

FOOD JUSTICE FRAMEWORK

FOR THE

URBAN FARM COLLECTIVE

Portland State University
Urban Agriculture & Food Systems Capstone
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PROJECT SUMMARY

“Community food security is a condition in which all community residents obtain a safe, culturally acceptable, nutritionally adequate diet through a sustainable food system that maximizes community self-reliance and social justice.”

- Mike Hamm and Anne Bellows

Over the course of the Spring 2014 Capstone course, Portland State University students worked with the Urban Farm Collective (UFC) to develop a Food Justice framework. This framework will help the UFC address issues of access and equity, and help the organization engage with a more diverse network of community members. In this document we first present an overview of Food Justice and some best practices gathered from urban agriculture organizations around the country. We then present a blueprint for developing a Food Justice framework that includes three steps: participating in an anti-oppression/anti-racism training; identifying potential community partners; and tailoring outreach to foster reciprocal relationships with these partners.

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PART I: INTRODUCTION TO FOOD JUSTICE

WHAT IS FOOD JUSTICE?

“The Food Justice movement envisions a food systems that is inclusive, community-led and participatory, without the exploitation of people, land, or the environment. It identifies and acts to remove the significant structural inequities that exist within our food and economic systems. Food Justice activists seek to establish healthy, resilient communities with equitable access to nourishing and culturally appropriate food.”

- Portland/Multnomah Food Policy Council

“Food Justice is the right of communities everywhere to produce, distribute, access, and eat good food regardless of race, class, gender, ethnicity, citizenship, ability, religion, or community. Good food is healthful, local, sustainable, culturally appropriate, humane, and produced for the sustenance of people and the planet.”

- Seattle’s Community Alliance For Global Justice

Food Justice is both a community-based movement and a set of actions. Urban Agriculture (UA) organizations who have adopted Food Justice frameworks recognize that healthy, fresh, and affordable food should be available to all people. The creation of food systems should be inclusive, participatory, and reflect desirable needs including diversity of the particular community which the organization is situated. They also recognize that oppression and racism exist in our society. Oppressive practices both within and outside of the UA organizations are antithetical to the goals of Food Justice. Some UA organizations have taken anti-oppression/anti-racist trainings to heighten their awareness, and gain tools to combat oppression within their organizations and their communities.

Gentrification is one example of a Food Justice issue for the UFC to consider. Several UA organizations have become increasingly aware of the potential for urban agriculture to increase gentrification; negatively impacting low income communities and communities of color. Many of the North and Northeast Portland neighborhoods in which the UFC operates have experienced gentrification in the last 10-15 years. While it is doubtful that the UFC has greatly exacerbated this trend, gentrification continues and the actions of the UFC can have an impact; however seemingly small, on the direction of this trend. Taking a stand on gentrification both in practice and practicing is one way for the UFC to demonstrate solidarity with diverse communities of North and Northeast Portland. Because gentrification can lead to the exclusion of low-income residents from their neighborhoods, adopting a clear anti-gentrification stance could be a crucial step in the UFC’s development and adoption of a Food Justice framework. This will help assure the UFC is not contributing to gentrification in the communities in which they reside through its activities and benefits.

Additionally, there are many ways that UA organizations have tailored their work to build solidarity and enhance Food Justice in their particular communities. Several examples of this work, as well as resources for further study are outlined in the rest of this report.

BEST PRACTICES: INSPIRATION FROM OTHER URBAN AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATIONS

Many organizations in the United States serve as models for “best practices”. They have created very effective initiatives related to Food Justice and we recommend looking into them further for concrete, how-to inspirations. Websites for each organization are listed in the “Resources” section (see page 10). We found the following major commonalities between them:

- 1.** Monthly or Annual Harvesting / Sharing Events. Events focused on gathering participants and community members together to harvest and share meals using the food grown. Organizations that do this include Detroit Food Justice Task Force, Adelante Mujeres, and Earthworks Urban Farm.
- 2.** CSA-style Food Shares. A food box with a diverse array of produce grown in the gardens, available for pick-up at various venues throughout the week. Organizations that do this include Just Food, Phat Beets, People’s Grocery, and Village Gardens.
- 3.** Nutrition / Recipes. Some urban agriculture organizations contribute to cooking and nutrition education through their partnerships with community organizations, especially in regard to identifying culturally appropriate crops and recipes. At some point, perhaps the UFC may be in a position to do so as well. Organizations that do this include People’s Grocery and Just Food.
- 4.** Local School Involvement. Many urban agriculture organizations partner with local schools for the purpose of mutually beneficial gardening education, youth programs, and general community outreach. Organizations that do this include Real Food Farm, HUG (Hilltop Urban Gardens), Urban Tilth, and Growing Gardens.
- 5.** Youth Leadership Education programs. Programs that focus on helping youth gain leadership skills through the lens of urban agriculture. Organizations that do this include: Grow Dat, Growing Power, Urban Tilth, Real Food Farm, Earthworks Urban Farm, Phat Beets, Farm Fresh Choice, Village Gardens, and The Food Project.
- 6.** Entrepreneurial Education and Support. Programs that teach participants the skills to grow and sell their own produce, while gaining general business skills. These programs stress the long-term purpose of increasing food security in the community by facilitating food production and accessibility from the inside. Organizations that do this include Phat Beets, Adelante Mujeres, and Growing Power.
- 7.** Community Leadership Participation and Training. Education similar to entrepreneurial education, but instead focusing on empowering people to become powerful community organizers and leaders in a social context. Organizations that do this through a Food Justice framework include: Grow Dat, Adelante Mujeres, Urban Tilth, Real Food Farm, and Growing Power.
- 8.** Food Justice Education / Public Policy Work. Refers to any work done that educates local people on issues related to Food Justice, as well as work done to influence local public policy in order to make healthy food more accessible to the people who need it most. Organizations that do this include: Earthworks Urban Farm, Urban Tilth, Just Food, Growing Power, Hilltop Urban Gardens (HUG), and People’s Grocery.
- 9.** Anti-Oppression / Allyship Programs. Programs that show how to become aware of institutional or unconscious racism, teach skills on how to change behaviors, and approaches to stop the cycle. Programs that do this in a Food Justice context include Phat Beets and People’s Grocery.

HIGHLIGHTED ORGANIZATIONS



PEOPLE'S GROCERY:

Based in Oakland, their mission is to promote a food justice movement through “forward-thinking” community-driven organizations, shape national dialogue, promoting grassroots leadership, implement replicable local programming, and advocate with a racial justice lens. People’s Grocery has a website that provides links to literature on anti-oppression and allyship.

PHAT BEETS:

Their mission is to create a healthier, more equitable food system in North Oakland through providing affordable access to fresh produce, facilitate youth leadership in health and nutrition education, and connect small farmers to urban communities via the creation of farm stands, farmers’ markets, and urban youth market gardens. They speak out against gentrification, and promote community cohesion through their allyship program.



EARTHWORKS URBAN FARM:



Earthworks does all types of community outreach in Detroit, a couple examples being monthly potlucks and involving kids. However, their focus is on reaching the un-converted, those who may not yet know how their food choices could promote accessibility of high quality produce in their neighborhood. They go door to door to directly invite neighbors to become involved in gardening and/or Earthworks programming. They hold neighborhood open house events which are welcoming occasions where people are introduced to the pleasures and benefits of gardening.

THE FOOD PROJECT:

Their mission is to grow a thoughtful and productive community of youth and adults from diverse backgrounds who work together to build a sustainable food system in Boston. Most importantly, they strive to inspire and support others to create change in their own communities. They focus on identifying and transforming a new generation of leaders by placing teens in increasingly responsible roles with deeply meaningful work.



The Food Project

VILLAGE GARDENS:



Located right here in Portland, their mission is to grow healthy food, learn and teach skills, and facilitate community leadership. They run an entrepreneurial program where youth grow and sell food at farmer’s markets and earn school credit for their work. They train participants to become community health workers. They also run after-school and summer programs for kids to learn about growing and cooking vegetables. These programs are taught by skilled community staff who live in the neighborhood.

PART II: BLUEPRINT FOR A FOOD JUSTICE FRAMEWORK

STEP 1:
DEVELOP AN ANTI-OPPRESSION / FOOD JUSTICE FRAMEWORK

Encourage all volunteers to participate in anti-oppression training

Core volunteers participate in studying resources on anti-oppression and existing UA organizations to create an open dialogue among UFC and community members

Ongoing dialogue/discussion groups to best integrate a Food Justice framework into UFC mission, core principles, and policies

STEP 2:
IDENTIFY POTENTIAL COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Determine which organizations best benefit the developed Food Justice framework and how the UFC can benefit the organization

Contact organizations and establish relationship with contact person

STEP 3:
USE OUTREACH MATERIALS EFFECTIVELY

Identify the outreachers and the outreached

Establish relationship with commonalities and reciprocity

Implement appropriate materials

Honor agreements and maintain trust and longevity

DETAILED OVERVIEW OF BLUEPRINT STEPS

“Oppression” refers to a social dynamic in which certain ways of being in this world--including certain ways of identifying or being identified--are normalized or privileged while other ways are disadvantaged or marginalized. Forms of oppression include racism, classism, sexism, heterosexism, anti-Semitism, ableism, colonialism, and other “isms.”

- The Center For Anti-Oppressive Education

“If you have come to help me, you are wasting your time. But if you have come because your liberation is bound up in mine, then let us work together.”

- Lila Watson

STEP 1: DEVELOP AN ANTI-OPPRESSION / FOOD JUSTICE FRAMEWORK

An anti-oppression / anti-racist framework recognizes that oppression and racism exist in our society. Oppressive practices must be brought to awareness and consciously changed in order to address inequality and create justice. Anti-oppression / anti-racist training is typically a set of discussions, experiential exercises, and resources, usually conducted by one or more facilitators and designed to enhance awareness of oppressive practices both within and outside of an organization, while building skills and tools to end oppression.

Anti-racism / anti-oppression training differs from diversity training in that the latter does not typically recognize the role of oppression, power, and privilege within and between social groups.

An anti-oppression framework recognizes that certain social groups enjoy more societal privileges than others. For example, having white skin automatically confers certain privileges on individuals and groups that people of color typically do not enjoy, or enjoy to a lesser degree. Peggy McIntosh’s article, “White Privilege: Unpacking the invisible knapsack,” gives several examples of what constitutes white privilege and is included in our recommended readings. There are several other social groups that enjoy certain privileges which other groups do not: males, those who are able-bodied, those who identify as heterosexual, to name a few. The point of recognizing the role of privilege in furthering oppression is not to guilt trip or finger-point, but to recognize one’s privilege, learn how privilege fuels oppression, and vice versa, then figure out how to use that privilege to act against social injustice and racism. The concept of allyship in anti-oppression work asks those in privileged social groups to determine how they can act in solidarity with members of oppressed social groups, while working to interrupt oppressive speech and behavior wherever they see it.

We believe that anti-oppression training is a crucial first step for the UFC in developing a Food Justice working group. The tools that the UFC volunteers gain through this training will be helpful in strengthening the UFC from within, while laying the groundwork for engaging the surrounding community and building alliances with community social justice organizations. Eventually, the UFC could consider holding discussion groups on anti-oppression, privilege, and allyship within the food system. UFC volunteers can be invited to help develop other programs and actions to address these issues within the community and Portland’s food system.

(steps continued on the next page...)

STEP 2: IDENTIFY POTENTIAL COMMUNITY PARTNERS

After developing an anti-oppression / Food Justice framework, the UFC food justice working group can use this learned knowledge to choose potential community partners from the provided list (see page 12). The food justice working group should ask questions like: Which community partners could best benefit the UFC's mission, core principles, and policies? How can these selected community partners benefit from the UFC? What programs already exist within these community organizations that the UFC can contribute to and benefit from? Using knowledge on anti-oppression, anti-racism, and Food Justice, determine how to approach these organizations in an open and friendly manner. Contact chosen organizations and establish relationship with contact person, provided on the Potential Community Partners list.

Developing partnerships and allies within the communities located around existing UFC gardens will help the UFC become more integrated within immediate neighborhoods. This has the potential to boost participants from the local communities and further support the UFC's mission. Partnering with community organizations will also allow the UFC to become involved with community programs working towards similar Food Justice, anti-oppression, and anti-racism goals, to further develop relationships grounded in reciprocity.

"Food security is more about analyzing problems, ameliorating issues and providing answers...Food Justice...involves local people from seed to sale. It educates, organizes and mobilizes new social relations around food. It touches hands, hearts and pockets."

- Ian Marvy, Co-Director of Added Value in Brooklyn, NY

STEP 3: USE OUTREACH MATERIALS EFFECTIVELY

We developed several outreach methodologies that include ways the UFC can connect and engage with potential partners that have been identified within the community. There is an emphasis on how to introduce the UFC within a Food Justice framework when outreaching to both organizations and individuals. We have created two separate documents, one titled Neighborhood Conversation Template for connecting with individuals in the community (see page 17), and one titled Potential Partner Conversation Template for connecting with organizations in the community (see pages 18 & 19). These new outreach avenues specifically strive to understand the needs, the interests, and the commonalities between the UFC, their neighbors, and potential partner organizations in order to find mutual benefits, while simultaneously presenting the UFC as an approachable, critically reflexive agrarian organization with goals towards increasing food access and social justice. The following sections outline the recommended process of outreach with these materials and how to synthesize and analyze the feedback for the most beneficial utilization of these new outreach materials.

3A: IDENTIFY THE OUTREACHERS AND THE OUTREACHED

The Food Justice working group will likely be the primary "outreachers", but these materials could also be used by your garden managers, volunteers, and those who show interest in engaging more with the community for the purpose of Food Justice.

For outreach to individuals, possibly make use of a nice day when people are likely going to be out and about. Use the neighborhood conversation template to walk around the area and talk with people. The goal is to find people, strike up a conversation with them, and record your findings.

For outreach to potential partners, use the community asset map (see page 11) to identify best points of contact. First and foremost, the conversation template is designed to frame the partnership in such a way that stresses how the UFC can aid and contribute to the goals and mission of the potential partner. What are the goals and priorities of the organization you are approaching? How might the UFC benefit this organization? We are trying to get answers to these questions from the organization themselves, but having a general feel for what the organization does in the community before outreaching shows both respect and authenticity.

3B: ESTABLISH RELATIONSHIP WITH COMMONALITIES AND RECIPROCITY

When making the initial connections with potential partners and individuals, the importance of identifying common goals and promoting reciprocity most directly adhere to successful partnership dynamics, while also advocating for Food Justice. We recommend explicitly stating the goal of social justice as an underlying factor in the UFC's urban agricultural approach. Using the conversation templates will help to frame the UFC within these social justice goals and help define the intentions.

3C: IMPLEMENTING THE OUTREACH MATERIALS

- The Neighborhood Conversation Template: (see page 17)

Members of your Food Justice working group who show an interest in doing outreach and hearing from the community will use this material to talk with neighbors and individuals who live in the area. Here is how...

Before going out into the community study the tone, the language, and the way the UFC is framed in general. Then - using your own personal touch - simply have a conversation with individual or families in a casual way, while including the questions listed. The goal is to hear from the community and to better understand what the community is interested in, and their desires / suggestions. This is where being a good listener is crucial to the success of this goal. Overall, maintain a respect for the person; considering their time, while also being aware of your body language and other subtle factors that play a role in connection.

After the conversation, write any interesting or valuable comments or topics that came out of your conversation - any comments regarding their needs, knowledge, interests and so on. Maybe they mentioned obstacles or critiques: write those down. Maybe they mentioned more general feelings about gardening, food, and urban agriculture: write those down. Anything that the Food Justice working group outreach team believes might help the UFC better serve the community and realize their goals should be recorded, so that the group can go over the data later. This stage will be a reflection of the compilation of all this data. The goals are to find patterns, commonalities, key challenges, or general trends that can better inform food justice related decisions made by the UFC as a group.

- Potential Partner Conversation Template: (see pages 18 & 19)

Members of your Food Justice working group will use this material to contact and engage with potential community organizational partners. Here is how...

Before meeting with potential partners, read over the intro and questions to familiarize yourself with how the UFC is framed and what kind of language is used. Also read over the questions listed to get an idea for how to approach this partnership and what kind of information will be needed prior to the interaction. Ideally, you are not reading directly word for word from the paper, but instead using the template as a guide for your conversation. The guide should help you introduce the UFC and prompt questions that might better inform us whether this partnership could be mutually beneficial. Never probe for information at the expense of making or maintaining a genuine connection. Trust your instincts and be flexible. Maybe you have filled out the questions as you went, or maybe you fill them out later... either way, stay tuned into the conversation, maintain body language awareness, and most importantly listen.

After the meeting, take time to write down any applicable information that came out of your conversation. This might include needs that are expressed by the potential partner organization, general level of interest expressed towards gardening and the UFC, and any other feedback or information you think may be useful in forming connectivity. Maybe they had questions that you weren't able to answer: write that down. Please include all information regarding if, how, and when to follow up with them. Afterwards, the UFC Food Justice working group can go over this data and become better informed in how to proceed with building partnerships.

- Synthesizing the feedback and maintaining the relationship:

While the analysis and synthesization of the outreach feedback will largely depend on the nature of the conversation and those involved in the conversation, we recommend trying to find themes, patterns, and topics that especially stood out as important and/or telling of perceptions in the community. Highlighting and critically considering these topics and especially noting topics brought up of mutual interest with the potential for a shared benefit if acted upon through a project or initiative. It is going to be critical to highlight and find patterns related to any negative perceptions of the UFC, gardening, or related topics, in order to get an honest and well rounded representation of community perceptions and feelings.

When and if new partnerships are spurred, we encourage that the UFC follow through with all promised actionable items, as that will show a commitment to the community and the UFC's dedication as a valuable partner. When establishing relationships, we recommend connecting with longevity in mind because working towards Food Justice is largely process-driven, so it is vital that the UFC honors partnership agreements to maintain partnership trust and longevity far into the future.



PART III: RESOURCES

SOME URBAN AGRICULTURE / FOOD JUSTICE ORGANIZATIONS

ORGANIZATION:

Adelante Mujeres
Detroit Food Justice Task Force
Earthworks Urban Farm
Farm Fresh Choice
The Food Project
Grow Dat
Growing Gardens
Growing Power
Hilltop Urban Gardens (HUG)
Just Food
People's Grocery
Phat Beets
Real Food Farm
Urban Tilth
Village Gardens

LOCATION:

Forest Grove, OR
Detroit, MI
Detroit, MI
Berkeley, CA
Lincoln, MA
New Orleans, LA
Portland, OR
Milwaukee, WI
Tacoma, WA
New York, NY
Oakland, CA
Oakland, CA
Baltimore, MD
Richmond, CA
Portland, OR

WEBSITE:

www.adelantemujeres.org
www.detroitfoodjustice.org
www.cskdetroit.org/EWG/
www.ecologycenter.org/ffc/
www.thefoodproject.org
www.growdatyouthfarm.org
www.growing-gardens.org
www.growingpower.org
www.hilltopurbangardens.com
www.justfood.org
www.peoplesgrocery.org
www.phatbeetsproduce.org
www.realfoodfarm.org
www.urbantilth.org
www.villagegardens.org

ANTI-OPPRESSION / ANTI-RACISM RESOURCES

1. AORTA handout: How the values of oppressive systems tend to arise in co-ops.
<http://tinyurl.com/AORTAhandout>
2. Bleeding Albina
<http://tinyurl.com/BleedingAlbina>
3. Difference, Power, and Community Food, by Rachel Slocum, 2005: Reveals the intricacies of race, oppression, and Food Justice while asking some important questions about the movement towards community food.
<http://tinyurl.com/DiffPowerCommFood>
4. Characteristics of an Ally
<http://tinyurl.com/CharacteristicsAlly>
5. Stages of Anti-Oppression Consciousness
<http://tinyurl.com/StagesAOConsciousness>

You can also access the Google Drive folder with all the anti-oppression/anti-racism and outreach resources through this link: <http://tinyurl.com/UFCFJresources>

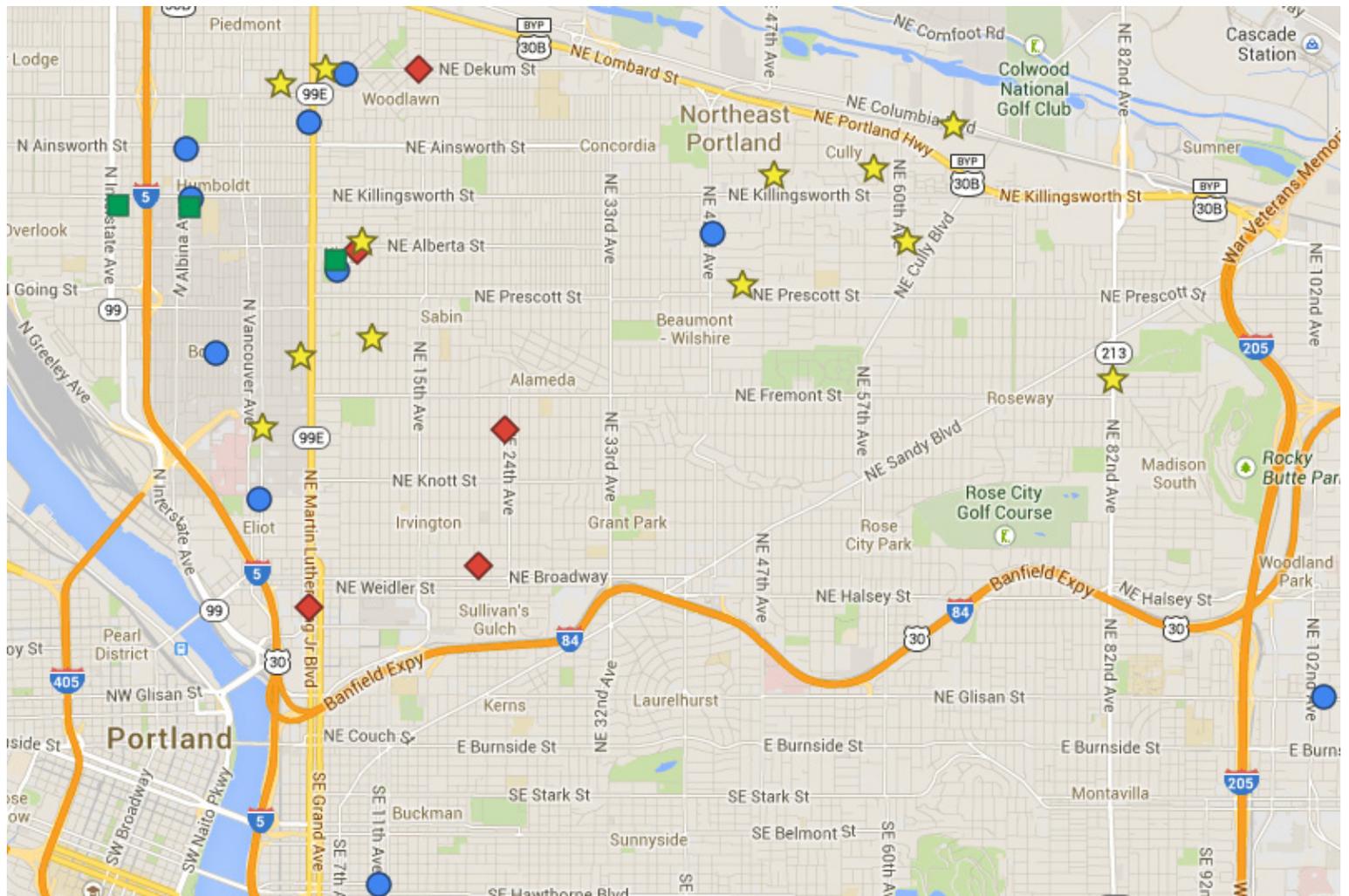
POTENTIAL COMMUNITY PARTNERS

The organizations provided are great opportunities for the UFC to expand their targeted audience and increase diversity with anti-oppression kept in mind. The list provided includes churches, schools, and other outreach programs for youth, adults, and populations at risk. The list was created with the following kept in mind: proximity to gardens, how the organization could benefit from the UFC efforts, and how the UFC could benefit from the organization. Additionally, a specific contact person is provided for each potential organizational partner with an email address and / or phone number.

The “Benefit for the UFC” and “Applicable Work” metric within the list is worthy of special attention due to the specialization that each organization could potentially provide to the UFC. Some organizations deal directly with certain age groups or ethnicities while others provide services such as mediation and trainings. Moreover, we anticipated identifying potential community partners and how to understand their respective communities to be difficult. Using outreach materials in the next section will help identify organizations that could be better understood or applicable to the UFC’s effort with the use of surveys and questionnaires to reduce the difficulty in making meaningful community partnerships.

COMMUNITY PARTNER ASSET MAP

Obtain interactive Google map through this link: <http://tinyurl.com/UFCcommunityassetmap>



- ★ UFC Gardens
- Outreach Programs
- ◆ Church Organizations
- School Organizations

CHURCH ORGANIZATIONS

HOLY ROSARY CHURCH

Location: 375 N.E. Clackamas Street
Portland, OR 97232
Phone: 503-235-3163
Contact: Pastor Vincent M. Kelber
Website: www.holyrosarypdx.org/church/

Closest UFC Garden:
1.1 miles from Fargo Food Forest

Mission Statement:

“Our mission is to teach and proclaim the word; prepare and celebrate the Sacraments; provide a venue for people to gather in Christ and to express love and friendship; and to provide a facility to support the teaching of family values, social justice and theological education.”

Benefit for the UFC:

Access to an intergenerational community.

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Location: 1820 NE 21st Avenue
Portland, OR 97212
Phone: 503-284-2331
Contact: Pastor Amanda Zentz-Alo
Email: office@centralportland.org
Website: www.centralportland.org

Closest UFC Garden:
1.7 miles from Bird House Garden

Mission Statement:

“Central is a ‘Reconciling in Christ’ congregation, welcoming all colors, nationalities, ages, sexual orientations and gender-identities.”

Benefit for the UFC:

Access to an intergenerational community that promotes racial diversity.

THE OREGON COMMUNITY

Location: 700 NE Dekum Street
Portland, OR 97211
Phone: 503-427-1985
Contact: Pastor Saari
Email: ryan@theoregoncommunity.com
Website: www.theoregoncommunity.com

Closest UFC Garden:
0.1 miles from Grand Dekum Garden

Mission Statement:

“We are a place of change, growth, friendship and community based around the life of Jesus Christ. A place where all are welcome, regardless of race, religion, sexuality, or background.”

Benefit for the UFC:

Access to an intergenerational community that promotes racial diversity. Possible venue space in the Village Ballroom.

EMMAUS CHURCH

Location: 1425 NE Dekum Street
Portland, OR 97211
Phone: 971-217-7360
Contact: Pastor Cole Brown
Website: www.emmauspdx.com

Closest UFC Garden:
0.5 miles from Grand Dekum Garden

Mission Statement:

“Transforming religious and irreligious people into Jesus people.”

Benefit for the UFC:

Possible partnership with the Student Weekend Lunch Program, which provides weekend meals for Woodlawn School students. Access to an intergenerational community. Strong ties with neighboring school.

THE MADELEINE PARISH

Location: 3123 NE 24th Avenue
Portland, OR 97212
Phone: 503-281-5777
Contact: Reverend Mike Biewend
Email: fathermike@themadeleine.edu
Website: www.themadeleine.edu

Closest UFC Garden:
1.1 miles from Bird House Garden

Mission Statement:

“Furthering the reign of God, where all are welcome.”

Benefit for the UFC:

Access to an intergenerational community and school population.

SAINT ANDREW CATHOLIC CHURCH

Location: 806 NE Alberta Avenue
Portland, OR 97211
Phone: 503-281-4429
Contact: Robbie Bello (Office Manager)
Email: ouoffice@standrewchurch.com
Website: www.standrewchurch.com

Closest UFC Garden:
210 feet from Bakari Garden

Mission Statement:

“St. Andrew is a faith community baptized into one body, which honors and celebrates diversity. We welcome and include persons of every color, language, ethnicity, origin, ability, sexual orientation, gender expression, marital status, and life situation.”

Benefit for the UFC:

Access to an intergenerational community that promotes racial diversity. Affiliated with African American Catholic Community of Oregon.

OUTREACH PROGRAMS

JUNE KEY DELTA COMMUNITY CENTER

Location: 5940 N Albina Street
Portland, OR 97217
Phone: 503-285-2061
Contact: Patricia Dickerson
Email: june-key-delta-center@comcast.net
Website: www.key-delta-living-building.com

Closest UFC Garden:
0.8 miles from Turner Garden

Mission Statement:

“A grassroots living building demonstration project achieving equity, economic empowerment and environmental stewardship in Portland, Oregon.”

Benefit for the UFC:

A community network specific to African Americans.

Applicable Work:

JKDCC demonstration garden on corner of N. Albina Street & N. Beech Street.

IMMIGRANT AND REFUGEE COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Location: 10301 Northeast Glisan Street
Portland, OR 97220
Phone: 503-234-1541
Contact: Valerie S. Palmer
Website: www.irco.org

Closest UFC Garden:
2.7 miles from Beech Street Garden

Mission Statement:

“IRCO’s mission is to promote the integration of refugees, immigrants, and the community at large into a self-sufficient, healthy, and inclusive multiethnic society.”

Benefit for the UFC:

Mainstreaming immigrant and refugee population with the UFC and NE community as well as health and community development. Specifically African American, Asian, youth, and senior citizens.

AFRICAN WOMEN’S COALITION

Location: 1125 SE Madison, Suite 210
Portland, OR 97214
Phone: 503-972-4930
Contact: Oluyinka Akinjiola
Email: oakinjiola@awcportland.org
Website: www.awcportland.org

Closest UFC Garden:
2.9 miles from Fargo Food Forest

Mission Statement:

“To mobilize, advocate and empower African Women living in Oregon and Southwest Washington by providing a culturally supportive and nurturing environment that builds the capacity of the community to help itself and allows other members of the community to reach their highest potential through support, guidance and educational opportunities.”

Benefit for the UFC:

Access to an organization empowering African women in nearby communities.

PORTLAND AFRICAN AMERICAN LEADERSHIP FORUM (PAALF)

Location: 3920 North Kerby Avenue
Portland, OR 97227
Phone: 503-249-1721 ext. 230
Contact: Cyreena Boston Ashby
Email: cyreena@aalfnw.org
Website: www.aalfnw.org

Closest UFC Garden:
0.9 miles from Ned Ludd

Mission Statement:

“PAALF is a convener of African American leaders around a public policy agenda that impacts the community in the areas of housing & economic development, education, health, and civic engagement/leadership.”

Benefit for the UFC:

Access to an intergenerational and diverse community.

CENTER FOR INTERCULTURAL ORGANIZING

Location: 700 N Killingsworth Street
Portland, OR 97217
Phone: 503-287-4117
Contact: Kayse Jama
Email: kayse@interculturalorganizing.org
Website: www.interculturalorganizing.org

Closest UFC Garden:
1 mile from Turner Garden

Mission Statement:
“The Center for Intercultural Organizing is a diverse, grassroots organization working to build a multi-racial, multicultural movement for immigrant and refugee rights.”

Benefit for the UFC:
This would be a great partnership to work with people in equity and equality, and build strong relationships in intercultural leadership.

HACIENDA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Location: 5136 NE 42nd Avenue
Portland, OR 97218
Phone: 503-595-2111
Contact: Victor Merced
Email: vmerced@haciendacdc.org
Website: www.haciendacdc.org

Closest UFC Garden:
0.4 miles from Going Rogue Garden

Mission Statement:
“Hacienda CDC is a Latino Community Development Corporation that strengthens families by providing affordable housing, homeownership support, economic advancement and educational opportunities.”

Benefit for the UFC:
Access to a lower-income Latino community that may be in need of food security.

PORTLAND URBAN LEAGUE

Location: 10 N. Russell Street
Portland, OR 97227
Phone: 503-280-2600
Contact: Zeenia Junkeer
Email: zjunkeer@ulpdx.org
Website: www.ulpdx.org

Closest UFC Garden:
0.4 miles from Fargo Food Forest

Mission Statement:
“Our mission is to empower African Americans and other Oregonians to achieve equality in education, employment, and economic security.”

Benefit for the UFC:
Access to current and previous gardeners in Urban Harvest Program.

Applicable Work:
Urban Harvest Program

PORTLAND COMMUNITY REINVESTMENT INITIATIVES (PCRI)

Location: 6329 NE MLK Jr. Blvd
Portland, OR 97211
Phone: 503-288-2923
Contact: Karen Gibson
Email: gibsonk@pdx.edu
Website: www.pcrihome.org

Closest UFC Garden:
0.3 miles from Turner Garden

Mission Statement:
“Preserve, expand and manage affordable housing in the City of Portland and provide access to, and advocacy for, services for our residents.”

Benefit for the UFC:
Access to people in need of food security.

UNITING TO UNDERSTAND RACISM

Mailing P.O. Box 1089
Address: Portland, OR 97207-1089
Phone: 503-369-5077
Contact: Kristie Duyckinck
Email: kduyckinck@comcast.net
Website: www.understandracism.org

Closest UFC Garden:
This organization does not have a specific office location

Mission Statement:
“...works throughout the year with local businesses, schools, government, nonprofits, and community members to sponsor a six-week dialogue program within their organizations.”

Benefit for the UFC:
Could provide anti racism training materials for UFC.

Applicable Work:
Dialogue and anti-racism services provided to various city organizations.



BOYS & GIRLS CLUB

Location: 7119 SE Milwaukie Avenue
Portland, OR 97202
Phone: 503-232-0077
Email: admin@bgcportland.org
Website: www.bgcportland.org

Closest UFC Garden:
5.6 miles from Fargo Food Forest

Mission Statement:

“Our mission is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens.”

Benefit for the UFC:

To partner with an organization in favor of helping children and giving them a space to exposed to gardening, hard work, health, and fun.

NORTH PORTLAND NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES (NPNS)

Location: 2209 N Schofield Street
Portland, OR 97217
Phone: 503-823-4524
Contact Tom Griffin-Valade
Email: info@npnscommunity.org
Website: www.npnscommunity.org

Closest UFC Garden:
2.1 miles from Turner Garden and Grand Dekum Garden

Mission Statement:

“North Portland Neighborhood Services: Working with neighbors in North and Northeast Portland to engage community participation, build community assets, and foster community partnerships.”

Benefit for the UFC:

Extensive access to neighborhood leaders.

Applicable Work:

North Portland expertise and direct access to 11 North Portland neighborhoods.

NORTHEAST COALITION OF NEIGHBORHOODS

Location: 4815 NE 7th Avenue
Portland, OR 97211
Phone: 503-388-5004
Contact Katy Asher
Email: info@necoalition.org
Website: www.necoalition.org

Closest UFC Garden:
0.2 miles from Bakari Garden

Mission Statement:

“As an independent nonprofit organization affiliated with the Portland Community Engagement System, we respond to community needs and support residents’ efforts to shape the future of their neighborhoods.”

Benefit for the UFC:

Connections to 12 neighborhoods in UFC scope.

Applicable Work:

N / NE neighborhood network liason.

SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS

KING SCHOOL

Location: 4906 NE 6th
Portland, OR 97211
Phone: 503-916-6456
Contact: Eryn Berg, Principal
Email: eberg@pps.net
Website: www.pps.k12.or.us/schools/king/

Mission Statement:
“King PK-8 School is a thriving Turnaround Arts and International Baccalaureate school in the heart of Northeast Portland.”

Benefit for the UFC:
A chance to partner with a racially diverse student population.

Closest UFC Garden:
0.2 miles away from Common Bond Garden
and Bakari Garden

TRILLIUM CHARTER SCHOOL

Location: 5420 N. Interstate Avenue
Portland, OR 97217
Phone: 503-285-3833
Contact: Axcelle Bell, Garden Coordinator
Email: axcelle@trilliumcharterschool.org
Website: www.trilliumcharterschool.org/

Mission Statement:
“We reach out in our community to build economic, ethnic, cultural, and educational diversity in our student base. We leverage the rich human talent in the Portland area through service learning, job shadowing, public outreach, and active solicitation of community volunteers.”

Benefit for the UFC:
A chance to partner with a Pre-K to 12th grade student population through school curriculum and work-based learning.

Closest UFC Garden:
1.3 miles from Greeley Food Forest

PORTLAND OPPORTUNITIES INDUSTRIALIZATION CENTER (POIC)

Location: 717 North Killingsworth Court
Portland, OR 97217
Phone: 503-797-7222
Email: chodges@portlandoic.org
Website: www.portlandoic.org

Mission Statement:
“Portland OIC / Rosemary Anderson High School is committed to the future success of at-risk youth through the age of 25, providing the highest quality services in education, mentoring, family outreach, employment training and placement.”

Benefit for the UFC:
A chance to partner with a school program that helps youth at risk of homelessness and in poverty.

Closest UFC Garden:
1.3 miles from Greeley Food Forest

OUTREACH MATERIALS

The following three pages consist of the Neighborhood Conversation Template and the Potential Community Partner Conversation Template. Use the links below to access printable PDF versions of these templates.

Use the templates as a general guide, don't feel that you need to stick to them word-for-word. Feel free to use your own tone and wording in order connect more genuinely.

[PRINTABLE NEIGHBORHOOD CONVERSATION TEMPLATE](#)

[PRINTABLE POTENTIAL COMMUNITY PARTNER CONVERSATION TEMPLATE](#)

You can also access the Google Drive folder with all the anti-oppression/anti-racism and outreach resources through this link: <http://tinyurl.com/UFCFJresources>

POTENTIAL COMMUNITY PARTNER CONVERSATION TEMPLATE (PAGE 1 OF 2)

The Urban Farm Collective (UFC) is a project of the Oregon Sustainable Land Trust (OSALT) that works to bring neighbors together to transform vacant lots into neighborhood food gardens for the purposes of education, research, community building, and improving food security. When land is donated to OSALT it is held in a land trust. This enables gardens to be established and maintained by current and future generations. Volunteers are able to work in our gardens in exchange for produce that is harvested from all of our gardens and brought to our barter markets.

While the project has been very successful in many ways, the UFC is working towards building more connectivity and involvement through community partnerships. We are looking to form long-term, reciprocal partnerships with community groups and established organizations in order to continue working towards greater food security and Food Justice in our communities. Your organization seems to be a strong asset in the community. We are here to see if the UFC's strengths and resources might be of use to your organization, and if so, in what ways might we be able to collaborate in achieving some of our collective goals.

Questions:

1) Does this organization currently partner with any community gardens or Food Justice organizations in the community?

YES / NO

2) Is this organization aware of any food insecurity or food related needs among your members or participants?

YES / NO

3) Are there any current needs or projects that your organization is working on that would benefit from our projects efforts?

YES (*If so, briefly describe) / NO

4) In what ways do you think this organization could benefit from a partnership with the UFC? If so, what would this look like?

5) Would you be interested in having/hosting a UFC garden at this location or being associated with leading a new garden nearby?

YES / NO

6) Would your organization be interested in hosting a barter market at your location?

YES / NO

7) What would you assume general reception or interest to be from your members?

8) Are there any challenges that you foresee interested members experiencing in relation to participating with the UFC?

YES (*If so, briefly describe) / NO

PART IV: AS YOU GROW: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE ACTION

- 1.** Build out actual entrances to farms to encompass all who want to work at your farms.
 - Provide ramps at all farms. Maybe these can be stored in the garden sheds. Consider including at least one raised bed (ADA conforming) at each garden.
- 2.** Create a rotating/seasonal bullet pointed list of action items (bilingual), so that anyone who comes can just get right down to work.
 - Have it laminated so line items can be crossed out with a marker as they are accomplished. It could hang from a string on the garden shed door. Kinkos or other copy shops may donate laminating.
- 3.** Continue interacting with the local churches. Make it a monthly event where a representative of UFC attends at least the coffee hour after services.
 - African American/Latino churches, meeting with pastors (and secretary) on food security issues; have representatives coming to coffee hours to discuss.
 - Meet with church officials to hear what needs are, and ask if you can each share expertise.
- 4.** Provide space for community events and children.
 - Children's enthusiasm can provide the impetus for their parents to get involved. A communal playpen can be set up for babies, and 3 year olds can pull weeds and make trenches for seeds. Older kids can replant or work in the children's garden.
 - Consider constructing an area designed specifically for children (ie, miniature learning garden with worms, or nature-based play area).
 - Grade schools and Head Start classes can take field trips there.
 - Work with community partners to use one of the gardens for events, such as barbecues. Convert one of the gardens into a smaller growing plot with more community space, such as a stage, bbq pit, picnic tables, basketball hoop, slide, etc.
- 5.** Outreach to media, specifically media that serves the African American and Latino population in your community (e.g. The Skanner, El Hispanic News).
- 6.** Create a job description (even a loose one) for every level of worker. Most important for head of organization, but also for garden managers, etc.
- 7.** Create some recipe cards to give to volunteers that integrates seasonal fruits and vegetables produced at the farm. Encourage UFC members and volunteers to share some of their favorite recipes!
- 8.** Consider forging partnerships with youth-based programs and senior-based programs to foster intergenerational relationships within the context of gardening.