



**UNITED WE FIGHT.
UNITED WE WIN.**

LIVE UNITED

Community Garden Application: Information and Technical Assistance Session

January 30, 2019

United Way of Central
Iowa
www.UnitedWayDM.org



UNITED WE FIGHT.
UNITED WE WIN.

LIVE UNITED

Purpose of the Community Garden Mini-Grants

- Provide support for new and existing gardens
- Increase access to healthy food
- Provide community building/connect neighbors
- Educate Central Iowans about fruits and vegetables and how to prepare them

United Way of Central
Iowa

www.UnitedWayDM.org



United Way
of Central Iowa

UNITED WE FIGHT.
UNITED WE WIN.

LIVE UNITED

Community Garden Defined

- An area of land managed and maintained by a group of individuals to grow and harvest food crops for non-retail, personal or group use, consumption or donation. Community gardens may be divided into separate plots for cultivation by one or more individuals or may be farmed collectively by members of the group and may include common areas maintained and used by group members. For purposes of this funding, the garden cannot be used for retail or job training programs.

United Way of Central
Iowa

www.UnitedWayDM.org



United Way
of Central Iowa

UNITED WE FIGHT.
UNITED WE WIN.

LIVE UNITED

Applicant Requirements

- Must be a faith, school or community based garden located in Polk, Dallas or Warren county
- Request must be between \$500 and \$1,500. Up to \$35,000 in total will be awarded.
- Allowable expenses include equipment, irrigation supplies, water meter fees, seeds, planting, landscaping, scales, signage, or other necessary items to create, update or enhance a garden space.
- Funding may be used for a new or existing garden
- Funding will be reimbursed for purchases and/or vendors will be paid directly

United Way of Central
Iowa

www.UnitedWayDM.org



United Way
of Central Iowa

UNITED WE FIGHT.
UNITED WE WIN.

LIVE UNITED

Applicant Requirements, Continued

- Awardees will use UWCI provided invoice and provide appropriate documentation of expenses
- Awardees will be required to report food production either on a monthly or end-of-season basis by pounds or count (assistance will be available)
- Project or program must begin operation by June 30, 2019
- Applicants must use the grant application form and follow the page limit requirements.
- Limited to 3 pages total

United Way of Central
Iowa

www.UnitedWayDM.org



United Way
of Central Iowa

UNITED WE FIGHT.
UNITED WE WIN.

LIVE UNITED

#1: Detail the geographic location of the garden, the size, the community which it serves, and if it is a new or existing garden

- Tips:
- Provide information about the neighborhood and/or people served by the garden.
- Provide the dimensions of the garden and, if known, previous amounts of food produced by the garden.
- Specify if the garden is located in a high poverty or food desert neighborhood, or if produce is donated.
- Remember that reviewers may not be familiar with the location or type of garden, so provide helpful descriptions, such as whether it has individual plots or one large garden with volunteer help; the type of neighborhood, nearby institutions, etc.

United Way of Central
Iowa

www.UnitedWayDM.org



United Way
of Central Iowa

UNITED WE FIGHT.
UNITED WE WIN.

LIVE UNITED

#2: Describe the organizations and individuals involved in the planning, funding and maintenance of the garden. Include a description of how volunteers are recruited and how food is distributed.

- List your partners that help fund, plan or maintain the garden (neighbors, nearby school, local businesses, etc.)
- Describe who communicates with volunteers and how (e.g., an email list from the team lead that tells folks what needs to be done when, and then a lead gardener who directs people at the garden)
- When food is ready to be harvested, who makes sure it is picked and where does it go? (e.g., scheduled picking days, volunteers take food, and the rest is donated to a local food pantry)

United Way of Central
Iowa

www.UnitedWayDM.org



United Way
of Central Iowa

UNITED WE FIGHT.
UNITED WE WIN.

LIVE UNITED

#3: Detail any educational activities related to the garden. How do people learn about the food being grown and how to prepare and eat it?

- Provide any specific education activities that take place at the garden. Examples may include:
- Partner with the school or before/after school program to incorporate into the curriculum
- Invite a dietician out to do a monthly information session
- Invite garden volunteers to community cooking classes
- A community harvest party where neighbors share recipes with each other
- Etc.

United Way of Central
Iowa

www.UnitedWayDM.org



United Way
of Central Iowa

UNITED WE FIGHT.
UNITED WE WIN.

LIVE UNITED

#4: Describe, specifically, what the funding will be used for and the planned timeline for the project.

- Describe what you intend to purchase with the United Way grant and provide some narrative description about why those are important to the garden.
- Example

“We intend to purchase seeds, fencing, and shed building materials for the garden. Currently, volunteers haul equipment back-and-forth from their homes and we need a structure that locks to hold the equipment. Although we will get some building materials and fencing materials donated from Home Depot, we need an additional \$500 to complete the purchase”.

United Way of Central
Iowa

www.UnitedWayDM.org



United Way
of Central Iowa

UNITED WE FIGHT.
UNITED WE WIN.

LIVE UNITED

#4, continued

- Provide a brief timeline outlining how you intend to successfully implement your plan.
- Example:

Garden Activity	Date of Completion	Person(s) Responsible
Initial garden team meeting to plan	April 1, 2018	Erin
Gather volunteers to prep the soil and recruit volunteers for planting	May 1, 2018	Erin
Build the shed and install fencing	May 15, 2018	Erin and Team

United Way of Central
Iowa

www.UnitedWayDM.org



United Way
of Central Iowa

UNITED WE FIGHT.
UNITED WE WIN.

LIVE UNITED

#5: Describe the intended outcomes of the garden project and what benefits the garden will bring to the community it serves.

- Specify who will benefit from the garden and what you hope to accomplish. Answers are dependent on your specific garden and community.

United Way of Central
Iowa

www.UnitedWayDM.org



United Way
of Central Iowa

UNITED WE FIGHT.
UNITED WE WIN.

LIVE UNITED

#6: Budget Template

- List specific items in the comments section
- If you anticipate other funding or in-kind donations, please list them. Reviewers appreciate seeing partnerships.

United Way of Central
Iowa

www.UnitedWayDM.org



United Way
of Central Iowa

**UNITED WE FIGHT.
UNITED WE WIN.**

LIVE UNITED

Send complete application to:

Jennifer Klinkhammer

Jennifer.Klinkhammer@unitedwaydm.org

or

1111 9th Street, Suite 100
Des Moines, IA 50314

**United Way of Central
Iowa**

www.UnitedWayDM.org



**United Way
of Central Iowa**

UNITED WE FIGHT.
UNITED WE WIN.

LIVE UNITED

Questions?

Erin Drinnin

edrinnin@unitedwaydm.org

515-246-6518

United Way of Central
Iowa

www.UnitedWayDM.org



United Way
of Central Iowa