

Partners for Health Community Garden Guidelines

The Partners for Health Community Garden Fund was created to help increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables in the Montclair area.

Three levels of garden funding are available:

Level 1: Seeds and Tools **up to \$500**

Level 2: Seeds, Raised Beds and Soil **up to \$3,000**

Level 3: Seeds, Beds and Supplies and Storage **up to \$5,000**

Community Gardens improve access to healthful foods while also creating opportunities for local residents to work closely together. Successful applicants will have identified a garden coordinator to make sure that the garden is well tended, that produce is fairly distributed and that a portion of crops harvested are donated regularly to local emergency food organizations.

The Foundation will fund various types of community gardens that increase local access to fresh produce. For example, one sponsoring organization may host garden rental plots for member gardeners, while another group may sponsor organizations and volunteers who garden for the sole purpose of supplying emergency food providers with fresh produce.

Applications will be accepted and grants awarded on a rolling basis until the Community Garden Development Fund's budget is allocated.

Use the link below to access the online application.

<https://www.grantinterface.com/Common/LogOn.aspx?urlkey=partnersfdn>

Checklist of Needed Attachments:

- 501(c)(3) or tax-exempt determination letter
- List of groups or individuals involved in the garden
- Documentation of garden land use agreement
- Draft garden plot plan/diagram
- Photo of plot and water source
- If "safe" soil, test results from Master Gardeners' Rutgers Agricultural Extension
- Letter of interest from the
- Line item budget

What is required of the applicant?

- An identified Project Coordinator, if you do not know the specific person who will fill this role at the time of application submission, please indicate when that selection will be made.
- Project Coordinator (or designee) attendance at any garden trainings, as identified in the garden staff plan
- Completion of necessary reports and financial reporting according to Foundation requirements.
- Donation of a portion of garden produce to a qualifying organization. Examples include soup kitchens, food pantries, senior housing residents.
- Soil testing of the site (if not using raised beds)

Successful applicants will:

- Demonstrate an ability to maintain the garden for at least three years
- Have a committed group of community members involved in gardening
- Have a sound plan for produce donations and strong relationship with recipient organizations
- Have a feasible plot plan and guaranteed permission of land use for at least three years
- Have at least one member with extensive gardening experience

Recommended Resources

American Community Gardening Association's Guide to Starting a Community Garden - <http://communitygarden.org/learn/starting-a-community-garden.php>

LA Guide to Starting a Community Garden - <http://celosangeles.ucdavis.edu/files/83504.pdf>

Green Thumb NYC's "The GreenThumb Gardener's Handbook
http://www.greenthumbnyc.org/pdf/gardeners_handbook.pdf

Growing Healthy: Atlantic County Community Garden Project
<http://www.aclink.org/GrowingHealthy/>.