



Community Garden

Empowerment Program Overview

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 Vegetable Garden 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 Three

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

Step Two

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



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



Critical Program Components

To best serve the community,
we cannot move forward with
creating the garden without
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.



The background of the slide is a close-up photograph of a garden. On the left side, several green cucumbers are visible, some with water droplets on their skin. On the right side, a hand is holding a silver garden tool, possibly a trowel or a small shovel, which is partially buried in the soil. The overall scene is bright and focused on the fresh produce and gardening activity.

Detailed Maintenance, Harvesting and Food Distribution Plan

Who is going to water the plants or will you be 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.

One
Month
Survey

Three
Month
Survey

Six
Month
Survey

One
Year
Survey

Annual survey thereafter,
and pre-growing season
check-ins

Sunflower Turning does not...

Maintain Your Garden

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

Manage Your Gardening Program

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

Perform General Landscaping

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

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!





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Empowerment Program Summary

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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.



YOUR COMMUNITY PARTNER
FIGHTING FOR FOOD JUSTICE



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