



Village Farm at Stanley

Village Exchange Center

SHARING WITH YOU OUR 2020 SEASON



WHO WE ARE

VILLAGE FARM AT STANLEY MARKETPLACE

The Village Farm at Stanley Marketplace increases access to fresh and culturally-relevant produce while serving as a gathering space for cultural exchange, education, and celebration. The Farm transcends socio-economic, geographic, and cultural differences to connect diverse communities to each other and the natural environment while promoting food security for low-income immigrants and refugees in Northwest Aurora. VEC believes that food and farming can be vehicles for social change and are foundational to creating resilient and equitable communities.



OUR IMPACT

- Socially •
- Economically •
- Ecologically •

Socially -

- Grow culturally-relevant crops that may otherwise not be accessible for our international communities.
- Distribute our organically grown produce through a comprehensive Food Access Strategy developed in partnership with Tri-County Health Department's Food in Communities program.
- Create opportunities for cultural exchange through programs, activities and events for youth and adults.
- Foster relationships across differences through farming and food.
- Offer educational opportunities on basic farming skills, entrepreneurship, environmental STEM, and more.

Economically -

- Create job-training, entrepreneurship, and networking opportunities for our immigrant and refugee communities and offer grants to participants.
- Support local businesses through thoughtful sourcing and local distribution.
- Supplement costs of high-quality produce for our community through our Food Access Strategy, centered on distribution at our Village Pantry.

Ecologically -

- Grow an abundance of nutritious and organic food using sustainable practices.
- Act as a bridge for our community to connect to the natural world.
- Serve as a conduit between our natural environment and ourselves.
- Create habitat for pollinators and wildlife.
- Sequester carbon through low-till farming methods.
- Increase the health of the native plant population while highlighting and showcasing native plants throughout.

2020 HIGHLIGHTS



2020 IMPACT: In our first year, we...

- Developed farm design and built Phase I (sixteen fifty-foot raised beds and a pumpkin patch).
- Grew 1,650 pounds of produce, about 70 percent of which we distributed through the Village Pantry.
- Graduated four community members in our six-month pilot Urban Farm Immersion program (overall 10 participants throughout the season).
- Hosted two focus groups with representatives from the Peruvian, Guatemalan, Ethiopian, and Bhutanese communities.
- Organized and ran one week of Farm & Sports Camp with 22 middle-schoolers representing 5 different countries.
- Collaborated frequently with VEC's International Youth Club, hosting youth for a variety of activities.
- Appeared in four TV stories (two by Telemundo, one by Univision, and one by Rocky Mountain PBS).
- Strengthened relationships with state and city officials, nonprofit organizations, businesses, and community members including but not limited to: City of Aurora Mayor Mike Coffman, U.S. Congressman Jason Crow, Consulate representatives of Guatemala and Peru, Tri-County Health Department, Stanley Marketplace and Farmers' Market, Focus Points Family Resource Center, East Colfax Neighborhood Association Food Pantry, Metro Caring, Denver Botanic Gardens, A-1 Organic Soils, The Kaleidoscope Project, Annette restaurant, Delaney Community Farm, Ekar Farm, The Urban Farm, and the Mile-High Farmers branch of the Rocky Mountain Farmers Union.



2021 VISION FOR PHASE II:

LOCATE TWO MODULAR BUILDINGS FOR A FARM OFFICE, CLASSROOM AND MEETING SPACE (PHOTO ABOVE) • RENOVATE THE EXISTING SHED • PURCHASE A MULTI-PURPOSE TRAILER AND A 500-GALLON WATER TANK WITH PUMP • BRING IN ELECTRICITY FOR OPERATIONS • PLANT AN APPLE ORCHARD WITH COLORADO HEIRLOOM VARIETIES • ADD A WASH STATION TO CLEAN AND PROCESS PRODUCE • ADD A WALK-IN COOLER FOR PRODUCE STORAGE • EXPAND COMPOST SYSTEM • CONSTRUCT 12 NEW RAISED BEDS • BUILD MORE IN-GROUND BEDS FOR PUMPKIN PATCH AND CUT FLOWERS • CREATE NATURAL FENCE USING HÜGELKULTUR FOR EDUCATIONAL GARDENS • BECOME A CORNERSTONE PROGRAM FOR VEC AND THE BROADER COMMUNITY



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2021 BUDGET

Material	Cost
Lumber for raised beds	\$7,958.97
Screws for raised beds	\$1,500.00
Soil for raised beds (plus delivery)	\$3,930.50
Install one more hydrant	\$800.00
Irrigation for additional beds	\$1,200.00
Site Work for Natural Fence	\$3,895.00
Soil for Natural Fence	\$2,197.00
Wood/woodchips for Natural Fence	\$2,500.00
Plants for Natural Fence	\$8,000.00
In ground bed prep.	\$1,100.00
Soil for in ground beds	\$1,923.50
Trailer for Water Tank	\$500.00
330 gal. Water Tank	\$209.00
Hoops for season extension	\$200.00
Electricity	\$25,000.00
Shed renovation	\$10,000.00
Walk-in Cooler	\$5,000.00
Wash station	\$500.00
Soil for Orchard	\$1,748.00
Trees for Orchard	\$4,480.00
Beehives and fencing	\$2,250.00
Solar dehydrators	\$1,200.00
Farm seed/seedling cost total	\$1,000.00
Compost build-out	\$750.00
Cobb Pizza Oven	\$2,000.00
Miscellaneous/tools	\$1,500.00
Silage tarp for inoculation/weed suppression	\$300.00
2 modular offices/classrooms	\$200,000.00
Assessment/Evaluation	\$2,500.00
Signage	\$1,000.00
Administrative Costs	\$25,000.00
TOTALS:	\$320,141.97

ADDITIONAL FUNDS AVAILABLE:

Trustees - \$3,000.00
 Corporations - \$15,000.00
 Foundations- Gates Family Foundation: \$20,000 received
Pending Requests (Colorado Garden Foundation, Block Foundation, Cornell Douglas Foundation, Bellco Credit Union): \$165,000
 Individuals - \$10,000
 Government - \$65,000.00
 Other: In-Kind Donations (earned income, special events, membership, subscriptions, etc.) \$22,000

ADDITIONAL COLORADO STATE TAX CREDIT:

Our Village Farm is part of an Enterprise Zone, designated by the State of Colorado to encourage economic growth. Colorado residents who make qualifying gifts to VEC are eligible for a generous tax credit of up to 25% to use against their state income tax if giving an outright gift of cash, or 12.5% for gifts of appreciated assets, such as stocks and securities.

Please designate the Village Farm as the program of choice, to qualify for the Colorado Enterprise Zone tax credit. Enterprise Zone-eligible donations require the last 4 digits of the donor's Social Security number to issue a tax certificate.