

Program #10094 - ARP Office of Sustainability Food Access Focus

7/6/202

Department: Nondepartmental Program Contact: John Wasiutynski

Program Offer Type: Innovative/New Program Program Offer Stage: As Adopted

Related Programs:

Program Characteristics: One-Time-Only Request

Executive Summary

Community Reaps Our Produce and Shares (CROPS) is a Multnomah County initiative that began in 2009 and was established to address hunger, a growing public health concern, and its links to obesity and chronic diseases. The CROPS Farm, now under the management of Mudbone Grown, will become a hub for community access to fresh culturally appropriate food, and for culturally specific training of new farmers with a particular focus on Black and African immigrant farmers.

Program Summary

In CY 2021 the County officially awarded a 5-year license for the use of the CROPS site to MudBone Grown, a local Black owned farming business specialising in growing organically grown food, and providing farm training to people who are Black, African, Indigenous and veterans. MudBone will operate the CROPS site as an incubator farm for beginning farmers and as a community training site.

In order to fulfill our goals of increasing access to culturally appropriate organically grown food and offering access to economic development opportunities for historically marginalized and discriminated against groups, particularly in relation to farm-land access, the site must be improved with farm infrastructure. The funds will support the creation of farm buildings, irrigation, greenhouse(s), access to electricity, and other related capital expenses that will allow new farmers to have access to a turn-key farm operation. This aspect of the project will be important because new farmers, particularly Black farmers, often lack access to land, and farm equipment and other infrastructure when beginning their business and building a market for their agricultural products.

The project will also integrate with the Multnomah County Health Department REACH program, helping to promote healthy, fresh, locally grown, and culturally appropriate fruits and vegetables through "prescription CSA shares" and institutional procurement.

Performance Measures								
Measure Type	Primary Measure	FY20 Actual	FY21 Budgeted	FY21 Estimate	FY22 Offer			
Output	Number of farmers using CROPS	N/A	N/A	N/A	4			
Outcome	Increase percentage of Black farmers in Multnomah County	N/A	N/A	N/A	1%			
Output	Volunteer hours	N/A	N/A	N/A	1,000			

Performance Measures Descriptions

According to the USDA only 1.4% of all farmers in the US identify as Black. This small percentage is the result of hundreds of years of discriminatory practices by governments, especially the Federal Government. This project is a deliberate attempt to increase farm training, economic development and access to farmland for Black and African farmers, while also increasing access to fresh, local, organically grown produce and opportunities for culturally specific community engagement in a farm setting for people who are food insecure.

Revenue/Expense Detail

	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds	Adopted General Fund	Adopted Other Funds
Program Expenses	2021	2021	2022	2022
Contractual Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200,000
Total GF/non-GF	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200,000
Program Total:	\$0		\$200,000	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Program Revenues								
Intergovernmental	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200,000				
Total Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$200,000				

Explanation of Revenues

American Rescue Plan (ARP) Direct County Funding - \$200,000

Significant Program Changes

Last Year this program was:

This program offer falls under the County's Crisis Response & Community Recovery ARP Priority Area. The program supports community recovery by promoting economic opportunity through access to farmland for beginning farmers and training opportunities, particularly in greenhouse propagation, for Black and African Immigrant farmers. The program will also address the ongoing issue of food insecurity through partnerships with the Health Department REACH program to increase prescription-CSA and institutional food purchases of local, culturally appropriate, organically grown produce.