

Urban Agriculture Innovative Production Grant Program Updates

The Kane County Food and Agriculture Accelerator

Kane County Agriculture Committee

June 21, 2024

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Program Overview

The Kane County Food and Agriculture Accelerator

A pilot program with the goal of supporting the growth of urban area farms and agriculture technology companies, while improving local food access in Low-Income, Low-Access (LILA) communities.

Focus Areas

1. Business development training for growers **(underway)**
2. Improve local food access in LILA communities **(projects under consideration)**
3. Technical assistance for local agriculture technology firms **(suspended)**

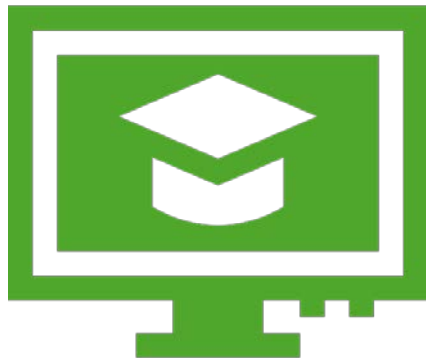


USDA awarded \$299K in Urban Agriculture Innovative Production (UAIP) grant funds to Kane County

Updates

Master Urban Farmer Training Program (MUFTP)

- U of I Extension under contract to launch training program and manage through September 2025
- Extension recently hired a Local Food and Small Farms Educator to lead the program



Equitable Local Food Access Projects - NEW

- U of I Extension SNAP Ed team submitted a draft projects proposal
- Includes 7 unique food growing and distribution projects increase fresh food access in Kane County's urban areas



Equitable Local Food Access Projects

(For Consideration)

1. Elgin – Act Like Men Sobriety Houses
2. Carpentersville – D-300 Middle School & DeLacey Family Education Center

New Garden Programs

3. Aurora – McCleery Elementary School
4. Batavia – Mercy Housing
5. Elgin & St. Charles – IDEA Garden
6. Aurora – One Hope United

Update & Expansion to Existing Gardens

7. Aurora – Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry

Food Distribution Infrastructure

Project Details

Equitable Local Food Access Proposals

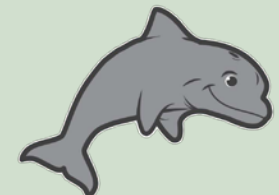
Act Like Men Sobriety Houses Elgin – New Garden Program

- New garden project installed and managed by transitional housing program participants
- Harvested produce to be used by residents
- Cost proposal: \$10,000



D-300 Mid. School & deLacey Center Carpentersville – New Garden Program

- New garden project to be managed by Carpentersville Middle School, D-300 Food Pantry, and deLacey Family Education Center Staff
- Harvested produce will be provided to the D-300 Food Pantry
- Cost proposal: \$20,000



Project Details

Equitable Local Food Access Proposals

McCleery Elementary School Aurora – Garden Update & Expansion

- Enhanced garden to provide produce for school students and Aurora families
- Garden to be maintained by the student Garden Club
- Cost proposal: \$1,500



Mercy Housing Batavia – Garden Update & Expansion

- Enhanced garden to supply produce for the Mercy Housing Food Pantry (located on-site), used by affordable housing residents
- Program partners to include 4-H Youth Development and Eagle Scouts
- Cost proposal: \$10,000



Project Details

Equitable Local Food Access Proposals

Idea Garden

St. Charles & Elgin – Garden Update & Expansion

- Enhanced garden will supply food to the Well Child Center Food Pantry & Centro de Información Food Pantry (Elgin)
- Hoop house & storage shed among proposed upgrades
- Cost proposal: \$8,932



One Hope United

Aurora – Garden Update & Expansion

- Updated garden will provide food for One Hope United students (early learning center)
- Program to be managed by One Hope United staff and students
- Cost proposal: \$1,500



Project Details

Equitable Local Food Access Proposals

Marie Wilkinson Food Pantry Aurora – Food Distribution Infrastructure

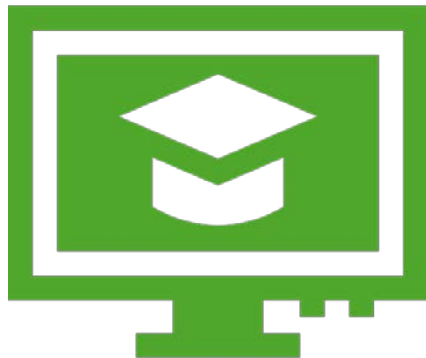
- Addition of cold storage space (16' x 11' custom walk-in cooler) to meet increased need for food security services
- Will reduce food waste from existing garden
- Cost proposal: \$28,000



Cost Summary

Master Urban Farmer Training Program
(MUFTP)

\$219,253



Equitable Local Food Access Projects
- NEW

\$79,932

(Includes 7 proposed projects)



Next Steps

Submit request to USDA to amend the program budget to account for new activities

Amend internal scope of service and payment schedule with U of I Extension



Note: The proposed additional program activities may be carried out under the authority granted by the County Board in the approved agreement with University of Illinois Extension (RES #: 24-048)