

MEET THE 2019 COOKFRESH® COMMUNITY URBAN GARDEN GRANT RECIPIENTS:

***Imperial Towers Community Garden** located in Chicago is a community garden set in a concrete urban setting. Residents look to foster personal connections and add beautification to their property through individual and cooperative growing spaces with the purpose of bringing fresh produce, herbs, flowers and learning opportunities to its gardeners as well as peaceful observation to all residences. Grant funds will be used to purchase seedlings, tools, plantings, and supplies for the garden.

***Urban Autism Solutions-Growing Solutions Farm** located in Chicago's Near West Side neighborhood, is an urban ag and vocational learning site that is specifically designed for young adults who have Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). It is a 1.2-acre farm with over 100 raised beds, fruit trees, cooling and hoop house with classroom space. Grant funds will be used to purchase seedlings and mulch for the garden's beds.

***Roots Community Garden** located in Palatine. The garden is a collaboration among many community businesses, churches, agencies, schools and volunteers providing food for the underserved in Palatine while providing educational opportunities and hands-on activities for all volunteers. Grant funds will be used to purchase seeds, plantings, flowers and gardening supplies to be used in the garden.

Smart Farm of Barrington is a not for profit, volunteer run educational farm with an annual garden that provides produce to neighbors in need while educating the community about the benefit of local food, sustainability, and a healthy lifestyle. Grant funds will be used to purchase seed, soil and mulch for the garden.

Sankofa Community Garden located in Chicago's Wrightwood neighborhood is a new community garden created to provide space for community members to learn gardening practices and grow healthy food for themselves and their families – supporting education, nutrition, exercise, fresh food availability and more in their neighborhood. Grant funds will be used to purchase plants, seeds, tools and materials to support plant life.

***Sauk Village Community Garden** located in Sauk Village. This community garden will join families to learn about gardening, healthy eating and cooking, planting to harvesting fresh vegetables, herbs and fruits while learning horticulture techniques. The garden looks to add more beds to extend their vegetable production. Grant funds will be used to purchase fresh soil, tomato cages, mulch and garden tools.

Cookfresh® is an assistance program designed for Community Gardens in Cook County to beautify their “places and palates.” The Cookfresh Community Urban Garden Grant program offered six \$300.00 grants to support urban agriculturists seeking assistance with a community garden. The community gardens will receive \$300 in the form of Cook County Farm Bureau “Cookfresh Funds”.