



USDA Invests \$14.2 Million in 52 Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Efforts

Release & Contact Info

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WASHINGTON, Oct. 26, 2022 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is investing \$14.2 million in 52 grants that support urban agriculture and innovative production. This investment, which includes American Rescue Plan Act funds, will allow grant recipients to expand access to nutritious foods, foster community engagement, increase awareness of climate change and mitigate the effects within urban areas, provide jobs, educate communities about farming, and expand green spaces.

These grants build on \$26.3 million in projects funded since 2020 and are part of USDA's broad support for urban agriculture through its Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production (OUAIP).

"This competitive grant program has already had tremendous impacts for communities across the country, and we look forward to partnering with local organizations to support agriculture in the urban landscape while also empowering local communities to provide fresh, healthful foods," said Robert Bonnie, USDA's Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation.

"This grant program is part of our broad support for urban agriculture, local and regional food systems and underserved communities."

Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Grants

The Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production (UAIP) competitive grants program supports a wide range of activities through two types of grants: planning projects and implementation projects. Today's announced recipients include 18 planning projects and 34 implementation projects.

The planning projects will initiate or expand efforts of urban and suburban farmers, gardeners, citizens, government officials, schools and other stakeholders. These grantees will target areas of food access, education, business and start-up costs for new farmers, urban forestry, and policies related to zoning and other needs of urban production. Having more capacity to gather, process, move and store food in different geographic areas of the country will provide more options for producers to create value-added products and sell locally, which will support new economic opportunities and job creation in underserved communities. Additional regional

capacity also will give consumers more options to buy locally produced products helping ensure food is available to consumers and reduce the climate impact of our food supply chain.

Examples of planning projects include the City of Lorain's Food Forward Lorain Initiative in Ohio, which seeks to create, improve, and expand access to healthy food for economically distressed neighborhoods and families by improving the urban agriculture landscape to support additional urban farming operations. Another planning project, implemented by Tampa Family Health Centers in Florida, will inform and educate residents by offering nutrition education, food preparation classes, and gardening lessons.

The implementation projects will accelerate urban, indoor and other agricultural practices that serve multiple farmers and improve local food access. Some projects support infrastructure needs, emerging technologies, education and urban farming policy implementation.

Examples of implementation projects include Strengthening Trenton's Agricultural Network and Climate Resilience in New Jersey, which will strengthen the capacity for urban agriculture in the region, while providing residents with essential marketable skills and opportunities for careers and supplemental income through farming. Another implementation project in Anadarko, Okla., the Delaware Nation Lenape Gardens Expansion, will install and utilize an integrated greenhouse, garden, orchard, and apiary facility to produce fresh fruits, vegetables and honey for tribal members.

In total, the 52 projects were funded in 27 states. For a complete list of grant recipients and project summaries, visit [Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Grants](#).

More Information

OUIAP was established through the 2018 Farm Bill. It is led by NRCS and works in partnership with numerous USDA agencies that support urban agriculture and innovative production. These grants are part of a broader USDA investment in urban agriculture. Other efforts include:

- Creating and managing a Federal Advisory Committee for Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production to advise the Secretary on the development of policies and outreach relating to urban agriculture.
- Renewing the [People's Garden Initiative](#), which celebrates collaborative gardens across the country and worldwide that benefit their communities by growing fresh, healthy food and supporting resilient, local food systems using sustainable practices, and providing greenspace.
- Providing cooperative agreements that develop and test strategies for planning and implementing municipal compost plans and food waste reduction plans.
- Investing in risk management education to broaden reach of crop insurance among urban producers.

- Organizing 17 FSA urban county committees to make important decisions about how FSA farm programs are administered locally. Urban farmers who participate in USDA programs in the areas selected are encouraged to participate by nominating and voting.

Today's announcement supports the Biden-Harris Administration's broader work to strengthen critical supply chains as directed by [Executive Order 14017 America's Supply Chains](#).

Learn more at usda.gov/urban. For additional resources available to producers, download our [Urban Agriculture at a Glance brochure](#) or visit farmers.gov/urban.

USDA touches the lives of all Americans each day in so many positive ways. Under the Biden-Harris administration, USDA is transforming America's food system with a greater focus on more resilient local and regional food production, fairer markets for all producers, ensuring access to safe, healthy and nutritious food in all communities, building new markets and streams of income for farmers and producers using climate smart food and forestry practices, making historic investments in infrastructure and clean energy capabilities in rural America, and committing to equity across the Department by removing systemic barriers and building a workforce more representative of America. To learn more, visit usda.gov.

**Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Grants
2022 Projects**

Organization Name	Project Title	State/Territory	Project Summary
ISLES INC	Strengthening Trenton's Agricultural Network and Climate Resilience	NJ: New Jersey	This project will strengthen the capacity for urban agriculture in the Trenton, NJ region, while providing residents with essential marketable skills and opportunities for careers and/or supplemental income through farming.
CULTIVATE CHARLOTTESVILLE	The Power to Grow: Cultivating New Opportunities in Urban Agriculture and Food Equity in Charlottesville	VA: Virginia	Power to Grow, through Cultivate Charlottesville, will bring community together to plan for the next steps in replacing, restoring, and protecting community urban agricultural land and infrastructure while also expanding development of supportive programming and systems.
IDEAS FOR US INC	Fleet Farming Expansion of Senior-focused Agriculture Education	FL: Florida	Fleet Farming, an urban agricultural program under IDEAS For Us Inc., will partner with Sacred Kashi and the Florida Food Policy Council to offer senior citizens from Indian River County, FL, an accessible urban agriculture education program, hands-on educational experiences, digital training, and a new community farmer's market.
HOWARD-SUAMICO SCHOOL DISTRICT	Howard-Suamico Goes Hydroponic	WI: Wisconsin	The Howard-Suamico School District (HSSD) will improve the school's access to local, fresh, and nutritious food, while also teaching students about innovative agriculture production, using hydroponic technology.
STAR OF THE SEA FOUNDATION, INC.	Florida Keys Aeroponic Farm: A Community-Focused Approach to Food Access and Agricultural Education	FL: Florida	The Florida Keys Aeroponic Farm: A Community-Focused Approach to Food Access and Agricultural Education project supports two primary goals: 1) Establish an urban aeroponic farm in Key West, Florida to increase local food production and improve food security, while making local food-relief programs more economically and environmentally sustainable, and 2) Expand community agriculture education programs to promote knowledge on food

Organization Name	Project Title	State/Territory	Project Summary
			systems, food equity, nutrition and climate-conscious behavior.
ARCADIA FOOD	Route 1 Community Farm: Making Farmland Accessible to a Food-Insecure Population	VA: Virginia	The Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food & Agriculture will establish the Route 1 Community Farm, a 2-acre growing space nestled within Arcadia's working farm, providing resources for residents to cultivate their own, culturally appropriate foods; additionally, educational resources and marketing opportunities will be provided to community farmers.
SMALL PLACES	Project CAPTAN (Community Agricultural Production and Training for Aspiring New-farmers): Increasing food access, community based production and farmer training in Houston's East End community	TX: Texas	This project will build upon and expand on programs already provided by the farm at their original 1.25 acre farm location. The new 1.5 acre site will construct upgraded mission critical infrastructure and have an even larger production area that will allow our farm to provide expanded programming to better serve a larger portion of our community through food access and farmer training.
HISPANIC-AMERICAN INSTITUTE, INC.	Northwest Puerto Rico Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Project	PR: Puerto Rico	The Northwest Puerto Rico Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Project (NWPRUAIP) will improve access to locally grown and produced foods in seven northwest Puerto Rico Municipalities through urban and innovative agricultural practices, including community gardens, urban farms, and innovative technologies.
YES HOUSING, INC.	Feeding the Community: Planning Funds to Explore Leveraging Multifamily and	NM: New Mexico	The planning project in the Albuquerque, NM region, will build upon a decade of YES' experience installing gardens on building sites, piloting new locations and approaches at existing developments, while creating plans to expand production and scale the model.

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	Mixed-Used Developments to Grow Food, Build Community, and Create Green Spaces in Albuquerque New Mexico.		Planning will be supported by a strong network of experienced partners working in growing, food justice, climate justice, healthcare, and nutrition.
KNOX PARKS FOUNDATION INC	Expanding Access to Urban Growing Space and Agricultural Trainings	CT: Connecticut	KNOX manages and maintains 21 community gardens throughout Hartford. Many gardens have unmet infrastructure needs, which limits their use. KNOX will expand access to growing space through infrastructure improvements. These enhancements will also open up growing space for KNOX farming participants. Workshops and educational opportunities will be made available for both adults and students.
RECIPE FOR SUCCESS FOUNDATION	Hope Farms - Growing a New Tradition of Urban Farmers ("New Traditions")	TX: Texas	This project will expand the New Traditions program by increasing access for historically underserved participants in the Growing Urban Farmers Intensive Course and Master Classes. It will also provide additional professional learning opportunities and peer networking opportunities at the Hope Farms Training Center.
NET POSITIVE, INC.	Net Positive Inc Youth Training Program	NY: New York	Net Positive Inc will partner with Gro-operative, Inc (Gro-op) aquaponics company and Riverside High School to address wealth and health disparities by providing in-school and after school opportunities for low-income students of color in Buffalo, NY.
4R FOUNDATION, INC., THE	EDUCATION FOOD FOREST AT INNOVATIVE URBAN FARM CAMPUS TO BENEFIT CENTRAL FLORIDA	FL: Florida	This project will build an educational food forest exhibit on the 4Roots Farm Campus. The exhibit will contain dozens of species of trees and plants, including edibles, pollinator attractors, fertilizers, weed suppressors, and pest repellents, providing many environmental benefits. The exhibit will include pathways and

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			educational signage with curricula to support outdoor lessons.
INMED PARTNERSHIPS FOR CHILDREN, INC	INMED Aquaponics	VA: Virginia	INMED aims to expand programming for the Leesburg Mobile Home Park (LMHP) in Leesburg by establishing the Esperanza (Hope) Center and community aquaponics garden. This project leverages INMED's existing partnerships, community networks and long history of successful education programs to address food insecurity, health inequities and lack of sustainable incomes.
JUSTICE INNOVATION INC.	Queens Community Justice Center: Gardening Raises Opportunities and Wealth in Neighborhoods (Grow'n)	NY: New York	The Queens Community Justice Center will build on its Grow'n program, which currently provides food production and gardening training through its workforce development department, as well as, community gardening-based programming the Justice Center has run for a decade.
CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES INC	FIG Expansion and Adaptation	AK: Alaska	This project will support the expansion of an existing urban garden in Mountain View, a highly diverse, low-income, low-access community in northeast Anchorage, Alaska. The goal of the Implementation Project is to expand urban agriculture practices to meet the needs of a diverse, low-income, low-access urban community located in a food insecure state.
JANNUS, INC.	Pleasant Valley Farm - Expanding the work of Global Gardens in Southwest Idaho	ID: Idaho	Global Gardens, a program of the Idaho Office for Refugees at Jannus, is a land-based urban agriculture training program that has been operating in Boise, Idaho for over 18 years. The project provides land, water, and infrastructure and outstanding farming expertise and training at five farm sites. The 3-year implementation project will provide land access and improvement to refugee farmers, and expand food access in the local community.

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INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE INC	Cultivating Resilient Food Futures in a Changing Climate	NY: New York	The project “New Roots: Cultivating Resilient Food Futures in a Changing Climate,” will improve food access for socially disadvantaged refugee and immigrant communities of color in Tucson, Arizona. The proposed project will improve access to land for refugee and immigrant farmers, help participants improve farm yields through the installation of a climate-adapted greenhouse; improve their skills and knowledge through trainings and technical assistance; and increase the capacity of local agriculture partner organizations.
AGROECOLOGY COMMONS	GROWING URBAN AGRICULTURE COOPERATION FOR COMMUNITY-LED EDUCATION, LAND ACCESS, AND VALUES-ALIGNED MARKETS	CA: California	This UAIP project presents a collaborative model to advance urban agriculture production and innovation by supporting urban agroecological land stewardship, expanding market channels, and increasing the distribution of fresh local food in low-access urban food areas. This model centers relationship-building and cooperation through farm apprenticeships, value-aligned market collaboration, land access, soil assessments, and a farm tool lending library.
THOMPSON, TOWN	Economic Gardening in Thompson, CT - A Planning Proposal for a Food System & Agricultural Small Business Support Center and Public Food Forest	CT: Connecticut	The objective of this proposal is to develop a comprehensive plan for the adaptive reuse of two Town-owned properties in Thompson, CT. The ultimate goals of this planning project are a municipally-sponsored small business support center, focusing on agricultural and food system start-ups; and a public food forest park, installed using permaculture principles.
A RED CIRCLE	Improving access to local foods in North County through urban agriculture	MO: Missouri	Red Circle will enhance existing collaborative partnerships, educate the community, and address food insecurity through the enhancement of a community food system to grow and distribute locally grown produce in the North St. Louis County area of St. Louis, an

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			underserved, USDA-certified food desert, and Promise Zone.
COALFIELD DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION	From the Ground Up: Strengthening Urban Agriculture and Job Training in Huntington WV.	WV: West Virginia	Refresh Appalachia, a program of non-profit Coalfield Development, is seeking funding to support efforts to alleviate the effects of the food insecurity issues in the second largest city in WV, Huntington. This will be accomplished through increasing the number of people engaged in sustainable urban farming, providing access to equipment, aggregation and distribution services, and creating workforce training opportunities.
NATIVE SEEDS SEARCH	Native Seeds/SEARCH Community Seed Savers Project	AZ: Arizona	Native Seeds, a seed conservation non-profit and seedbank based in Tucson, Arizona proposes "The Community Seed Savers Project". The Community Seed Savers project will expand outreach efforts to increase participation in free seed programs, deliver container gardening and seed saving workshops, and support Indigenous community leaders involved in gardening and farming to gain expertise in arid agriculture and seed saving.
METRO ATLANTA URBAN FARM	Improving Access in Underserved Communities to Local Foods through Urban and Innovative Agricultural Practices: Community Farms, Urban Gardens, and Emerging Technologies	GA: Georgia	Metro Atlanta Urban Farm (MAUF) aims to advance and improve access to local foods in underserved communities where access to fresh, healthy food is limited or unavailable. MAUF and partners will work with community gardens, indoor farms, and greenhouses. The project will include education and training for students on careers in agricultural business. The project partners will provide mentoring and other assistance to new and beginning farmers in the local community.
AUGUSTA LOCALLY GROWN INC	Farmer Business Services Program	GA: Georgia	Augusta Locally Grown (ALG) currently connects new and inexperienced urban farmers to a group entrepreneurial course to provide on-site

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			ag logistics and business coaching. Farmers will receive in-depth, ag-specific, individualized business training and opportunities to implement skills gained with immediate feedback.
GROW2ZERO FARMS	Grow2Zero FARMS: Training Urban Farmers to Feed Long Beach	CA: California	Grow2Zero FARMS is located in West Long Beach, where it has established itself as a community resource since 2020 through its affordable neighborhood CSA and weekly free food distribution. Grow2Zero's education team will expand its education curriculum by developing a hybrid online and in-person urban farm training program for young adults in both Long Beach and the greater SoCal South Bay community.
FLINT RIVER FRESH INC.	The School-to-Community Healthy Food Connection: Increasing Food Production and Access to Serve Communities of Need in Albany, Georgia	GA: Georgia	Flint River Fresh was formed to solve the issues of food access and lack of opportunity in Albany by bringing fresh, healthy food directly to the community and by guiding residents to self-sufficiency and entrepreneurship through urban agriculture. This UAIP project will result in a new hydroponic greenhouse, a new grocery space in a low food-access location, and expanded outreach and educational opportunities.
RIDGE TO REEFS, INC.	Improving Food Security with Inoculated Deep Litter Piggeries and Innovative Production Methods in American Samoa	AS: American Samoa	This is an implementation project for increasing food production in small piggery operations in American Samoa (AS) using the emerging Inoculated Deep Litter System (IDLS) technology, and encouraging local egg/chicken production in deep litter or mobile systems. The project will also increase food production and access to local foods by installing demonstration High Tunnels and insect exclusion netting in public locations to encourage local use of these systems, and train producers how to create fertilizers and compost using local waste streams.

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DUBUQUE, THE CITY OF (INC)	Hydroponics to Home: Using Innovative Urban Agriculture to Educate and Feed the Community	IA: Iowa	The City of Dubuque plans to expand the work of their existing urban farms, to provide community education about food entrepreneurship opportunities and benefits of sustainable local food production, and to support the introduction of healthy and local foods in our existing corner stores. By adding a greenhouse and NFT Hydroponics system to a local urban farmstead, educational opportunities for all ages will be created, as well as hundreds of pounds of fresh produce grown and fed to the community year-round.
UNITED COMMUNITY CENTERS INC	East New York Farms! Project - Urban Food Hub	NY: New York	The East New York Farms! Food Hub is a pilot program designed to increase fresh food production and availability in East New York, Brooklyn, while creating a circular urban agriculture-based local economy benefiting a historically underserved and excluded BIPOC community. They work with local gardeners and youth to increase fresh food availability while stimulating the local economy.
BOSTON FARMS COMMUNITY LAND TRUST, INC.	Boston Farms CLT's Strategic Planning Project	MA: Massachusetts	Boston Farms Community Land Trust (Boston Farms) turns vacant urban land into collective opportunity, supporting Black and Brown farmers to grow the food that sustains the neighborhoods of Mattapan, Dorchester, and Roxbury, with plans to expand into other areas in and around Boston over time.
DELAWARE NATION	DELAWARE NATION LENAPE GARDENS EXPANSION	OK: Oklahoma	Install and utilize the integrated greenhouse/garden, orchard, and apiary facility located on Delaware Nation lands in the city of Anadarko, to produce fresh fruits, vegetables, and honey for tribal members. In addition, sell some of these products to consumers in the area at affordable prices, helping others gain access to fresh food while generating revenues to cover ongoing costs at our production facilities.

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THE CONSERVATION FUND, A NONPROFIT CORPORATION	Growing Community Food Resources with the Working Farms Fund	IL: Illinois	This project addresses food insecurity and food access in a focal area of metro Chicago–South Cook County. This project will: build the foundation to activate additional farms and create a local network; provide affordable land access and support quality jobs for entrepreneurial and socially-diverse farmers; increase fresh produce supply through strategic investment in on-farm infrastructure; and build new connections between the community residents, the food access support system, and the farms next door to strengthen food access and generate lasting health outcomes.
NORTHEAST ORGANIC FARMING ASSOCIATION	Developing Partnerships and Education Resources to Increase Community Garden Prevalence, Productivity, and Skills to Address Healthy Foods Access and Food Insecurity in 3 Northeastern Cities	MA: Massachusetts	This project will lay the groundwork for addressing food insecurity by optimizing the development and productivity of community gardens in Hartford, Springfield, and Holyoke (Project Region). NOFA/Mass will expand new and existing partnerships with gardening and advocacy organizations in the Project Region and develop materials aimed at educating residents and engaging youth on an extensive range of “climate-smart” regenerative agriculture and gardening practices.
LORAIN, CITY OF (INC)	Food Forward Lorain Initiative	OH: Ohio	Seeks to create, improve, and expand access to healthy food for economically distressed neighborhoods and families by improving the urban agriculture landscape to support additional urban farming operations.
SOLA GRATIA FARM	Community Farm Expansion for Enhanced Sustainable Fresh Food Production, Engagement and Consumption	IL: Illinois	This project will support long-term ecological sustainability as proper investments allow us to mitigate and improve resiliency while addressing food insecurity. In addition to allow expansion of educational programming targeted onsite outreach/education activities.

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TILTH ALLIANCE	Rainier Beach Urban Farm and Community Food Resources	WA: Washington	Provide free and discounted food to the local community and promote gardening and urban agriculture throughout the community.
OKLAHOMA WOMEN IN AG ASSOCIATION	National Women In Agriculture Urban Agriculture And Innovative Production Initiative	OK: Oklahoma	The proposed project addresses issues of transportation, affordability, and access to fresh, whole foods in these food desert communities. The project will initiate, build upon, and expand related work and programs establishing and strengthening existing partnerships.
NATIONAL CENTER FOR APPROPRIATE TECHNOLOGY INC, THE	Keys to Starting and Managing Sustainable Urban Community Farms	MS: Mississippi; AL: Alabama	Our focus will be to train gardeners and community leaders on best garden management and production practices. Their efforts will then benefit the neighborhoods surrounding their garden projects by providing the communities with food, nutrition, beauty, and ecological services.
YOUTH MINISTRIES FOR PEACE AND JUSTICE INC	Organizing, Advocacy, and Change Blueprint for Activating Underutilized Spaces for Agricultural Production in New York City	NY: New York	Through this program, Youth Ministries for Peace and Justice, Inc (YMPJ) proposes a city-wide planning project for identifying underutilized public spaces and building a blueprint for how communities can activate those spaces for agricultural production.
SOUTHWEST WASHINGTON LULAC FOUNDATION	LULAC Grows Urban Farm and Family Garden Incubator Groundwork and Food Sovereignty for Communities of Color	WA: Washington	Provide new and aspiring farmers access to farmland, infrastructure, cultivating tools, and growing supplies. We will cultivate a greater abundance of crops desired by our communities, and innovate with a diverse array of culturally specific crops aligning with indigenous cultural heritage.
ZERO FOODPRINT	Growing an Equitable, Climate	CA: California	Accelerate the growth of local food system leader, Foodshed Inc (FSI). Conduct outreach to San Diego's 7,800 restaurants and over 7,000 other food business owners to mobilize

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	Smart Foodshed in San Diego		financial support for local, urban regenerative agriculture initiatives.
HEALTHY FUTURES, INC	Enhancing and Empowering the Agricultural Skill Sets of Indigenous Farmers, Gardeners and Youth in New Mexico's Native American Communities	NM: New Mexico	Healthy Futures will address the limited access to fresh, affordable, and nutritious food by two Native American communities in New Mexico, through agricultural technical assistance, and providing farm supplies and tools to enhance their greenhouses and improve yields in their community gardens.
MILL CITY GROWS, INC.	Ecology, Agriculture, Access, and Education at Pawtucketville Farm Wildlife Sanctuary	MA: Massachusetts	Integrate 20 acres into an expanded urban open space mosaic that connects with 1,100 acres of adjacent open space at the Lowell-Dracut-Tyngsboro State Forest. This site will include space dedicated to urban agriculture and food production by historically disadvantaged producers and serve as a new food access point for the city.
TAMPA FAMILY HEALTH CENTERS, INC.	USDA-NRCS Urban Food Rx Community Garden Implementation-Osborne	FL: Florida	Inform and educate residents by offering nutrition education such as food preparation, beginner, intermediate and advanced gardening lessons. The intentional conservation and reclamation design concept in the garden will contribute to a sustainable use and management of natural resources.
FAYETTEVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION	Growing Fayetteville: Catalyzing Resilient Local Food Systems and Innovative Urban Agricultural Partnerships	AR: Arkansas	Our goal is to field test urban agriculture workforce development pilot projects in 3 locations, with an estimated collective impact of approximately 10,000 unique engagements. Each urban agriculture pilot site will result in an organic teaching garden, micro orchard, pollinator nursery, and food forest.
SENTLI: CENTER FOR	Improving food access in South Texas by facilitating urban	TX: Texas	Increase the number of urban farms, increase access to local produce, and increase the

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REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE	farming through partnership in education, community engagement, policy, and urban food production.		application of climate smart practices and innovative technology among urban farmers.
CITY OF BIRMINGHAM	City of Birmingham	AL: Alabama	We aim to resource Black producers, distributors, and other food value chain actors of color with the policies, platforms, markets, and networks to both build wealth and supply Birmingham residents with the fresh foods they need to thrive.
CASPER COMMUNITY GREENHOUSE PROJECT	Grow Casper: Developing Casper's Educational Farm	WY: Wyoming	Accelerate existing and emerging models of urban and season extension agricultural practices. Additionally, the GCEF will expand educational opportunities for students, adult learners, and farmers beyond the current Farm-to-School Programs.
THE SOUTHERN DELTA CHURCH OF WICCA-ATC	Expansion of community garden and food pantry for supporting the local low income families.	AR: Arkansas	Community garden and food pantry expansion to provide food for the local community.
FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL ARBORETUM, INC.	Washington Youth Garden expansion to widen healthy food access for low-income families and to increase urban agriculture education in Washington, DC.	DC: District of Columbia	Expand access to fresh fruits and vegetables for low-income families with children in Wards 5, 7, and 8 of Washington, DC by 1) increasing the production and educational capacity of the Washington Youth Garden (WYG), 2) creating new produce distribution channels with wrap-around nutrition and agriculture education activities at Friendship Collegiate and and Friendship Tech Prep.

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RISEBORO COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP INC	Bushwick Grows Community Farm	NY: New York	Establish Learning Center to increase the Farm's output and reach to address climate change and food insecurity, through increased food production, targeted education and community development in underserved communities providing free food distribution and education programs in Bushwick Brooklyn.

USDA Announces Recipients of Urban Agriculture Grants and Cooperative Agreements

WASHINGTON, Oct. 5, 2021 – Today the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) announced the selection of recipients for more than \$6.6 million in grants and cooperative agreements through the Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production. These grants and cooperative agreements build on \$4.1 million in projects funded in 2020.

“As the People’s Department, USDA is committed to assisting all facets of agriculture, including operations in our cities,” USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Chief Terry Cosby said. “These projects nourish communities with fresh, healthy food; teach generations the joy and fulfillment of farming and partnerships; and produce environmental benefits by reducing food waste and creating compost that can be used in a variety of farming operations.”

Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Competitive Grants

The Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production (UAIP) Competitive Grants Program supports a wide range of activities through two grant types, which are Planning Projects and Implementation Projects. Activities include operating community gardens and nonprofit farms, increasing food production and access in economically distressed communities, providing job training and education and developing business plans and zoning.

USDA is awarding \$4.75 million for 10 Planning Projects and 11 Implementation Projects. Recipients include projects in Alabama, Arizona, California, Connecticut, Florida, Hawaii, Maryland, Michigan, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Texas, and West Virginia.

[2021 Planning Projects](#)

Organization Name	State	Project Name	Project Description
American Farmland Trust	New York	Growing the Landscape for Urban Farmers in Oneida County, NY	American Farmland Trust will leverage and add to existing research and on-the-ground partnerships to examine the state of farmland and pathways to access for new generation urban farmers. The project will assess the potential demand of new and emerging urban farmers seeking farmland, assess the potential supply of farmland from non-operating landowners, and recommend strategies that support local

Organization Name	State	Project Name	Project Description
Community Alliance with Family Farmers	California	Growing Urban Agriculture: A Roadmap to the Future of Urban Ag in CA	<p>food system development by supporting land access for urban farmers and subsequently avoiding further conversion of farmland away from production.</p> <p>In partnership with a dozen regional organizations and farmer leaders in six different city centers across California, the Community Alliance with Family Farmers will improve urban agriculture across California by creating opportunities for urban farmers to connect both regionally and statewide, increasing their access to mutual resources, knowledge, and tools as well as create discussion around a collective vision for urban agriculture and barriers farmers face.</p> <p>In collaboration with project partners representing small farms, community gardens, schools, hunger relief centers, and local Native American groups, the County of Coconino will develop, implement, and refine a model for community and culturally connected agriculture education to increase engagement in the local food system and increase food security for resident populations in need.</p>
County of Coconino	Arizona	Terra BIRDS Summer Expansion Program	<p>The Refugee Response will conduct a study to detail how Irish Town Bend will alter the physical landscape of the farm, and examine possibilities for how Ohio City Farm can capitalize on changes to increase farm production and income. Options examined will include an expansion of our event offerings; an orchard; a farmers market for refugee vendors; and setting aside a plot as a community garden.</p>
The Refugee Response	Ohio	Opportunities for Community Urban Land Use Study	

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Growing Gardens	Oregon	Community Greenhouse Feasibility Study- Growing Together, Uniting Our Communities with Living Wage Greenhouse Jobs, Education and Production	Growing Gardens will create a feasibility study to identify opportunities to meet community needs for healthy, affordable, culturally-appropriate food through building one or more greenhouses.
West Michigan Environmental Action Council	Michigan	Freedom Farm Collective: Reducing Food Insecurity through Community Engagement in Grand Rapids, MI	The West Michigan Environmental Action Council will form the Freedom Farm Collective to provide resources specifically for residents that are prone to food injustice, racial injustice and/or lack adequate access to green space as well as engage these neighbors through experiential education, food access, neighborhood based programming and increasing access to community resources such as growing equipment and agricultural knowledge. The collective will work to inform local urban agriculture policy along with the City of Grand Rapids Urban Agriculture Committee and the National Young Farmers Coalition to reflect a more sustainable and dynamic approach to how municipalities can leverage underutilized assets to positively impact their most vulnerable communities and empower the next generation of growers.
Tampa Family Health Centers	Florida	Urban Community Garden-Food Rx/Planning Project	Urban Community Garden-Food Rx will address the underlying issue of food insecurity contributing to chronic health conditions affecting disadvantaged and underserved residents. In partnership with Whitwam Organics and other grass roots efforts, the Tampa Family Health Center Community Garden will build a garden for patients and the community.

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The Morton Arboretum	Illinois	Collaborative Planning and Assessment for Community Growth through Urban Agriculture in Waukegan, IL	<p>The Morton Arboretum will find ways to strengthen the local food economy through collaborations with key stakeholders to determine specific needs and gauge the feasibility of implementing food forests at various community sites across Waukegan.</p> <p>This project will develop a comprehensive urban agriculture assessment plan for the city of East Palo Alto. Fresh Approach will evaluate current assets (land access, job training, and business opportunities, innovation, and food access resources) and set goals and priorities for enhancing them by incorporating the knowledge and experience of community-based organizations, as well as the needs and attitudes of local businesses and community members toward urban agriculture and healthy food access.</p>
Fresh Approach	California	Community-Centered Urban Agriculture Assessment Plan for the City of East Palo Alto, CA	<p>Newburgh Urban Farm and Food will bring together representatives from the traditional (government, grant-funded initiatives) and non-traditional (residents, community advocates/groups, churches and temples) sectors of the community to build a sustainable food system that will deliver food security for all residents while generating long-term economic, social, and environmental sustainability now and for future generations.</p>
Newburgh Urban Farm and Food	New York	Developing a Comprehensive Urban Agriculture Plan for the City of Newburgh, NY	



USDA Announces First-Ever Recipients of Urban Agriculture Grants and Cooperative Agreements

WASHINGTON, August 25, 2020 – Today, the U.S. Department of Agriculture announced the selection of recipients for about \$4.1 million in grants and cooperative agreements through its new Office of Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production. These are the first-ever recipients of these grants and cooperative agreements.

Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production Competitive Grants

The Urban Agriculture and Innovative Production (UAIP) Competitive Grants Program supports a wide range of activities through two grant types, which are Planning Projects and Implementation Projects. Activities include operating community gardens and nonprofit farms, increasing food production and access in economically distressed communities, providing job training and education, and developing business plans and zoning. Priority was given to projects located in or targeting an Opportunity Zone, which is a census tract designation for low-income communities.

USDA is awarding approximately \$1.14 million for three Planning Projects and approximately \$1.88 million for seven Implementation Projects.

Program Planning Projects will initiate or expand efforts of farmers, gardeners, citizens, government officials, schools, and other stakeholders in urban areas and suburbs. Projects may target areas of food access; education; business and start-up costs for new farmers; and development of policies related to zoning and other needs of urban production.

Planning Project Selected Applicants

Organization Name	State	Project Name	Project Description
City of New Haven	Connecticut	The New Haven Urban Agriculture Master Plan - Creating a Blueprint for Equitable Urban Agricultural Growth in New Haven, Conn.	The city's Food System Policy Division will develop the first New Haven Urban Agriculture Master Plan. The plan will be used to access land and opportunities to increase the production and sale of locally grown foods, build community, improve public health and well-being, and provide economic opportunity, particularly

			in areas with vacant land and limited food access.
Center for Land-Based Learning	California	Urban Agriculture Assessment and Recommendations: Connecting Urban Farmers with Broderick/Bryte Community to Improve Community Food Access, Nutrition Education, and Economic Development	The Center for Land-Based Learning will produce a comprehensive urban agriculture assessment of West Sacramento. It will map and document current activities, identify opportunities for growth, and include recommendations to bolster the layers of positive impact urban agriculture has on communities.
Feast Down East	North Carolina	Community Learning Farm Planning Project	The project supports a strategic planning process, including a feasibility study and stakeholder assessment, for the development of a community learning farm. A site development plan that will create community access and opportunities will also be created for the both the physical site and for programming.

Implementation Projects will accelerate existing and emerging models of urban, indoor, and other agricultural practices that serve multiple farmers. Projects will improve local food access and collaborate with partner organizations and may support infrastructure needs; emerging technologies; educational endeavors; and urban farming policy implementation.

Implementation Projects Selected Applicants

Organization Name	State	Project Name	Project Description
NY Sun Works	New York	Urban Hydroponic Agriculture in NYC Public School Classrooms	NY Sun Works will work with Brooklyn public schools: three elementary, three middle schools, and three high schools. The project will implement a year-round urban farming program, integrate a hands-on urban farming program into school curricula, launch a Harvest program to engage the greater community, and create a hands-on hydroponic farming job training certification program at the high schools.

Association of Africans Living in Vermont	Vermont	New Farms for New Americans: Improving Lands, Improving Lives	New Farms for New Americans provides garden plots to approximately 70 households on five acres of leased land to support food production and community building for new Americans facing food insecurity and chronic health issues. The project will build upon the existing garden infrastructure to improve local food access, offer a 48-week agriculture program for refugee farmers focusing on food systems and nutrition, and establish a leadership/mentorship program with the Vermont Community Garden Network. Over 250 people of multiple ages, over seven languages and five ethnic groups will be reached.
Arkansas Interfaith Power and Light	Arkansas	Building a Network of Growers to Improve Access to Local Food	Arkansas Interfaith Power and Light will collaborate with partners to improve access to local food, foster a network of urban gardeners and farmers who share resources and knowledge, assist local growers with building infrastructure, expand and improve community gardens to become self-sustainable, educate the community on food systems and the nutritional value of plant-rich diets, share knowledge of environmental benefits of local agricultural production, offer hands-on learning in organic farming, mentor youth and young adults interested in urban agricultural occupations, and engage more people in local food production.
Famicos Foundation	Ohio	Grow Glenville	Famicos Foundation works to improve lives in greater Cleveland through neighborhood revitalization, affordable housing, and integrated social services. The project will reinvigorate the garden at the Michael R. White STEM School using emerging technologies to produce healthy, fresh food for area residents, provide a STEM education opportunity, offer jobs to local youth, and generate income at Famicos' Gateway 105 Market.
The Greenleaf Foundation	Georgia	Eastside Hyper-Local Food System Project	Greenleaf Community Farm serves as a hub for connecting and supporting entrepreneurial food projects and closing the food system gap in Atlanta City Council District 5. The project includes a community farm, a payflex farm stand, and a community gathering space to connect and educate residents. It will also expand the Edible Neighborhoods program to provide equitable

			access to fresh produce, educate residents on edible landscaping, and serve as an entry point into the food system.
Common Ground Producers and Growers	Kansas	Common Ground Urban Innovation Project	The Common Ground Mobile Market will provide fresh produce to food deserts and food insecure areas in targeted urban zip codes in Wichita and Sedgwick Counties. The project will facilitate entrepreneurial projects through job training, use of farm equipment and land, mentoring and other business development assistance to new and beginning farmers. The mobile market will partner with the K-State Extension Growing Growers program, which provides an apprentice to help with the market and offer training in farming and gardening.
Parkside Business & Community in Partnership	New Jersey	The Camden Urban Agriculture Leadership Pipeline Project	The project will build a “pipeline” of programs that guide residents of the low-income, low food-access City of Camden on a pathway from resident, to gardener, to farmer, and eventually to community urban agriculture leader. The project will facilitate entrepreneurial projects by offering apprenticeships that will provide job training, equipment, business skills, leadership training, and mentoring; educate the community garden hubs using an existing network of nonprofit-run gardens and farms; and assist food producers and community organizations with policies that enable urban agriculture to thrive.

Details

For a complete list of grant and cooperative agreement recipients and project summaries, visit farmers.gov/urban.

A webinar to discuss the Office of Urban Agriculture’s work will be held on Aug. 27 at 2:00 p.m. Eastern Time. For the link and information on registration, see farmers.gov/urban.