

Q1.

Thank you for your interest in applying for a 2022 Growing Together Iowa Mini Grant to increase access to fresh produce for lowans with low-income in your community! When you have thoroughly read the ISU Extension and Outreach [Growing Together Iowa 2022 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. This application is due December 20, 2021 by 5 pm.

Q2. Contact Information

Name of county/counties involved:	<input type="text" value="Strawberry County"/>
ISU Extension & Outreach primary contact person: First and last name:	<input type="text" value="Katie Sorrell"/>
ISU Extension & Outreach primary contact person: E-mail address	<input type="text" value="ksorrell@iastate.edu"/>
Primary Master Gardener: First and last name:	<input type="text" value="Tina Tink"/>
Primary 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"/>

Q20. Additional food recipient agency sites (if planning to donate to more than one organization/site):

Food recipient agency staff (for example, food bank staff) : First and last name:	<input type="text"/>
Food recipient agency staff (for example, food bank staff): E-mail address:	<input type="text"/>
Food recipient agency staff (for example, food bank staff) : First and last name:	<input type="text"/>
Food recipient agency staff (for example, food bank staff): E-mail address:	<input type="text"/>

Q29. Growing Together Iowa Details

Number of years receiving Growing Together Iowa funding previously	<input type="text"/>
Address of garden(s)	<input type="text"/>

Q28. I agree to submit the reimbursement form by September 21, 2022.

Agree Disagree

Q3. I agree to submit a project report by October 14, 2022.

Agree Disagree

Q26. I agree to complete all required reporting for 2022, plus brief reporting for two additional years.

Agree Disagree

Q5. 1. What are the goals of this project? (Maximum of 5 goals; maximum of 800 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 garden tours to connect lowans with low-income with the garden. 5) Host gleanng events in the fall at local farms and gardens. Provide education on how, what, and where to donate produce to the local food pantries.

Q32. 2. What activity(ies) will be utilized for the Donate strategy?

- Create a donation garden.
- Convert an existing garden space to a donation garden.
- Maintain or expand an existing donation garden.
- Collect and donate excess produce at a farmer's market for donation to a food pantry.
- Coordinate gleanng excess produce from local produce farms or gardens.

Q8. 3. What evaluation will be utilized for the Donate 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 a sign a form committing to following food safety practices. Keep record of training and stay up-to-date on practices. We will keep a record of the attendance of each of our educational events and hand out a short survey at each event for the participants to fill out. We will ask for feedback on events.

Q22. 4. What direct education opportunities for the Engage strategy do you plan to implement this year (must choose a minimum of one):

- Display provided garden signage with nutrition education messages.
- Install provided outdoor brochure box to distribute recipes and produce preparation information.
- Plan, promote and carry out a garden tour for pantry clients.
- Institute helping hours in the garden and promote the opportunity at recipient pantries.
- Create garden space where pantry clients may grow produce of their own.
- Provide nutrition education or container gardening education at the garden or food pantry.

Q7. 5. Please provide details about the Engage strategy option(s) you chose. (maximum 500 characters)

We will plan, promote, and conduct a garden tour for FFF food pantry and free meal program clients including: 1) Feature each fruit or vegetable grown and provide information on cleaning, storage and use of each item.; 2) Demonstrate container gardening and encourage tour participants to try gardening at home; 3) Distribute tomato plants for individuals to grown at home. We will post the nutrition education sign at the garden entrance.

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

We will track the number of lowans with low-income who participate as well as number and type of resources distributed. We will also conduct a brief survey with participants to gauge their learning and comfort with donation gardening.

Q15. 7. Food safety best practices must be followed in all funded projects. Please describe how [safe growing and produce handling/storage best practices](#) will be promoted and maintained. In your response please confirm that you already have access to or will be purchasing the following for your garden sites: handwashing station, washable containers for harvesting, and barriers to keep out animals. (maximum 500 characters)

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

Q16. I agree to post a provided yard sign showing safe food growing and handling best practices at all mini-grant funded gardens.

Agree Disagree



Q31. 8. Do you have a sustainable water source for the garden(s)?

Yes (please explain)

We have two hoses that run from the shed to the garden.

No (please explain)

Q10. 9. Please list your project collaborators (partner organizations), their role in supporting the project, and the collaborators' history (if this is an existing coalition). Diverse coalitions are encouraged and will be favored in application scoring. (maximum 1000 characters)

1) FFF Free Meal Program and pantry: have been serving the community for the past 10 years. The donation garden has been in production for the past 6 years. 2) Volunteer Center of Strawberry County: an organization that has a diverse pool of volunteers year-round. They help staff major events like planting days and education events. 3) 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 volunteers for the past 3 years. 4) Master Gardeners: have collaborated with several small local farms for the past 8 years.

Q18. Our project team included our proposed donation site(s) in our project planning and received feedback on types of produce to grow, hours of drop-off, capacity for refrigeration, etc.

Agree Disagree

Q19. Our project team agrees to share a package of nutrition education materials to each partner pantry or donation distribution site. These nutrition education materials will be provided by ISU at the start of the growing season if awarded a mini-grant.

Agree Disagree

Q12. 10. How much money are you requesting for the project? (Grants up to \$4,000 are available for applicants who have received funding 0 to 1 times previously and up to \$2200 for applicants who have received funding two or more years through the project. It is expected that all funds awarded will be spent. Please enter just the number, a dollar sign is not needed.

2000

Q13. 11. Please provide a budget narrative with amounts attached to anticipated specific expenses (i.e \$50 for 3 garden spade shovels). Please divide expenses into the two categories below. Individual costs listed below should add up to the above total requested amount. Make sure all costs are necessary and allowable per Growing Together guidelines. (Maximum 1000 characters)

DONATE: Seeds = \$100 Trees (4 x apple trees) = \$350 Small garden tools = \$200 Fertilizer = \$150 Row-covers (reusable) = \$500 Harvest bins and sanitation supplies = \$200 Produce scale (x2) = \$150 TOTAL = \$1650 ENGAGE: Tomato plants and containers (starting supplies): \$250 Printing of materials for garden tours with food pantry clients: \$100 TOTAL = \$350

Q25. Are at least 75% of costs in support of the Donate strategy?

Yes No

Q14. 12. List additional sources of funding for the project (if applicable).

Farm store will donate \$50 of seed packets. The Strawberry City Council will gift the garden project 2 additional fruit trees.

Q33. This final question is to connect similar gardens with each other! Which of the following are part of your community donation garden(s)?

- Trellis gardening
- Raised garden beds
- Community garden plots
- Gleaning efforts
- 4-H involvement
- Garden tours
- Container gardening education
- Helping hours for pantry clients