Washington State
Conservation Commission

2023
Food System Grants to Conservation Districts

AUGUST 25, 2023

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Foreword

The Washington State Conservation Commission (SCC) awarded $55,000 in grants to 11 conservation districts statewide to strengthen our food system. Projects were completed by June 30, 2023.

Emphasizing highly collaborative projects, these grants actively increased food system connections within underserved communities. Grant-funded activities address vulnerabilities in the food system and were identified in the FPF Early Action Implementation Report August 5 2020_final and 2019 Food Policy Forum - Final Report and by conservation districts in last year's food system grants.

The funding supported conservation districts that work to connect people with local farms, food banks, farmers markets, and community gardens; support food and nutrition education, providing translated workshops and outreach materials about growing, farming equipment, cooking, nutrition, and food preservation; and develop infrastructure for local food systems and food security efforts.

Cascadia Conservation District

Amount funded $5,000

Project Partner(s): Grace Lutheran Church, Wenatchee Valley College, WSU Chelan-Douglas Extension

Activities addressed by the funded project

Planning/Coordination
Food Security
Outreach/Education
Infrastructure

Cascadia implemented two activities with the Food System Support grant. The first activity involved a new partnership with Grace Lutheran Church, located in Wenatchee. Grace Lutheran planned to build a new community garden with a series of raised beds. The beds will be free for church members and volunteers to ensure food security for the congregation and the church's community food pantry. The open-air pantry is available five days a week. It is stocked with non-perishable items, frozen meats, bread, and vegetables, although fresh food tends to be lacking.

Additionally, the garden will be used as an education demonstration site for local elementary schools and Wenatchee Valley College students enrolled in agricultural courses.

Through the grant, Cascadia Conservation District (CD) provided supplies and materials to complete the first phase of Grace Lutheran's community garden planted this summer. For example, Cascadia CD supplied fencing to limit garden access to wildlife (deer, gophers, rabbits), landscape fabric for walking paths, hose, timer, greenhouse film, fertilizer, motion cameras to monitor wildlife, insect, and human use, and an essential watering can.

Cascadia redesigned, translated, and printed English and Spanish urban gardening brochures as the second activity. The brochures provided information about compact composting and container gardening + easy salsa and herb butter recipes. The handouts will be distributed at community events (tabling and outreach) and to partner organizations. These brochures were popular at a recent tabling event at the local charter school (with a large Hispanic presence)

as urban residents are generally interested in small-scale gardening and composting.

How did this activity address issues of inequity in the food system in your district or historically underrepresented communities?

By translating the brochures into Spanish, we can better reach the 29% of our community that is Hispanic or Latino, and the 26% of households that speak a language other than English at home.

These brochures promote agricultural practices that can be used with any amount of land, including urban settings with as little as a porch, so we are still able to connect with people who live in downtown areas who lack food security, regardless of their status as a landowner.

Our Spanish Outreach Plan includes the objective to increase Cascadia's presence at community events aimed at the Hispanic/Latino community. Offering dual-language materials is essential to connect with those who attends these events. Community gardens are lacking in Wenatchee (Chelan County's largest city) with a population of 35,405. Having community gardens facilitated through a partner allows better reach to the 10.8% of our community that is in poverty and may need fresh food.

Grace Lutheran Church already offers a Little Free Pantry to the community, and the addition of the garden beds means the pantry can also be stocked with fresh produce, something that is often lacking in Little Free Pantries.

Grace Lutheran gardeners plan to grow the most popular produce items. For example, tomatoes, kale, potatoes, carrots, and melons. Furthermore, the garden will serve as a demonstration site for Wenatchee Valley College students enrolled in the agriculture program.

Forty-seven percent of ag program students are considered underserved and identify as Hispanic/Latino and one student is a Ukrainian refugee. Use of the site will enhance student's skills and understanding of urban garden techniques. The Church welcomes the congregation (including Ukrainian refugees) and community members to access their open-air pantry.

Grace Lutheran Church Little Pantry





Raised Garden Beds



Composting Flyer translated to Spanish



Urban Ag flyer in Spanish

Jardineria en Contenedor:

Cultivar alimentos en espacios pequeños



Cómo aumentar cantidades sustanciales de comestibles en contenedores en su patio, terraza, porche o balcón.

Selección de Contenedores:

Macetas, cubos, cestas, cajas de madera, viveros, jardineras, bañeras, ollas de fresa. Contenedores para comida funcionan bien.

Tamaño:

Para vegetales más grandes como tomates y berenjenas, hacer un recipiente de cinco galones para cada planta. Para hierbas, pimientos y plantas con raíces más pequeñas de dos galones.

Suelos y Fertilizar:

Las mezclas de macetas son las mejores. Las mezclas a base de turba, que contienen vermiculita, son excelentes. Esto permite que las plantas obtengan suficiente aire y agua. Mezclar en compost en la mezcla de siembra mejorará la fertilidad. El fertilizante de liberación lenta mantendrá sus vegetales alimentados durante toda la temporada de crecimiento.

Drenaje:

El contenedor debe tener agujeros en la parte inferior para permitir el drenaje del exceso de agua. Siempre puedes perforar agujeros en la parte inferior, dependiendo del contenedor. Sin un drenaje adecuado, su planta puede ahogarse y morir.

Riego:

Las macetas y los contenedores siempre requieren riego más frecuente que las plantas en el suelo. A medida que la temporada avanza y sus plantas maduran, requerirán aún más agua. No esperes a marchitarte. Revisa tus contenedores diariamente.

¿Tiene preguntas sobre agricultura urbana?

www.cascadiacd.org

info@cascadiacd.org

(509) 436-1601

CASCADIA
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Clark Conservation District

Amount funded $5,000

Project Partner(s): Vancouver Farmers Market

Activities addressed by the funded project

Market Access
Food Security
Outreach/Education

This funding supported the Market Tours program, which is a collaboration between the Vancouver Farmers Market, Camas Farmers Market, Washington State University (WSU) Extension Clark County, and the SNAP Education Team. The program helps break down the barriers and stigma to shopping at local farmers markets for people with SNAP benefits and encourages healthy eating through the engagement of diverse communities.

In June 2023, the Vancouver Farmers Market Association (VFM) hired 3 community ambassadors to lead market tours, co-lead food demonstrations utilizing market produce, and share the benefits of shopping at the farmers market within their community. The ambassadors led tours in Russian, Dari, Pashto, and English. This funding supported their June stipends and the creation of the programmatic structure for the ambassadors by VFM staff.

Ambassadors hosted 5 market tour days in June with 80 participants total. Because there are restrictions on taking photos of SNAP-Ed program participants, there are no photos available from these activities.

Weekly, ambassadors shared content, tailored to be more culturally relevant, through digital and social networking platforms. They also shared SNAP Market Match promotional materials with local community organizations.

How did this activity address issues of inequity in the food system in your district or historically underrepresented communities?

The community ambassadors' market tours help reduce barriers for community members who speak English as a second language and/or receive SNAP benefits, so they can access fresh local food. Thirty percent of Washington residents experience food insecurity, according to the 2020 University of Washington and Washington State survey research on food insecurity and food assistance in the state (https://nutr.uw.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/WAFOOD_intro_brief_202_01117.pdf).

According to the same research, 35% of Clark County households experience food insecurity, higher than the state average. BIPOC survey respondents were almost twice as likely as white respondents to face food insecurity, and 58% of respondents with incomes under $15,000 were food insecure. "About 15-17% reported concerns about their ability to access fresh vegetables and fruit." (https://nutr.uw.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/WAFOOD_intro_brief_202 01117_CLARK.pdf).

Market Tours are an opportunity for low-income, Supplemental Nutrition Assistant Program (SNAP) recipients to participate in a 1-hour shopping tour at Clark County Farmers Markets. During the tour, SNAP customers learn how to use their benefits at the market, how to receive the free $25 SNAP Market Match, meet farmers, sample produce, and share recipes and storage tips. At the end of the tour, participants receive $10 in tokens and are challenged to shop for fruits and veggies on their own. After the challenge, the group comes back together to share their experiences. To encourage return visits, for participants' next two visits to the farmers market, they will receive an additional $10 to spend on fresh produce.

Getting Fresh Fruits and Vegetables is a SNAP!

SNAP Market Match



Market Match $25 per day!

On the tour, you will learn:

- How to use **SNAP** and **SNAP Market Match**
- How to shop and prepare fresh seasonal produce
- How to shop on a budget
- After the tour, receive **$10** to spend on fruits and veggies and **$10** at your next two market visits – **$30** total!

Health

To request this document in another format, call 1-800-525-0127. Deaf or hard of hearing customers, please call 711 (Washington Relay) or email civil.rights@doh.wa.gov.

Material was funded by USDA'S Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program. SNAP provides nutrition assistance to people with low income. It can help you buy nutritious foods for a better diet. To find out more, contact the DSHS Community office at 877 501 2233; or go to http://foodhelp.wa.gov.
USDA and WSU are equal opportunity providers and employers.

CLARK COUNTY SNAP FLYER

Kitsap Conservation District

Amount funded $5,000

Project Partner(s): WSU Kitsap Extension, Kitsap Community Resources, Kitsap Public Health District SNAP-ED program, Kitsap County Food Bank Coalition, Kitsap Harvest Gleaning Network

Activities addressed by the funded project

Infrastructure

Purchase of a two-door freeze to store frozen donated, gleaned, and rescued produce which was delivered to local food banks.

The District Farm to Freezer Program partnered with WSU Extension SNAP-Ed on recipe development for cultural foods for Filipino, Guatemalan and Pacific Islanders.

These recipes are then used to process the soups for the food banks in collaboration with Kitsap Community Resources.

Recipes are available in print and online via QRCode and weblinks to food bank patrons.

Accompanying cooking videos in Tagalog, Spanish, and English are also available on the WSU Kitsap Extension SNAP-Ed page found at: https://extension.wsu.edu/kitsap/health/snap-ed-recipes/.

The WSCC funding purchased a freezer to store the soups prior to distribution and allowed us to provide 1,532 pints of soup for Filipino, Guatemalan and Pacific Island clients at local food banks.



Mason Conservation District

Amount funded $5,000

Project Partner(s): Shelton Farmers Market, Meadow Moss Farm, CIELO, WSU SNAP-ED

Activities addressed by the funded project

Planning/Coordination
Market Access
Food Security
Outreach/Education

Mason Conservation District utilized Food Systems funding to address and alleviate food insecurity concerns in our local community. District staff partnered with Shelton Farmers Market to plan and participate in nutrition benefits enrollment events to increase access to fresh local foods.

Staff attended the Shelton Farmers Market where they conducted surveys, dispersed educational materials on benefits programs, and handed out vegetable seed packets.

MCD also assisted the SFM with updating their advertising to include Spanish, increasing the local market's visibility to immigrant and underserved communities.

Mason CD attended several food bank events hosted by CIELO, where staff distributed culturally relevant vegetable seeds. The food bank has a special focus on addressing food insecurity in the Latinx community. Shelton is home to a large Guatemalan immigrant population, who often are attached to our natural resources via the forest products industry, which is similar to the industry in their country of origin.

Surveys conducted by MCD staff were able to identify various herbs and vegetables community members were unable to source locally, seeds were purchased by MCD with this funding and then distributed at the food bank.

MCD staff also provided TA to community volunteer groups who have started a local farm with the intent of donating 100% of the produce grown to the local

food bank. The main crop is flint corn, which will be hand-ground into masa and can then be used to make many traditional Latin American dishes. The focus of this work saw an increase in farmers' market participation and aimed for mental wellness benefits by increased access to culturally relevant and traditional foods.

How did this activity address issues of inequity in the food system in your district or historically underrepresented communities?

The activities conducted with the food system support grant created new links between the Mason Conservation District and historically underrepresented communities. Having dedicated staff time to consistently be present at tabling and community events has helped foster the trust and familiarity needed to engage with immigrant communities.

These improvements have increased participation and engagement with the services provided by the conservation district. Community partners have reported on the success and popularity of the culturally relevant seed giveaway events.

Usual and accustomed foods not commonly available in the Pacific Northwest (PNW) were sourced and cultivated by community members, bringing a sense of well-being and a source of fresh home-grown foods.

Much of the work conducted took place at local food banks that focus on immigrant populations. Food insecurity and inequity issues that were addressed included improving access to usual and accustomed culturally relevant seeds, technical assistance on cultivating sustainable foods in the PNW climate, increasing access to local farmers markets, and nutrition benefits programs by creating dual language signage.

Furthermore, connecting underserved communities to conservation district programs through farm planning and other financial incentives assists in the efforts to address inequity in local food systems. Continued funding and sustained efforts are needed to build relationships of trust over time to fully connect conservation district services to underserved communities, who are disproportionally affected by climate change, natural disasters, and food insecurity.


Mason
Conservation
District
CALLANAN PARK COMMUNITY GARDEN
APPLY FOR A BED IN THE GARDEN!


Manager / Ge
SNAP Market Match
grocery list


WIC &
SENIOR
Farmers Market Benefits
WELCOME HERE!

Pacific Conservation District

Amount funded $5,000

Project Partner(s): WSU Master Gardeners, South Bend First Lutheran Church, Legacy & Community Outreach Food Bank in South Bend

Activities addressed by the funded project

Outreach/Education
Infrastructure

The funding gave us the opportunity to replace the rotten garden beds with new, metal beds. Additionally, we were able to provide the garden with new signage which included a bilingual component in order to make the garden more accessible for the 20% of the population that speaks Spanish. The conservation district was able to host a community event to teach people the best gardening practices, composting, and pollinators.

How did this activity address issues of inequity in the food system in your district or historically underrepresented communities?

The activities accomplished under this grant we were able to improve participation in the community garden. Last year, according to the garden's report, they had 20% of the garden beds in use. This growing season they were able to get enough participants that 100% of the garden beds are in use and full.

We were able to give community members who do not speak English the opportunity to participate. In addition, with the new beds, the garden has been more productive and contributed more food to the local food bank that gives back to local, underserved community members.


Jardín Comunitario de South Bend
Los jardineros están aquí
Pasen y saludarnos





Palouse Conservation District

Amount funded $5,000

Project Partner(s): Community Action Center Council on Aging and Human Services Palouse-Clearwater Food Coalition Pullman Community Garden Pullman Farmers Market University of Idaho Extension Whitman County Master Gardeners Washington State University Eggert Family Organic Farm Washington State University Extension

Activities addressed by the funded project

Market Access
Food Security
Outreach/Education
Infrastructure

Palouse Conservation District (PCD), in partnership with local community organizations, completed significant deliverables with this funding which enabled us to further food equity and combat food insecurity in underserved communities in Whitman County.

PCD hosted three online workshops this spring as part of our beginner gardener series. "Drip and Micro-Irrigation Strategies for the Small Farm and Backyard Garden," hosted on February 9, 2023, brought in 101 community members to learn about using irrigation strategies to conserve water, increase production, and limit weeds. Our speaker was Brad Jaeckel, Farm Manager at the Washington State University (WSU) Organic Farm.

"Container Gardening for Production and Beauty," hosted on March 9, 2023, brought in 61 community members for a discussion on gardening in limited space and which plants do well in pots and raised beds. Our speaker was Iris Mayes of University of Idaho Extension.

"Using Landscape Soil Tests to Improve and Protect Soil Health," hosted on April 13, 2023, brought in 51 community members for a conversation on the importance of soil health and how to build it, manage it, and test for it in a garden plot. Our speaker was Linda Chalker-Scott of WSU Extension.

Each online workshop had an associated free kit that was distributed to the first 30 workshop participants to sign up. We had many community members attend

multiple sessions, so we prioritized distributing kits to those who had not already received one from an earlier workshop.

PCD partnered with Pullman Community Garden, Community Action Center (CAC), and Whitman County Master Gardeners to host a free garden tour on June 25, 2023. Twenty-nine community members joined us for a beautiful evening as we traveled throughout the community garden while experienced gardeners and organizations shared how they selected crops and managed weeds and pests, as well as the infrastructure that they had installed in their plots and why (e.g., trellises, garden tunnels, mulch/straw, drip irrigation lines).

PCD continued its partnership with the Council on Aging and Human Services (COA), a nonprofit group that advocates for senior citizens through Meals on Wheels and the delivery of local produce to food banks throughout Whitman County. We assisted with produce deliveries on seven occasions, picking up produce from local growers and assisting with its distribution to food banks.

PCD also engaged our local community on food access and food insecurity topics through informational booths at various community events this spring. These events included the Palouse Pollinator Summit on March 1, the Palouse-Clearwater Food Coalition Food Summit on March 24, the Koppel Spring Fair on May 20, and the Pullman Farmers Market on June 21.

PCD also enhanced its pollinator plot at the Pullman Community Garden, which includes interpretive signs, a bee hotel, and a bird house, to further educate our local community on the importance of planting native as part of their gardening activities.

Community Action Center, with volunteer help, assembled 200 herb kits for free distribution through their mobile farm stand, which visits communities throughout Whitman County. The herb kits included a pot, soil, seeds, and instructions on how to grow herbs at home.

Community Action Center's seed-to-table class enrolled 12 families for whom PCD assembled starter gardening baskets that included gloves, hand tools, and other materials necessary for establishing and maintaining a home garden plot.

CAC and PCD established a children's garden at the Pullman Community Garden. The garden includes sensory beds themed on taste, look, smell, touch, and hear, as well as a pollinator bed. Open house hours at the children's garden are offered this summer and will occur weekly until August 16th. Kids and families can explore the garden, sample produce, and engage in mini-activities. The first open house focused on pollinators and included a bug scavenger hunt and making pollinator watering stations. CAC estimates that five families a week attend these sessions. The produce from the children's garden will be distributed free of charge to households throughout Whitman County.

CAC grew 700 plants with the seed starting supplies purchased through the Food Systems grant. Four hundred fifty (450) plant starts were planted in CAC's food bank and mobile farm stand production plots at Pullman Community Garden; the produce from these plots is distributed for free to communities throughout Whitman County. The remaining starts were planted in the newly established children's garden, provided to the community through the mobile food stand and food bank, and distributed through other avenues.

Distributed plant starts included variety packs of different fruits and veggies in the hopes of encouraging community members to try produce they may not normally purchase at the store. CAC's food bank is currently serving around 1000 clients a month. They are open 3 days a week and typically have produce from the gardens available every week as a result of these grant funds.

How did this activity address issues of inequity in the food system in your district or historically underrepresented communities?

The City of Pullman is in Whitman County in the Palouse Region of Washington State, an agricultural area with the record for the most wheat produced in any county nationwide. Pullman is the largest town in Whitman County, where the poverty rate has remained above 20% for the past thirty years. In 2019, poverty rates of adults ages 18-64 were over triple the state rate.

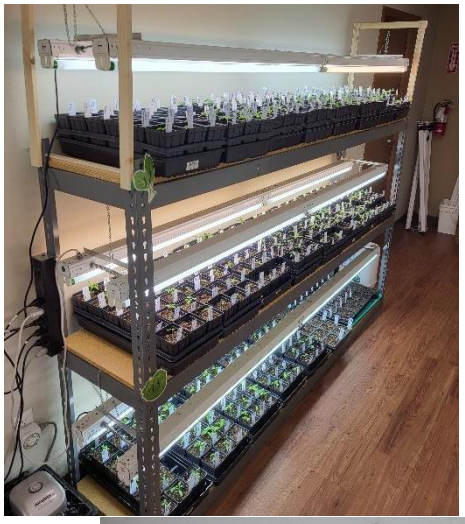
Even the Palouse, an area where the agricultural sector thrives, is considered by the US Department of Agriculture to be a food desert, meaning at least one hundred households without vehicles are located more than one-half mile from the nearest supermarket; or at least five hundred people, or 33 percent of the

population, live more than twenty miles from the nearest supermarket, regardless of vehicle availability.

In 2019, the food insecurity rate in Whitman County was 14%. Over 15% of those experiencing food insecurity had incomes greater than current thresholds for state assistance, meaning their income was too high to get help, but not enough for basic food necessities (US Census Bureau). The COVID-19 pandemic and current rates of inflation have only exacerbated this problem. Food insecurity rates among children under the age of eighteen were projected to skyrocket, with an estimated increase of 15% in Whitman County from 2019 to 2021. Over one-third of children who are food insecure live in households that do not qualify for food assistance programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP).

These activities addressed local food inequity by encouraging at-home food production and supporting local food access organizations. By partnering with CAC, an established organization targeting food insecurity in the area, PCD built upon existing systems and capacities, ensuring that this funding went further and supported programming that reached more community members than PCD could on its own. Our partnership with the COA ensured that fresh, local produce was transported to where it is needed most in our community.

Grant activities, including the provisioning of family garden baskets and workshop kits, plant start distribution, and the establishment of a children's learning garden at Pullman Community Garden, will continue to facilitate the creation and distribution of locally produced food in urban and rural communities in Whitman County. In addition, we leveraged our partnerships with local organizations, including WSU-Extension and the University of Idaho-Extension, to bring up-to-date and digestible educational opportunities to our community. These events and workshops equipped community members with the gear and knowledge necessary to grow their own food for years to come.



Plant Starts





FARMERS MARKET





CHILDREN'S GARDEN



JUNE KOPPEL GARDEN TOUR

Pierce Conservation District

Amount funded $5,000

Project Partner(s): WSU (property owner), Tacoma Pierce County Health Department (funder), NW Ag Business Center (collaborator)

Activities addressed by the funded project

Infrastructure

Pierce Conservation District used the funding to purchase needed materials to make our incubator farm fully functional for participants. As of June 2023, we have installed water and electricity, and constructed a greenhouse, cooler (with a small storage area) and purchased equipment for a wash-pack station. While we still plan to install a gravel driveway to make access easier, the basic infrastructure of a small farm is now in place and participants have full access to needed systems.

How did this activity address issues of inequity in the food system in your district or historically underrepresented communities?

We have built out an incubator farm where BIPOC farmers are prioritized and supported to grow farm businesses. 8 of our 9 farmers identify as BIPOC, and our staff do as well. We are working to grow successful farm businesses to address historical inequities in access to land and food.







Skagit Conservation District

Amount funded $5,000

Project Partner(s): WSU Food Preservation Mutual Aid of Skagit /Kulshan Creek Community Whatcom CD

Activities addressed by the funded project

Market Access
Food Security
Outreach/Education

Skagit Conservation District was able to use the funding for translation of Farm Planner Sheets, signage in English and Spanish for events, created and translated a food systems page on the website, as well as raised bed fact sheets.

Skagit Conservation District staff also attended a meet and greet led by Whatcom CD. The meet and greet allowed us to create connections with Skagit Mutual Aid. Skagit Mutual Aid are looking for help in planting a pollinator garden for children in the Kulshan community. Skagit CD focused our outreach to this community and have applied for funding to provide plants, gloves and shovels.

How did this activity address issues of inequity in the food system in your district or historically underrepresented communities?

The funding allowed the Skagit CD to extend its knowledge to underserved communities. Before funding was received from this grant, our district didn't have any of our materials translated. Staff feel more comfortable attending Spanish-speaking events now that we have translated outreach materials to offer.
The district made important contacts with this grant funding. We will continue to work with Mutual Aid, Viva Farms, Skagit Gleaners, and WSU. After the meeting with Whatcom CD and Skagit Mutual Aid, we have nine signups. We received great interest from these signups in learning how to grow food in their backyards. The conversation was all in Spanish translated by a local interpreter.

Most of the people present at the meeting are used to different weather conditions in Mexico and have never learned about raised beds, importance of soil, watering and other gardening information. This prompted the creation of a raised bed flyer that we will distribute at events. Most people believe that the Latino community is well aware of agricultural practices, but from this funding opportunity, we learned that this is not the case, and more time should be spent investing in education and community gardens.



SERVICIOS GRATIS

- La asistencia financiera ayuda a reducir la carga financiera
- Los agricultores se benefician de las herramientas de planificación agricola
- Asistencia en el manejo de enfermedades, mejora del hábitat y prevención de incendios forestales
- Maneras de conservar el agua para su jardin
- Venta anual de plantas a bajo costo





Contamos con personal y dirección de lugareños que entienden las necesidades de los paisajes y la comunidad



APRENDE MAS

FB/SkagitCD

www.skagitcd.org

@skagitconservationdistrict

Solicita ayuda hoy!

Jardinería

CAMAS DE JARDÍN

¿Por qué usar camas de jardín?

Las camas de jardín elevadas ofrecen muchas ventajas para los jardineros. ¡Aparte de salvarte del dolor de espalda, las camas elevadas te permiten controlar la calidad de tu suelo y cultivar vegetales frescos en un espacio pequeño!

¿Cuáles son mis opciones?

Hay varios tipos diferentes de materiales que puede usar para crear sus camas elevadas; maderas sin tratar, paletas, concreto, ladrillo, rocas y más. No importa lo que use, ¡recuerde mantener el ancho de sus camas por debajo de los 4 pies para facilitar el acceso!

¿Qué puedo plantar?

La posición es un gran indicador de qué tipos de plantas prosperarán en función de las horas de luz solar, pero también tenga en cuenta la profundidad del suelo. ¡Algunas plantas, como los tomates, necesitan 12 pulgadas o más!

CÓMO CONSTRUIR

Locación



Elija un suelo llano y parejo con buen drenaje que reciba de 6 a 8 horas de luz solar al día.

Prepara el Espacio



Cubra el área de su cama con cartón húmedo (1/4-1/2 pulgada) para reducir las malezas, seguido de 4-12 inches of garden soil.

Herramientas y Suministros



Necesitará una pala, un nivel, un taladro y brocas, un destornillador y madera (varios tamaños).

Asamblea



Taladre dos agujeros piloto al final de cada tablón. Coloque las piezas y comience a atornillarlas.



Spokane Conservation District

Amount funded $5,000

Project Partner(s): Spokane Conservation District Four Roots, LLC. JRP Integrated Solutions

Activities addressed by the funded project

Planning/Coordination
Market Access
Food Security
Outreach/Education
Infrastructure

Spokane Conservation District (SCD) partnered with Four Roots, LLC., and JRP Integrated Solutions to develop the over-arching architecture plan for a permanent farmers market in Spokane County. The Scale House Market and Commercial Kitchen will serve five zip codes in Spokane County, straddling the borders of the City of Spokane and City of Spokane Valley.

How did this activity address issues of inequity in the food system in your district or historically underrepresented communities?

The permanency of a year-round market and the commercial kitchen addresses food access, food security, and food resilience. Our Local Community Capital request was supported by the 2023 legislature approving $750,000 in first-phase funding. It is estimated that over 200,000 residents will visit the market annually with more than 18,000 considered underserved populations or impoverished income levels.



Campus Aerial Looking South




Campuse Aerial Looking East



The Spokane Scale House Market and Kitchen: Building Economic Opportunity and Community

Background

In 2017, Spokane Conservation District (SCD) purchased 50 acres strategically located where Spokane meets the Spokane Valley to headquarter our operations and develop the site's important watershed, habitat, recreational, and educational uses. Formerly a rock quarry, the site is now the SCD campus with public hiking trails and two newly constructed buildings that house SCD offices, conference and classrooms, and large community spaces. At the heart of the property is the historical quarry scale house. The next phase in campus development is to rehabilitate the scale house into a year-round farmers market and educational commercial kitchen, while maintaining its rich heritage and historical value.

The Scale House Market and Kitchen

The "Scale House Market and Kitchen" responds to Spokane's need for a permanent-structure farmers market and commercial kitchen to support farm and food businesses, food system resilience and security, and community vibrance year-round. The project will include a 4,380 ft^2 building with flexible space for 23 vendors, a commercial kitchen for classes and value-added food processing, walk-in cold and freezer storage, restrooms, and a mechanical room. It will also develop a 7,189 ft2 outdoor area into an open-air market with space for 30 vendors, five food trucks, and a stage. In addition to farm and ranch, value-added food, and artisan vendors, the Scale House Market and Kitchen will serve educators, artists, and musicians. According to our feasibility research, the Scale House Market and Kitchen will host 400,000 visitors annually, including 18,000 who qualify for food assistance programs such as SNAP, Market Match, Seniors Farmers Market Nutrition, and WIC. The Scale House will be overseen by the SCD board of directors and operated by a contract manager.

Big Economic Impact and Return on Investment

Our feasibility study found the Scale House Market and Kitchen will contribute 155 jobs, wage and salary payments of $5,832,292, and a total output (sales) of $14,362,426 annually (Table 1). It will also generate $1,050,872 in taxes annually, including $319,384 of property and $731,488 of excise and other taxes. The Scale House will be a destination farmers market, facilitating entrepreneurship, helping farm and food businesses become more profitable, attracting shoppers to Spokane, and making Spokane a more desirable place to live and work. Visitors drawn to Scale House commercial, educational, and recreational activities will spend money at other local businesses and participate in SCD programs.

Category	Jobs	Wages/Salaries	Output
Brick and Mortar/Spinoffs	60	$2,221,150	$5,261,467
Visitor Spending (Inside Market)	55	$2,081,776	$4,925,594
Visitor Spending (Outside Market)	34	$1,163,363	$3,382,447
Market Operations	6	$366,003	$792,918
Total	**155**	**$5,832,292**	**$14,362,426**

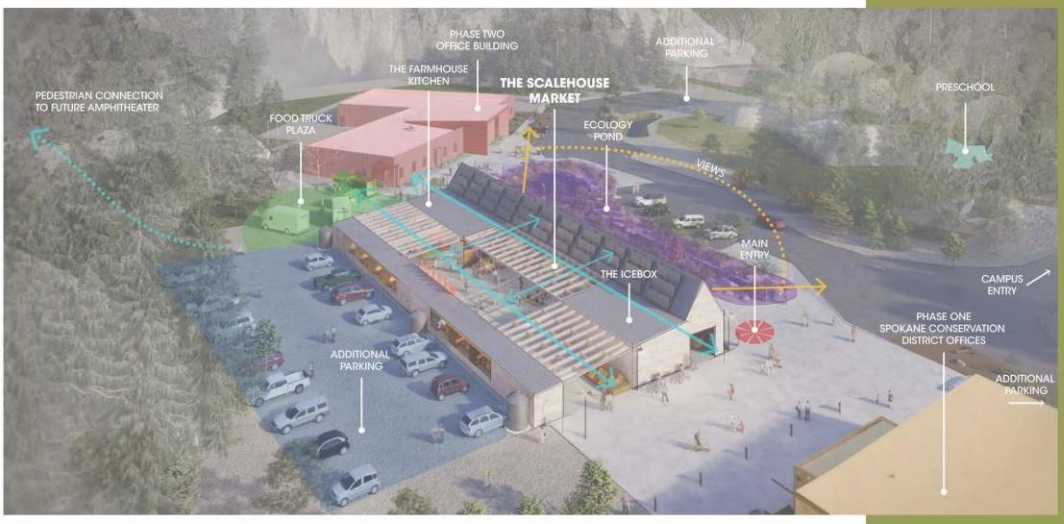
The Cost

It will cost $2.3 million to remodel the existing scale house and grounds to realize the Scale House Market and Kitchen, which is $540,000 less expensive than developing a vacant lot.

The Request

In partnership with the Spokane County Commissioners, we request $2.3 million to complete this project. We will also raise funds through donations, sponsorships, memberships, vendor rent, and private and federal grants, such as the USDA Farmers Market Promotion Program.

Site Connections



Aerial Overview



The Market



Underwood Conservation District

Amount funded $5,000

Project Partner(s): Mt. View Grange #98 of White Salmon Gorge Grown Food Network White Salmon Farmers Market Sown by Sarah Washington Gorge Action Programs Washington Renew Seed (matching funding source)

Activities addressed by the funded project

Planning/Coordination
Market Access
Food Security
Outreach/Education
Infrastructure

Activities performed with the funding directly supported the Underwood Conservation District Farm Tool Library and its goal to provide small and aspiring farmers and gardeners with free or low-cost access to specialty tools that directly support farm operations and improve viability, promote conservation practices for the protection or enhancement of natural resources, and improve food security throughout the community.

The primary components of the project involved Spanish outreach and promotion of the Farm Tool Library, via multiple Spanish media outlets and avenues and the development and implementation of one Spanish-speaking event about the Farm Tool Library, tools available for use, and a specific seed-starting skill using soil blocks. This event was held on June 27, 2023 at the White Salmon Farmers Market.

How did this activity address issues of inequity in the food system in your district or historically underrepresented communities?

A goal of the Farm Tool Library is to cultivate a community of area farmers and gardeners while strengthening our outreach and service to it. More specifically, we aim to provide these services to underserved communities, including Latinx and BIPOC residents, whether they are commercial farmers or serious gardeners working to feed their families. Our Spanish outreach, promotion and workshop were designed to target the underserved Latinx communities in our area so that they can be aware of the Farm Tool Library, know how to access it, utilize the wide variety of tools available and learn a new seed-starting skill.




UNDERWOOD
CONSERVATION


UNDERWOOD
CONSERVATION
DISTRICT

Whatcom Conservation District

Amount funded $5,000

Project Partner(s): Cloud Mountain Farm Center Skagit Conservation District Mutual Aid Solidarity Neighbors in Action (El Equipo Solidario de Ayuda Mutua/ Vecinos en Acción (M.A.N.A))

Activities addressed by the funded project

Outreach/Education

Whatcom Conservation District (WCD) used the grant funds to complete the translation of WCD outreach channels and materials to Spanish. A contracted translation service, Alex Perez Consulting, was hired to edit and generate final versions of all the content WCD staff drafted. This included a new Spanish webpage describing WCD services, specifically information on farm planning, funding opportunities, upcoming events, and our equipment rental program.

Additional outreach documents included a Whatcom County-specific insert for the Spanish-translated Puget Sound TIPS Manual; and BMPs factsheets on soil testing and nutrient management. Related to our equipment rental program, the webpage, user agreement, and how-to guides were translated to Spanish for our poultry processing equipment and manure compost spreader.

Whatcom CD participated in three outreach events. We purchased transmitters and the accessories for a 15-person set. Simultaneous interpretation was offered at the Whatcom Farm Expo and one attendee utilized this service. Simultaneous interpretation was also offered for the Growers Field Day at Cloud Mountain Farm Center and one person used the service.

After only having one attendee at the Whatcom Farm Expo who utilized the interpretation service, WCD met with Alex Perez for a debrief which helped identify the gaps in our outreach and community connection strategy. We adapted and added a third event to our project that was specifically a meet and greet with an active Latino community group. It was a fantastic two-hour meeting with 15 folks who by the end were comfortable with us, learned about our services, and were excited to spread the word to their friends. This event

helped us learn that before we can offer interpretation and events for them to come to, we need to meet them at their spaces first.

How did this activity address issues of inequity in the food system in your district or historically underrepresented communities?

Increasing our language accessibility will broaden the clients we can serve and continue to build new relationships. Our programs support the food system and producers, and this community is historically underrepresented in receiving our services. Through this grant we directly connected with 17 people in Spanish. Building these direct relationships is key in order to expand our outreach in the Spanish-speaking community.




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WHATCOM FARM
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INTERPRETACIÓN EN ESPAÑOL
Whatcom
SERVATION DISTRICT