



Q1. When you have thoroughly read the ISU Extension and Outreach [Master Gardener Growing Together Mini Grant Guidelines](#), please proceed with completing this application. Only one submission per ISU Extension and Outreach county office will be accepted. This project is funded by USDA's SNAP-Education program.

Q2. Contact Information

Name of county/counties involved:	<input type="text" value="Buckwheat County"/>
ISU Extension & Outreach primary contact person: First and last name:	<input type="text" value="Jan Flan"/>
ISU Extension & Outreach primary contact person: E-mail address	<input type="text" value="jflan@email.com"/>
Active Master Gardener: First and last name:	<input type="text" value="Tina Tink"/>
Active Master Gardener: E-mail address:	<input type="text" value="ttink@email.com"/>
Food recipient agency staff (for example, food bank staff) : First and last name:	<input type="text" value="Orlando Boulder"/>
Food recipient agency staff (for example, food bank staff): E-mail address:	<input type="text" value="freshfoodfirst@email.com"/>

Q3. I agree to submit a project report by September 21, 2018.

Agree Disagree

Q4. 1. Describe how this project will increase healthy food access for lowans with low income. (maximum 800 characters)

This project is intended to increase the productivity of the Fresh Food First donation garden by adopting new growing practices, such as using row-covers for an extended growing season. We will also increase the amount of perennial fruits and vegetables to ensure long-term, sustainable productivity. The produce is all donated to the FFF free meal program and food pantry, which benefits low-income citizens of Buckwheat County. During this project, we will host and attend events to connect local growers and gardeners with the food pantry, and provide resources and education on increasing donation practices. We will also host gleaning events in the fall at local farms and gardens. These community events will be an opportunity for questions, and to form long-lasting partnerships.

Q5. 2. What are the goals of this project? (Maximum of 5 goals; maximum of 500 characters)

1. Install and use row-covers in the donation garden to extend the growing season and increase amount of available produce each year.
2. Improve long-term yields by planting perennial fruits and vegetables.
3. Track pounds of produce donated and keep records.
4. Host educational events to connect with growers and community members; provide education on how, what, and where to donate produce to the local food pantries.
5. Host gleaning events in the fall at local farms and gardens.

Q6. 3. What activities will be utilized for the Grow strategy? (maximum 800 characters)

- Purchase and install row-covers in the donation garden to extend the season and increase yields.
- Purchase and install 4 varieties of compatible fruit trees (apples and pears).
- Plant perennial vegetables to increase yields over time without dramatically increasing labor.
- Install an outdoor hand-washing station to improve food safety in the garden.
- Train volunteers on best food safety practices and enforce the policy.
- Host gleanng volunteer events in the fall to reduce waste and increase donated produce.

Q7. 4. What activities will be utilized for the Connect strategy? (maximum 800 characters)

- Attend grower events and conferences in the area and present on how, what, and where to donate produce to food pantries.
- Host events at the Fresh Food First Pantry to educate local growers on food pantry donations, and connect with community members.
- Host gleanng events in the fall at area gardens to save produce, and involve more community members in increasing food security.
- Distribute educational supplies at events that can be shared with other community members.

Q8. 5. What evaluation will be utilized for the Grow strategy? Please include how pounds donated will be tracked. (maximum 500 characters)

- All useable produce grown will be weighed and recorded upon arrival. A scale and clipboard will be kept by the delivery door.
- All volunteers will get training and sign a form committing to following food safety practices. Keep record of training and stay up-to-date on practices.

Q9. 6. What evaluation will be utilized for the Connect strategy? (maximum 500 characters)

- We will keep a record of the attendance of each of our educational events.
- We will hand out a short survey at each event for the participants to fill out. We will ask for feedback on what they found helpful, and what we can improve.
- We will discuss the feedback with the team and make appropriate changes to better cater to their needs at subsequent events.
- We will keep track of all new and sustained community, and grower partnerships.

Q15. 7. Food safety best practices must be followed in all funded projects. Please describe how [food safety best practices](#) will be promoted and maintained. (maximum 500 characters)

- Post yard signs at the entrance and in middle of garden detailing food safety best practices
- Install fence around perimeter of garden to discourage animals from entering, as well as post a sign at the entrance stating no pets allowed
- Install outdoor hand washing station near garden
- Discard of damaged produce promptly
- Purchase harvest bins that can be easily sanitized; sanitize all produce
- Train all volunteers, and require documentation of agreement to adhere to food safety practices

Q16. I agree to post a yard sign showing food safety best practices (provided by Iowa State University) at all mini grant funded gardens.

Agree Disagree



Q10. 8. Please list your project collaborators (i.e. partner organizations).

•Our primary collaboration will be with the Fresh Food First free meal program and food pantry and donation garden volunteer staff.
•Community Garden Association
•The Volunteer Center of Buckwheat County
•The primary training and organization of this project will be led by the Buckwheat County Master Gardeners
•New partnerships with local gardeners, and community members that are interested in increasing food security.

Q11. 9. Describe the project collaborators' roles. Also describe the collaborators' history (if this is an existing coalition). Diverse coalitions are encouraged and will be favored in application scoring. (maximum 800 characters)

•The FFF free meal program and food pantry have been serving the community for the past 10 years. The donation garden has been in production for the past 6 years
•The Volunteer center of Buckwheat County is an organization that has a diverse pool of volunteers year-around. They help staff major events like planting days and educational events
•The Community Garden Association has been facilitating community partnerships to increase food security for low-income individuals for the past 25 years. They have been working with our Master Gardener group for the past 3
•The Volunteer Center of Buckwheat County has been organizing volunteer groups for the last 15 years
•Our Master Gardeners have collaborated with several small local farms the past 7 years

Q17. 10. Has your county received Growing Together mini grant funding in the past two years? (recurring grants are encouraged)

Yes No

Q12. 11. How much money are you requesting for the project? (Grants up to \$5,000 are available with expectation that all funds granted will be spent)

3,500

Q13. 12. Please provide a budget narrative. Make sure all costs are allowable per Mini Grant Guidelines. Each budget must include food safety best practice supplies. (maximum 800 characters)

Plant Materials (fruit trees, asparagus, and annual vegetable and flower seeds) – \$350.00
Seed-starting supplies-\$200.00
Small garden tools-\$200.00
Fertilizer-\$150.00
Row-cover materials (reusable) - \$500.00
Fencing to surround the donation garden for food safety best practices-\$500.00
Harvest bins and sanitation supplies- \$350.00
Produce Scale- \$150.00
Outdoor hand washing station- \$450.00
Grower Event Materials-\$200.00
Food Safety Best Practices signs and training, and record-keeping materials-\$200.00
Training and supplies for project partners-\$250.00

Q14. 13. List additional sources of funding for the project (if applicable).

In-kind donations from:
Farm Store donated seed packets
Boy Scouts donated fruit trees

Location Data

Location: ([42.035995483398](#), [-93.465202331543](#))

Source: GeolP Estimation

