



GREEN CINCINNATI PLAN
Seeds of Change
Grant Program

Update for Climate, Environment & Infrastructure March 25, 2025



Year in Review

The Office of Environment and Sustainability facilitated three community grant rounds:

- ➔ GCP Seeds of Change Open Call 2024
- ➔ GCP Seeds of Change Youth Climate Action
- ➔ Urban Agriculture FY 2025



As a result of three rounds of funding OES was able to award partners a total of

\$273,991

68 Projects

Were chosen for funding ranging from \$500 to \$20,000 impacting all 8 focus areas of the Green Cincinnati Plan at the neighborhood level. Projects were selected by diverse review committees and made possible with funds from the City, Greater Cincinnati Foundation, and Bloomberg Philanthropies.



Planting the Seed

2024 marked the inaugural year of the GCP Seeds of Change Grant Program. The Program provides funding for community-initiated projects that align with the Green Cincinnati Plan's priorities. The grant program aims to support sustainable, equitable, and resilient efforts that relieve burdens and increase benefits for those most affected by climate change in Cincinnati.



OPEN CALL 2024



YOUTH CLIMATE ACTION



YOUTH CLIMATE ACTION FUND

Supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies





Mt. Washington CDC



Brick Garden's Campus Composting





Pleasant Street North Shade Structure



Horses on the Hill Solar Installation





UC Students for Burnet Woods



GCP Seeds of Change Showcase





Impact Across Cincinnati

68 projects were awarded a total of **\$273,991** with funds from the City, the Greater Cincinnati Foundation, and Bloomberg's Youth Climate Action Fund.

The funds activated **530** residents to lead projects in **37** Cincinnati neighborhoods in just the last six months of 2024 reaching more than **5,815** fellow residents.**

74% of funds landed in neighborhoods with documented environmental justice issues.

47 additional organizations were engaged as partners in support of grantees.**

All **8** of the Green Cincinnati Plan Focus Areas were activated by grants.

***7 of 26 projects are still in process, so these metrics will grow again after extensions end June 2025 and final reports are submitted.*





2024 Grantees

GCP Seeds of Change Open Call 2024

- B the Keeper Powerful Pollinators \$20,000
- Beekman Community Market Increase Food Production Capacity in the Beekman Corridor \$2,440
- Black Power Initiative* Creating an Agricultural Production Site in the West End for CCPA/Cincy Rec Kids \$8,802
- Brick Gardens* Brick Gardens Campus Composting – Phase One \$20,000
- Camp Washington Urban Revitalization Corporation Camp Washington LED Initiative \$20,000
- Cincinnati Northside Community Urban Redevelopment Corporation (NEST) Preserving Affordable + Diverse Homeownership: Energy Efficient Expansion \$20,000
- Cincinnati Permaculture Institute Growing Food Producers \$7,500
- East End Area Council* Canopy Plan for CRC's Schmidt Fields, Park, and Boat Ramp \$2,500
- Isaiah 55, Inc. Feed the Block \$10,500
- Mt. Airy Community Urban Redevelopment Enterprise (CURE) Mt. Airy Community Garden High Tunnel \$8,958
- Mt. Washington Community Council Green Mt. Washington – Activating and Educating Our Residents Where They Are \$2,920
- Mt. Washington Community Development Corporation Improving Access to Green Transportation, Increasing Safety, and Promoting Zero Waste \$15,613
- Mt. Auburn Garden Initiative Corporation Pocket Prairie – Phase 1 \$2,418
- MyWhy Grow Where You Are Planted & the Power of Produce – Taking It To The Parks Program \$17,855
- Northside Farmers Market Northside Farmer's Market's For Everybody! \$4,013
- Pleasant Street North Community Garden Living Shade Structure \$2,000
- Roselawn Community Council School Community Garden \$8,000
- SonLight Power, Inc. Horses on the Hill Solar Installation \$15,000
- The Being Project Rees E. Price Outdoor Learning \$8,250

GCP Seeds of Change Youth Climate Action

- BLOC Ministries Farm to Table Go Native Program \$4,697
- Cincinnati Youth Climate Leadership with Green Umbrella CYCL Climate Advocates Project \$4,878
- Elisha Education Enrichment Community Initiative of Green Ambassadors \$4,720
- IKRON Corporation G.R.O.W.S. (Gainful, Reliable, and Obtainable Work Skills) Group \$2,500
- Mount Airy Cure Mount Airy Children's Garden \$4,965
- Sidestreams and Madisonville Youth Council Madisonville Composting \$5,000
- University of Cincinnati College of Engineering and Applied Science, Department of Environmental Engineering The Green Canopy Keystone Plans Blueprint Project \$5,000
- University of Cincinnati Students for Burnet Woods Burnet Woods Environmental Education \$4,740
- Xavier Office of Institutional Diversity & Inclusion, Black Student Union, NPHC Unity Garden \$3,500

Urban Agriculture FY 2025

- Bellarmine Chapel \$1,000
- BLOC Ministries \$998.77
- Bond Hill Community Council \$900
- Cincinnati Permaculture Institute \$500
- Cincinnati Urban Promise \$1,000
- Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden \$1,000
- Community Matters Cincinnati \$745.82
- Green Umbrella \$991.20
- Kennedy Heights Community Council \$916.86
- Mealz That Heal \$642
- Spring Grove Village Community Garden \$1,000
- Spring in Our Steps \$100
- The Deep Hidden Meaning Community Development Corporation of North Fairmount \$1,000
- University of Cincinnati \$1,000
- University of Cincinnati Horticulture Club \$500
- Walnut Hills Area Council \$769.73
- Westwood Grows \$986.83
- Bellarmine Chapel \$1,000
- Brick Gardens \$1,000
- Church of the Advent \$300
- Cincinnati Christian Adult Ministries Center \$1,000
- Clifton Recreation Center \$1,000
- College Hill Gardeners \$1,000
- CUF Neighborhood Association \$1,000
- Druffel Gardens \$1,000
- Ealiox Unlimited LLC- dba Rose Hill Farm \$1,697.56
- East End Community Garden- Turner Farm, Inc. \$979.40
- East End Area Council - Gateway Gardens \$975
- Engaged Bees, LLC \$1,000
- Groundwork Ohio River Valley \$1,000
- Happen, Inc. \$603.87
- Mt. Airy Community Urban Revitalization Enterprise (CURE) \$1,000
- Mt. Auburn Garden Initiative Collaboration (MAGIC) \$999.65
- Ocotillo Herbals LLC \$1,000
- OTR Community Council- Pleasant Street North Community Garden \$500
- Price Hill Community Garden- Turner Farm \$999.15
- Price Hill Market Garden \$463
- Price Hill Will \$971.98
- Saylor Park Village Council \$1,000
- The Flower Lady LLC \$1,000
- Walnut Hills Redevelopment Foundation \$1,000
- Winton Terrace Community Garden- Turner Farm Fiscal Agent \$681.08
- Working In Neighborhoods \$1,000

Momentum Builds

GCP Seeds of Change in the News

City and GCF Award \$196,769 to Grassroots Partners to Activate the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan -Greater Cincinnati Foundation

Cincinnati funds 19 community climate projects, growing “Seeds of Change” -WVXU

Grant program supports community-driven projects to combat climate crisis -Spectrum News

Cincinnati offering small grants as 'Seeds of Change' for community climate projects -WVXU

These climate action projects were led by local youth this year -WVXU

City Invites Grant Applications to Activate the 2023 Green Cincinnati Plan for a Second Year -City of Cincinnati





Applications for 2025 Grants Open Now



OES Staff held an Info Session at the Walnut Hills Branch Library to launch the Open Call Spring 2025 Grants and answer community questions. **Applications due April 30th, 2025.**



Youth Climate Action Grant applications are currently being reviewed by an all-youth evaluation committee.

ON OUR WAY TO PROVIDING

**\$1
Million**

IN COMMUNITY CLIMATE GRANTS

