

# FY2024 Buncombe County Strategic Partnership Grant Report

<b>Organization Name:</b>	Bountiful Cities	
<b>Project Name:</b>	Community Garden Network and Edible Park Support	
<b>Reporting Quarter:</b> (Check one)		Quarter 1 (July 1, 2023 - September 30, 2023)
		Quarter 2 (October 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023)
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Quarter 3 (January 1, 2024 - March 31, 2024)
		Quarter 4 (April 1, 2024 - June 30, 2024)

## Narrative summary of grant related activities

Please provide a brief summary (no more than 1500 characters). You may attach supplemental documents if needed.

<b>Quarter 1</b>	<p>In the first quarter we assisted in planning and facilitating 4 community work days at George Washington Carver Edible Park and 1 community workday at West Asheville Edible Park; Worked with new neighborhood leaders to plan workday, update site maps, remove invasive vines, harvest fruit, engage neighbors, and promote to neighborhood groups.</p> <p>We also held 3 workshops; Cooking in the Garden with Arturo Carillo at Elder and Sage on July 15(10 participants), Home and Container gardening with Chaka Gordon at Deaverview Community Center on August 19(13 participants), and Edible Plant walk with Mark Williams at Tempe Avery Edible Park on September 15(17 participants). The participants at the Deaverview workshop have had a lot of success growing late summer crops in their new gardens and are looking forward to having fresh greens this winter.</p> <p>We were able to distribute \$425 to each of the 9 Community gardens who participated in the 2023 Urban Garden Tour (Lucy S Herring, Hall Fletcher, Peace Gardens &amp; Market, 12 Baskets, Elder and Sage, West Asheville park, Soutside Community Farm, George Washington Carver Edible Park/East End Valley St. Community Garden, and Pearson Garden). The gardens can use those funds to improve the production of their gardens.</p>
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<p><b>Quarter 2</b></p>	<p>A noteworthy development during this quarter was the addition of a new Community Garden Network Co-Coordinator to our team. This strategic hiring aimed to enhance our outreach and support for community gardens in Buncombe County. During the onboarding process, we prioritized building relationships with local garden managers. Visits to several school and community gardens allowed our team to connect with garden managers and understand the unique needs of each community. These visits were instrumental in laying the groundwork for collaborative efforts.</p> <p>We actively participated in the planning and facilitation of community work days at George Washington Carver Edible Park and West Asheville Edible Park. These events served as platforms for removing invasive vines, planning initiatives for 2024, engaging neighbors, and improving communication within neighborhood groups. The success of these workdays was a testament to the dedication and collaboration of community leaders.</p> <p>Two workshops were organized during the quarter to provide valuable knowledge and skills to our community. The first workshop focused on "Greenhouse and Hoop House Growing" with expert Declan King at the Peace Garden &amp; Markets on October 4. The second workshop, held at the Grove Street Community Center on November 4, centered around "Mushroom Log Inoculation" with Chris Parker. These workshops were complemented by a meet-up and potluck, fostering community connections and shared learning experiences.</p>
<p><b>Quarter 3</b></p>	<p>During the third quarter we hosted 4 workshops focused on Kudzu removal and uses, Fruit Tree Pruning with Mark Williams, seed starting and spring planting, and restoring the American Chestnut in this region followed by a film screening hosted by the American Chestnut Foundation Asheville Chapter . Winter weather in January forced us to reschedule the Kudzu workshop, in partnership with Kudzu Culture, from Jan for Feb 10 which was the same date as the fruit tree pruning workshop. All of the workshops were well attended and participants enjoyed the hands on portions of the events. We hosted one meetup/potluck with area gardeners where we discussed ideas for upcoming workshops and ways to get involved and connect with other growers.</p> <p>We assisted in planning of 2 workdays at West Asheville park, one in the edible forest and the other in the garden. We helped to connect the folks working in the food forest with the group managing the raised beds and discussed possibility of the group applying for COA neighborhood matching grants. 3 workdays were held at George Washington Carver Edible Park with the regular volunteers but we had a lot of new involvement due to the fruit tree pruning workshop. Discussions continue with community members, volunteers and staff at the Stephens Lee Recreation Center to expand the use of the gardens and edible park to the programming happening at the center.</p> <p>We met with the administration at Johnston Elementary about their pollinator beds and how to best support the continued growth of this new school garden as both a community resource and an educational tool.</p> <p>We continue to increase engagement with students from Warren Wilson College to profice opportunities for volunteers, service projects and education. We hosted students at our school and community gardens during their "spring break trip" They helped establish beds, weeded, mulched, painted signs, and sowed seeds at 4 different gardens (Pearson, Southside, George Washington Carver, and Lucy S. Herring)</p>

Quarter 4	
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## Progress toward annual goals

Measure	Annual Goal	Actual Results (Enter Data)				Progress
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
# of Garden Managers or key stakeholders who are actively engaged with the CGN	25	13	4	4		21
# of gardens receiving grants, obtaining resources, and developing partnerships with	9	9	0	1		10
# of workshops, meetups, events the CGN hosts or co-hosts, and number of attendees at each	15	3	3	4		10

### Comments:

Q3:  
 -4 workshops, 79 participants; 2 workshops were held on February 10 due to a weather cancellation in January(Kudzu workshop 11 participants and Tree Pruning 35 participants), March 9(14 participants), March 19(19 participants).  
 -1 meet up/potluck at the Grove Street Community Center, 11 participants  
 -4 additional Edible Parks and Gardens engaged with CGN: Shiloh Community Garden, preschool gardens at the Head Start on Gaston St., UNC Asheville campus gardens, Salvation Army Asheville - intereseted in development of gardens  
 -1 new comunity group working to develop a community garden in the Town of Woodfin, we assisted in writing a grant and assessing the planning process for the development of the graden.

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## Use of funds to date and any budget considerations

Spending Category	Starting	Total Spending (Enter Data)				Amount
		Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4	
Personnel	\$ 16,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000		\$ 4,000
Total	\$ 16,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ 4,000

**Comments:**