The South Carolina Association for Community Economic Development (SCACED) has entered into agreement with the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) for furthering the production of fruits and vegetables as an important source of fresh food and nutrition to communities lacking access to locally grown produce. This agreement supports USDA’s renewed interest in community gardening.

One of the objectives is to make available four (4) grants for the establishment of community gardens in low-access, rural communities. Community Gardening Grants of $3,000.00 are available to communities (4) who, in partnership with SCACED and USDA, increase awareness of community gardening by:

- Establishing community garden in low-access, rural community
- Encouraging intergenerational experiences in agriculture and conservation
- Building new and/or strengthening existing partnerships for outreach to new markets
- Promoting the wise use of natural and human resources, thereby improving economic opportunities and general well-being of peoples in South Carolina

Eligible applicants must meet the following criteria:

- Must recruit Local Community Garden Advocates who are interested in leading a community garden effort in the area
- Recruit no less than three (3) Resource Partners who are willing to assist Community Garden Advocates with planning and development of their community garden (e.g. Grow Food Carolina, United Methodist Churches, SC Food Policy Council, Clemson’s 4-H Councils, and Master Gardeners).
- Participate in follow up activity with SCACED including conference calls, face-to-face meetings and regional convening to assist community garden advocates with the planning and sustained development of community gardens in the area.
- Incorporate sustainable practices and encourage gardening practices that nurture, maintain, and protect the environment such as capturing rainwater in rain barrels; composting and mulching; and/or encourage beneficial insects that feed on destructive pests
- Collaborate with SCACED, Local Community Garden Advocates, and Resource Partners to ensure community garden success

Submission Requirements

- Application must be complete, signed, and submitted prior to NOON June 29, 2018
- Projects must be approved by August 1, 2018 with gardens planted by Spring 2019.

Required Attachments

- Completed Budget Attachment (template provided)
- List of primary beneficiaries of fruits/vegetables produced
- List of volunteers’ qualifications to assist planting/maintaining garden

No application will be considered without requested documentation

Submission Information

- Application deadline is Noon, Friday June 29, 2018
- Please mail to SCACED Attn: Rebecca Martin PO Box 20577, Charleston, SC 29413 or email: rebecca@scaced.org with subject line: USDA COMMUNITY GARDEN GRANT APPLICATION
- Awards will be announced on or before August 1, 2018
SUMMARY SHEET
FOR THE
SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION FOR
COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
USDA/NRCS COMMUNITY GARDEN PROJECT

Date:

Name of Organization:

Address:

Telephone:
Fax:
Email:
Contact Name:
Tax ID number or that of the fiscal agent and their contact information:

Project Name:

Project Description:

Indicate Sustainable Practices Utilized in Garden Activity:

Indicate Primary Beneficiaries of Community Garden:

Applicant Signature_______________________________________ Date_________________

__________________________ agrees to provide garden produce free of charge for one-year
(Community/Organization)
SCACED/USDA Community Garden Grant Application

1. Organizational Background 1 page maximum
   Please summarize the purpose of the organization to include: history, mission, current programs, current community impact of existing programs, achievements, number of paid staff and critical partners.

2. Who Will Benefit 1 page maximum
   Describe the population you plan to serve and how they will benefit from the community garden; describe the need for fresh produce

3. Describe Strategy 1 page maximum
   Describe the strategies you will employ for project implementation including staffing and partners (if applicable) for the project and how this project contributes to the advancement of community gardening