Funding for early childhood projects will be managed through the newly forming Early Childhood Education and Development Fund.

Project Name*

Name of Project.

Community Garden Network Support

Amount Requested*

\$15,000.00

Strategic Priority*

Which of the following priorities best reflects the primary goal of your project?

Buncombe County Commissioners are dedicated to strengthening the quality of life for everyone by setting new fiscally, socially and environmentally responsible goals that will guide decisions and improve our community for future generations. The Board has committed to strategic priorities as a guide to shape partnerships and investments of resources to insure a healthy, safe, well-educated, thriving and sustainable community.

Details about the Strategic Priorities are available at [THIS LINK](#).

Other Sustainability Goal

Strategic Priority - Other Sustainability Goal

If you selected "Other Sustainability Goal" from the list of Strategic Priorities, please list it here.

Details about the Sustainability Goals are available at [THIS LINK](#).

Economy: Thriving Local Food Systems: Promote Sustainable Agriculture Production and Community Gardening

Organization Description*

Tell us about your organization. What is your mission? Highlight two or three key facts and accomplishments that best define your organization.

Our mission is to be the urban agriculture resource of Asheville and Buncombe County. To this end we support urban agriculture through weekly cooking and gardening education for over 1,000 school-based youth with our FEAST program, and support over 36 area community gardens through our free Community Garden Network (CGN) in the areas of education, infrastructure, supplies, technical assistance, volunteer organizing, workday organizing, Tool and Seed Libraries, etc. We also provide business incubation to urban agriculture businesses operated by people of color, such as Patchwork Urban Farms. We convert dozens of private yards and school yards into edible spaces with our Grass to Greens (G2G) program. And now we are working to bring all our projects and programs together, with the development of an urban Community Food Hub which will offer teaching and gathering space, a commercial kitchen, onsite farming and cold storage, and more.

Project Description

What do you propose to do? What is your plan? What are your goals?

This project includes four neighborhood-based educational sessions in low wealth communities which have no active community garden currently. The workshops will include childcare and interpretation where needed, and will inform community residents of the history, benefits, and opportunities associated with growing food, and particularly community gardening. Additionally, the project directly supports eight low wealth communities or families with professional consultation, labor, and materials to start gardens. Priority will be given to projects resulting from the neighborhood workshops. The professional services will be provided by Bountiful Cities' edible landscaping program, G2G, with reduced service fees, in addition to the many ongoing resources and activities of the CGN program which all new gardens will access. Our goal is to increase the number of people growing food in their communities, bolstering the food system and increasing food security.

Key Steps*

How will the project work? What are specific activities and milestones that your project entails?

The key steps of this project are as follows:

1. Community Garden Network (CGN) Coordinator works with four low wealth communities to plan and deliver four neighborhood-based educational sessions including childcare and interpretation where needed.
2. CGN Coordinator confirms with neighborhood representatives or resident families interested in the installation of community or family gardens.
3. CGN Coordinator connects participants with Grass to Greens (G2G) edible landscaping program to develop and implement new garden projects at eight sites.
4. CGN Coordinator continues to coordinate with Garden Managers to ensure that G2G service delivery and results are agreeable, and tracks garden outcomes related to estimated yields and garden participation.
5. CGN Coordinator connects new gardens with free membership and all resources and activities of the CGN.

Area Served*

Which areas of the County will be served by this project? Which Commissioner District(s) will be served?

A Buncombe County Commissioner district map is available at [THIS LINK](#).

While the countywide 36+ community gardens of the CGN are directly benefited by this project through the addition of new gardens to the network (information and resource sharing between gardens across the network is a big component of the CGN) the eight project sites will be mostly concentrated in low wealth communities primarily of color located within the City of Asheville, District 1. Currently, we are thinking of Pisgah View Apartments, Hillcrest Apartments, Deaverview Apartments, Bartlett Arms Apartments, the Glenn Rock Depot, or potentially other similar locations. While we have been in talks with representatives of most of the aforementioned neighborhoods, we have not yet made firm plans with the exact four neighborhoods we will be working with, because we first want to ensure that funding is available to carry out the project.

People Served*

Who are the members of our community this project will serve? How many people will be served? Include demographics, including age, area median income, race, neighborhood and/or school.

The four low wealth neighborhoods served by this program's workshop and garden installation involve populations which most frequently experience systemic marginalization, and are primarily communities of color. We estimate that between 120 and 180 people of all ages will be directly impacted by these eight new gardens. The four educational workshops will likely see between 15 and 35 participants at each, directly benefiting around 100 people, mostly adults in these same neighborhoods. With some overlap between workshop participants and garden participants the total unduplicated number of people impacted will likely be in the range of 160-240 people. However, the number of people impacted by the indirect benefits of this project are immeasurable. Even neighborhood residents who don't participant in the workshops or gardens will be benefited by the positive psychological, health, and safety benefits of more family and community gardens in their community.

Partners*

Which other organizations are you working with to reach your goals? What other local organizations provide similar services or serve similar beneficiaries, and how do you work together?

To conduct neighborhood-based educational workshops we will partner with Sow True Seed, Fifth Season, The Lord's Acre, neighborhood resident associations or leaders, and Housing Authority and/or Mountain Housing Opportunities staff. For all activities and resources of the CGN which new gardens will access we partner with many of the organizations and institutions affiliated with various community gardens such as the Southside Arts and Agriculture Center, the St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, BeLoved Community, Hoodhuggers, Patchwork Urban Farms, various recreation centers, etc. Additionally, the CGN is closely partnered with Greenworks, the Asheville Buncombe Food Policy Council, and the City of Asheville's Office of Sustainability on projects such as the Food Policy Action Plan, the Asheville Edibles program, and providing fruit and nut trees to gardens and communities. Greenworks offers the most similar services, but they mostly focus on trees and orchards rather than gardens.

Personnel*

Who is responsible for the project? Briefly describe project leaders and the role each will play in the project. How do these leaders reflect the population or community that you serve?

Isa Whitaker is the Community Garden Network Coordinator, and is in his second year in this role. He began in 2017 as an apprentice from Green

Opportunities's job placement program, and has served well in this position, building strong relationships with dozens of gardens, expanding CGN participation and offerings, and stewarding the disbursement of more concentrated infrastructure and supply resources than at any other point in Bountiful Cities' history.

C. Nicole Hinebaugh is Bountiful Cities' Program Director. Nicole oversees CGN and G2G staff, and interfaces with funders, partner agencies, and collaborative initiatives. Nicole has nearly 15 years experience with nonprofit grant writing, reporting, and administration, as well as program development and direction.

Katie Gelin and Alex Bergdahl are the primary G2G crew members responsible for project consultation, design, and installation. Both are experienced permaculturists, herbalists, landscapers, and Alex is also a botanist.

Success*

How will you measure results? What will success look like? How will you document the impact of your project? Include whether there is a model that serves as basis for project design.

The results we will achieve are:

1. Four free educational/informational workshops for neighborhood residents of low wealth communities, with at least 80 total residents in attendance.
2. Eight new family and/or community gardens will be designed and installed in low wealth communities with priority given to projects which arise from the neighborhood information sessions.
3. These gardens will result in at least 120 people accessing fresh produce in their communities. These results will be recorded by the Community Garden Network Coordinator. This project and all CGN components are based on a combination of extensive research of the activities and offerings of other successful Community Garden Networks around the country, as well as specific requests from the 36+ member gardens of our CGN. Some examples of other robust Garden Networks are: Vermont CGN, Virginia CGN, Boston Urban Growers, and Pittsburgh CGN. Michigan and California also have exciting examples, and there are many more.

Funding*

What is your plan for finding the balance of the project budget? What is your funding timeline and what are your other sources of support?

This funding request to Buncombe County is part of a larger project budget which includes a \$15,000 request to City of Asheville SPF to support a portion of the Coordinator's salary and eight free educational workshops throughout the year open to all gardeners within the CGN and beyond including childcare and interpretation as needed. The COA SPF also funds professional garden design/installation and materials for four community gardens for complex projects outside the capacity of those existing gardens. Additionally, a small grant of about \$1,000 from Grace Covenant supports 3-4 free educational intensives for gardeners, about \$6,000 from Buncombe County Parks and Rec supports signage and seating for 11 gardens, and \$7,800 from Mission Community Investment Foundation supports a portion of the Coordinator's salary, the Tool Library, Seed Library, and other CGN components. These \$14,800 are already in hand, and COA SPF will announce in April or May of 2019.

Sustainability*

How will this project be maintained? Please describe funding sources and how you plan to sustain the project in future years.

The CGN is always seeking to diversify its program funding, and currently in addition to the funders listed above, the CGN is in contract with COA's Office of Sustainability to manage the City's Asheville Edibles (AE) program. This is a separate program from the CGN, but entails the CGN Coordinator handling all applications and oversight of the AE program, supporting a small portion of the Coordinator's salary, and providing funds for infrastructure and supplies for AE- specific garden sites such as the Elder and Sage Community Garden. This helps to offset the total infrastructure and supply needs for the network as a whole, because this funding provides a direct stream for that garden and other AE gardens as they come online. Additionally, we are now working with a volunteer to improve CGN's and other Bountiful Cities programs' fundraising capacity through the increased cultivation of direct donations and special events.

ATTACHMENTS

Project Budget*

Download the budget form at **THIS LINK**.

Complete the budget form for this project and the overall organization.

Save it to your computer, then upload it.

strategic-partnership-grants-FY2020-budget-template (1).xlsx

Financial Statements

Upload a copy of the most recently completed financial statements.

All financial statements must be audited, reviewed or compiled by a certified public accountant and include a full balance sheet, income statement, and cash flow statement.

If your organization does not have financial statements, briefly state the reason.

BCP 2017 Compilation Report-FINAL 08-20-18.pdf

IRS Form 990

Upload a copy of the 990 nonprofit tax reporting form that you most recently completed.

If your organization does not have a 990, briefly state the reason.

BCP 2017 Form 990 Final for Public Inspection.pdf

Board of Directors List

Upload a current list of your organization's Board of Directors.

If your organization does not have a board of directors, briefly state the reason.

BC Board list 2019 (1).pdf

Authorized Signatory

By typing in below the name of the authorized signatory and date of submittal, you acknowledge that your governing body has authorized this application, that it is true and current to your knowledge. As a condition of any grant awarded, this organization will provide all information in the manner described in the contract to be executed between the organization and Buncombe County or its designee, including program and financial reporting.

Name & Date

C. Nicole Hinebaugh 02/18/19

Other attachments or supplemental information may be submitted to Rachael Nygaard at rachael.nygaard@buncombecounty.org

File Attachment Summary

Applicant File Uploads

- strategic-partnership-grants-FY2020-budget-template (1).xlsx
- BCP 2017 Compilation Report-FINAL 08-20-18.pdf
- BCP 2017 Form 990 Final for Public Inspection.pdf
- BC Board list 2019 (1).pdf