

COMMUNITY  
GARDEN  
EMPOWERMENT  
PROGRAM



Inspire. Educate. Empower.

# What is Sunflower Turning?

Sunflower Turning is a North Carolina-based nonprofit organization that teaches underserved communities how to grow their own food through community garden programs and in-home solutions.

We collaborate with communities to plan and construct gardens to meet their unique needs.





# Mission

Fight Food Insecurity in  
Disadvantaged Areas



## Food Insecurity

is defined as a lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life.

## North Carolina

ranks higher in food insecurity than the national average and places in the 10th spot.

## Communities

Black and Hispanic households experience higher food insecurity than the national average.

# Our Program

is customized, based on your community's unique needs

## Scoping

### Step One

Exploring your specific needs for creating, maintaining, and harvesting a communal vegetable garden.

### Step Two

Identifying your possible contributions. What can your group provide for the garden?

### Step Three

Sunflower Turning to evaluate where we can fill the gaps between what is needed and what you can contribute.



# Building Your Community Garden



# Your Custom Vegetable Garden

Upon completing the project scope, Sunflower Turning will collaborate with you to plan and coordinate garden construction, which may include:



GARDEN DESIGN



VOLUNTEER  
COORDINATION



REVIEW AND  
ADVISE ON YOUR  
MAINTENANCE  
PLAN



GARDENING  
EDUCATION  
SESSIONS

# Key Pieces



To best serve the community, we cannot move forward without first finalizing the following key items.

## Defining Roles and Responsibilities

We must have a clear understanding of what your team needs to do and what the Sunflower Turning team contribution will be. This is a collaborative effort.

# Key Pieces



To best serve the community, we cannot move forward without first finalizing the following key items.

## Detailed Maintenance, Harvesting and Food Distribution Plan

Who is going to water the plants or will you install an irrigation system? Who is going to tend to the garden regularly? Who gets the food and how?





# After Garden Construction

Sunflower Turning will continue to be a resource for your community.



# Surveys



We ask that you complete a brief check-in survey online to let us know how things are going and see how else we may be able to help.

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- One Month Survey
  - Three Month Survey
  - Six Month Survey
  - One Year Survey  
Annual survey thereafter with pre-growing season check-ins

# Sunflower Turning does not...



## Perform General Landscaping

We only focus on food-producing community gardens, and in-home solutions for your group.

## Manage Your Gardening Program


Our primary tool to fight food insecurity is **Community Empowerment**. We are here to help the community help themselves.

## Maintain Your Garden

We can advise and help you plan your maintenance and harvesting, but we are not equipped to be your gardeners.

## Forget About Your Garden

We are always here to help, but we are also **100% volunteer-based**, so there may be limitations to what is possible for us to do for you. Collaboration is key!





# Community Garden

## Empowerment Program Summary

# Community Garden Empowerment Program phases:

## SCOPING AND PLANNING

What is needed and  
who does what?



## CONSTRUCTION AND EDUCATION

Preparing grounds,  
building and  
planting, hands-on  
educational sessions.



## CONTINUED SUPPORT

Complete our brief  
surveys to receive  
support as needed.





Contact  
Us

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