

**CITY OF CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA  
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA**



Agenda Date:	November 21, 2022
Action Required:	Report
Presenter:	Cultivate Charlottesville
Staff Contacts:	Misty Graves, Director of Human Services
Title:	<b>Food Equity Initiative Annual Report FY 22 (written report)</b>

**Background**

The Charlottesville Food Equity Initiative (FEI) brings together public, private, and non-profit partners working in unique and complementary ways to build a healthy and just community food system for all Charlottesville residents. The Initiative is cultivating community driven processes, resident leadership, and city partnerships to improve access to and quality of nutritious and affordable foods, addressing food equity barriers.

City Council passed the Food Equity Initiative for the first time in 2018 beginning a course of systemic efforts to reshape community health, wealth, and belonging through our food system. The Food Equity Initiative work is designed to support implementation of citywide strategies outlined in the initial FY19 proposal. These strategies align with goals established in the MAPP2Health Community Action Plan, the Local Food, Local Places Action Plan, and the specific City Departments food equity action plans. Additional focus areas include continuation and adaptation of emergency food responses due to COVID-19 and rising food insecurity, update of the Food Equity Initiative Policy Platform that summarizes the recommendations emerging from city department and community engagement conversations over the past three years, and the results of efforts to integrate community food equity priorities into the City Comprehensive Plan update.

The attached report encompasses the activities, accomplishments, and progress made during year three of the Food Equity Initiative, FY22 October 2021 - September 2022.

**Discussion**

According to Feeding America, food insecurity remains a prevalent issue in our city (12.4% for Charlottesville; 7.7% for Virginia). However, views of a healthy and just food system are in sight. During the third year, October 2021 – September 2022, the Food Equity Initiative as directed by the Cultivate Charlottesville Food Justice Network provides the attached information that includes a report on objectives and goals established at the inception.

Advancing systemic change requires close partnerships with city departments, community members and Food Justice Network partner organizations. With intention and sustainability, the Food Equity Initiative will continue to walk out City Council's Vision for this community.

### **Alignment with City Council's Vision and Strategic Plan**

The Food Equity Initiative supports City Council's "Community of Mutual Respect" vision. It contributes to Goal 2 of the Strategic Plan: a healthy and safe city and Goal 1: an inclusive community of self-sufficient residents specifically objective 1.5 intentionally address issues of race and equity.

### **Community Engagement**

Overall, the City Council's Food Equity Initiative has leveraged community engagement, collaboration, and collective problem solving to respond to COVID-19 and to advance food equity initiatives defined as community priorities. Highlights of their engagement strategy include presentations on food equity, press articles, social media posts, and newsletters. Additionally, community engagement is evident in the number of Food Justice Network members; 189. Specifically, the Food Justice Network cultivated opportunities to elevate youth voice which included a Youth Food Justice Internship program, providing student tastings and fresh food menu item selections for school lunches, and hosting an exploration of Black girls and gardening at the urban garden at the Charlottesville Albemarle Technical Education Center. Details and data regarding instances of community engagement are included in the report.

### **Budgetary Impact**

Charlottesville Food Equity Initiative is already included in the City's FY 2024 Proposed Budget. Should Council wish to continue support, this funding will be considered through the regular budget process for inclusion in the final FY 2024 Adopted Budget.

### **Recommendation**

Staff recommends resolution of support that funding will continue to be in the City Manager's proposed budget for FY 24 at \$155,000.

### **Alternatives**

N/A

### **Attachments**

1. Cultivate Food Justice Network\_Food Equity Initiative FY22 EOY Report



**DATE**            **October 30, 2022**  
**TO**                Charlottesville City Council  
**FROM**            Cultivate Charlottesville Food Justice Network  
**SUBJECT**        *Food Equity Initiative* End of FY22 Report

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Dear City Councilors,

Thank you for your partnership in implementing year three of the *Food Equity Initiative* (FEI), first passed by City Council on October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018. Enclosed is our end of year report against objectives for October 2021—September 2022. The report is organized by the objectives outlined in the *Food Equity Initiative* proposal. Additional elements include the ongoing food security response, FY22 budget to actual, FY23 objectives, and FY23 budget.

Council’s support of the city’s *Food Equity Initiative* partnership with Cultivate Food Justice Network has made a significant impact in bringing community-based solutions to food equity challenges in our community. Key FY22 *Food Equity Initiative* accomplishments include:

1. **Food Equity Initiative Policy Platform engagement** across numerous community events with over 173 individuals and 32 organizations.
2. **City staff engagement** with the *Food Equity Initiative Policy Platform* including six City departments, three City Manager & Deputy City Managers, Mayor Snook and Vice Mayor Wade, and the Charlottesville City School Board.
3. Collaboration with Community Climate Collaborative and City Climate Action plan to provide recommendations on the **intersection of climate justice and food justice**.
4. Ongoing **network-wide racial equity capacity building** with Uprooting Racism support for over 25 partner organizations as well as Cultivate’s internal practices.
5. Selection for and funding for our **Power to Grow Initiative** community engaged design effort to develop and advance urban agriculture in low-wealth neighborhoods.
6. Contribution of **subject expertise** and representation of City Council’s *Food Equity Initiative* at twenty presentations and twelve partner coalitions, amplifying the discourse on building a healthy and just food system.
7. **Ongoing grassroots programming** including growing and distributing 8,972 pounds of fresh produce to 678 residents, 20,000 healthy school snacks to 2,800 students, 6,800 schoolyard garden experiences, and other on the ground efforts.

We commend City Council for your leadership in building food equity for all of the Charlottesville community. If you have any questions, or would like us to present to council, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Handwritten signature of Jeanette Abi-Nader in blue ink.

Jeanette Abi-Nader  
Cultivate Charlottesville Co-Executive Director  
Advocacy & Systems  
[jeanette@cultivatecharlottesville.org](mailto:jeanette@cultivatecharlottesville.org)

Handwritten signature of Richard Morris in blue ink.

Richard Morris  
Cultivate Charlottesville Co-Executive Director  
Farm & Foodroots  
[richard@cultivatecharlottesville.org](mailto:richard@cultivatecharlottesville.org)

# Charlottesville Food Equity Initiative FY22 End of Year Report Against Objectives October 2021 – September 2022

## Purpose

The Charlottesville Food Equity Initiative (FEI) brings together public, private, and non-profit partners working in unique and complementary ways to build a healthy and just community food system for all Charlottesville residents. The Initiative is cultivating community driven processes, resident leadership, and city partnerships to improve access to and quality of nutritious and affordable foods, addressing food equity barriers.

The 2021-2022 Food Equity Initiative work focused on implementation support for citywide strategies outlined in the FY22 proposal including: goals established in the *Food Equity Initiative Policy Platform\_2021*, *MAPP2Health Community Action Plan*, the *Local Food, Local Places Action Plan*, and the specific City Departments food equity action plans. Additional focus areas this year include a) engaging with community members across food justice issues to heighten youth and resident decision making, b) implementation of specific goals of the *Food Equity Initiative Policy Platform*, c) integration of community priorities at the intersection of climate justice and food justice into the City Climate Action Plan, and d) transition of emergency food responses due to COVID-19 to long-term programs. The Food Justice Network also worked to onboard new staff and work with partners to establish their program and organizational racial and food equity goals.

The following information includes three sections: a report against the FEI FY22 goals, the FY22 budget to actual, and our FY23 initiatives.

Activities and Progress towards Food Equity Initiative Objectives & Outcomes October 2021 – September 2022	
<p><b>I. Compile and disseminate research</b> including an analysis of food system assessments that identifies gaps and opportunities for investment, current food access efforts, and communication strategies to engage stakeholders including community members, business owners, and elected officials.</p>	
<p><b>Food System Assessment</b>                      ✓ <b>2 key evaluations</b> conducted to assess food justice network impact over the past two years with input from 26 partner organizations</p>	<p><b>A. Food Justice Organizations with Racial Equity Plans</b> – Of 26 food justice partner organizations: 50% have a racial equity commitment, 24% are in the process of developing one or plan to in the future, 24% do not</p> <p><b>B. Food Justice Network Impact</b> -Feedback highlighted</p> <p><b>Overall Experience of FJN</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 88% (77% strongly) Cultivate has been an effective FJN facilitator and leader</li> <li>• 94% (77% strongly) Cultivate upheld the FJN values</li> <li>• 88% (42% moderately) Cultivate kept FJN focus on its goals</li> </ul> <p><b>Impact of FJN on Organization</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 94% (47% strongly) they learned new things about food justice at FJN</li> <li>• 89% (71% strongly) FJN provided more opportunities to engage in food justice</li> <li>• 93% (53% strongly) they shared a strong sense of diverse community at FJN</li> <li>• 76% (53% strongly) they engaged more with other partners at FJN</li> <li>• 76% (53% strongly) FJN helped their organization to make a greater impact</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 82% (53% strongly) FJN increased commitment to food justice across Cville</li> </ul> <p><b>Completion of FJN Goals</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 82% (41% strongly) FJN successfully utilized an equity approach to confront racism</li> <li>• 82% (41% strongly) FJN helped to transform systemic barriers to food equity</li> <li>• 65% (30% strongly) FJN cultivated stronger relationships with community facing food injustice-35% unsure</li> <li>• 71% (53% strongly) FJN strengthened inter-sector collaboration-30% unsure</li> <li>• 72% (59% strongly) FJN increased understanding of the intersection of food equity and: housing, transportation, economic development, and climate</li> <li>• 71% (29% strongly) FJN helped build power, resources, skills for food equity</li> </ul>
<p><b>Capacity Building</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>173 individuals</b> participated in food equity capacity building</li> <li>✓ <b>24 FJN partners</b> developed specific racial equity plans</li> </ul> <p><b>Communication Strategies</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>20 presentations</b> on food equity</li> <li>✓ <b>9 press</b> articles</li> <li>✓ <b>198 social media</b> posts for <b>2,980</b> followers and <b>12,900 reach</b></li> <li>✓ <b>6 FJN Blasts to 690 people &amp; 12</b> Cultivate newsletters to <b>2,732/each</b></li> <li>✓ <b>189 Food Justice Network</b> member list</li> </ul>	<p><b>C. Local, Regional and National Presentations on Food Equity</b></p> <p><b>Local</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FJN City Food Equity Initiative -8 meetings with City Departments</li> <li>• Charlottesville Parks &amp; Recreation Advisory Board – Cultivate Charlottesville Urban Agriculture Collective</li> <li>• Charlottesville City Schools Board – City Schoolyard Garden</li> <li>• UVA Equity Center – Youth Food Justice Interns</li> <li>• UVA President’s Council Public Health Working Group – Health Equity &amp; Food Justice</li> <li>• Community Climate Collaborative JEDI Camp -Youth Food Justice Action</li> <li>• VMDO Architects–Youth Food Justice Intern, <i>Why school gardens?</i></li> <li>• 100 Black Men of Charlottesville – Cultivate Charlottesville Food Equity</li> <li>• Picturing Climate Exhibit at Jefferson School African American Heritage Center with Cville Regional Climate Justice Collaborative</li> <li>• Virginia Home Grown –Cultivate Charlottesville Gardens &amp; Food Justice</li> <li>• Food Co-op High School Summer Experience – Cultivate Food Justice</li> </ul> <p><b>Regional</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VA Department of Education Farm to School Conference-Let’s Talk: Farm to School and Racial Equity</li> <li>• Virginia Home Grown –Cultivate Charlottesville Gardens &amp; Food Justice</li> <li>• Presidential Precinct Fellows –Cultivate CATEC Farm</li> <li>• Jefferson Scholars Leadership Institute –Cultivate Charlottesville</li> </ul> <p><b>National</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• National Farm to School Network – Racial Equity &amp; School Gardens</li> <li>• USDA Community Food Projects–Cultivate Charlottesville Just Food</li> <li>• HEAL Food Alliance: School of Political Leadership – Cultivate Charlottesville, The Power to Grow</li> <li>• USDA Farm to School Conference – Healthy School Foods Initiative</li> <li>• North American Food Systems Network –Cultivate Food Justice Network</li> <li>• Johns Hopkins Food Policy Council National Meeting: The Power of Food –Cultivate Food Justice Network</li> </ul> <p><b>D.</b> Ongoing research and practice around six tenants of Cultivate Uprooting Racism Action plan based on 6 tenants: 1. Decision-Making, Power &amp; Accountability, 2. Culture, 3. Programming, 4. Movement Building, 5. Accessibility, 6. Budget &amp; Finances</p> <p><b>E. Outreach</b> Maintained robust communications strategy to engage community members across the Charlottesville area in a deeper understanding of food equity issues.*See Cultivate Charlottesville Press Page for list of press pieces at <a href="https://cultivatecharlottesville.org/stories/press/">https://cultivatecharlottesville.org/stories/press/</a></p>

<b>II. Establish mechanisms for community voice</b> including both formal and informal meetings with oversight by community stakeholders and community members on programs and broader food access issues.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>6 Virtual CFJN Whole Measure</b> community meetings   <b>32 organizations</b> engaged</li> <li>✓ <b>14 CFJN Planning Team</b> meetings   <b>25 Planning Team</b> members</li> <li>✓ <b>9 Comprehensive Planning &amp; City</b> meetings attended</li> <li>✓ <b>11 youth food justice interns</b> engaged in 26-week program</li> <li>✓ <b>100+ youth</b> advocated for Healthy School Foods student selections</li> <li>✓ <b>16 community members and organizational partners</b> engaged in <i>Sisters Healing Circles in the Garden</i></li> <li>✓ <b>24 girls of color</b> engaged in I Believe In Me Girls garden event</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>A. Hosted 14 Food Justice Network planning team and six FJN Whole Measures large group gatherings</b> for a combined 173 community members and 32 organizations. Partner Profiles included:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Albemarle County Department of Equity and Inclusion</li> <li>• Neighborhood Development Services and Cville Plans Together</li> <li>• City Department of Racial Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion</li> <li>• New Hill Development BEACON Kitchen Incubator</li> <li>• Community Climate Collaborative Climate Action Recommendations</li> <li>• Charlottesville 12 City Schoolyard Garden Sundial Dedication</li> <li>• Local Food Hub Black Farmer Directory</li> <li>• White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>B. Youth Voice &amp; Choice   I Believe In Me Girls   Youth Food Justice Camp</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 11 Food Justice Interns participated in an intensive 6-week program and continued on for 20 additional weeks of food justice work</li> <li>• 100+ student tastings and fresh food menu item selections</li> <li>• 24 youth gathered at UAC CATEC urban farm site to explore Black girls and gardening</li> </ul> </li> <li><b>C. City Climate Action Plan</b> – FJN team collaborated with C3 and the City’s Climate Action team to make recommendations on the intersection of food justice and climate justice</li> <li><b>D. Women’s Initiative Sisters Healing Circles In the Garden</b> – 16 women of colored gathered for two Healing in the Garden workshops in partnership with Women’s Initiative and PHAR</li> </ul>
<b>III. Plan for sustainability</b> by pursuing additional funding for long-term investment at the city, agency and community member levels.	
<p><b>Charlottesville City Schools Nutrition Department Trainings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Hosted <b>four training</b> units totaling <b>93 hours</b> with Chef Antwon Brinson of Culinary Concepts for <b>50 CCS Nutrition Staff</b></li> </ul>	<p>Cultivate Charlottesville and Charlottesville City Schools implemented 4 culinary skills training workshops with Antwon Brinson of Culinary Concepts, AB. Culinary Concepts provided the following training units. Staff were paid for each training.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Competency Workshop (Jul)</b> – Equipment Skills and Culinary Skills Training</li> <li>• <b>Competency Workshop (Aug)</b> – Equipment Skills and Culinary Skills Training</li> <li>• <b>Leadership Class</b> – Leadership style test, team building, time management, kitchen Management, discovery, and discussion</li> <li>• <b>Kitchen Training</b> – Equipment demo, knife identification and skills demo, etc.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Matching Funds</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>\$155,000</b> matching funds raised for FY21 plus <b>\$55,000</b> in additional support specific to food equity initiative</li> <li>✓ <b>\$50,000</b> Healthy Meals support</li> <li>✓ <b>38 volunteers</b> for meal prep and delivery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>A. Funding Partners</b> – In addition to general operating funds raised for 2021-2022, Cultivate Charlottesville has secured \$155,000 in funds for FY22 to match the City Council Food Equity Initiative contribution from the national USDA Community Food Projects (\$125K), the state Virginia Foundation for Healthy Youth (\$30K) grants, and additional local foundations (\$55K).</li> <li><b>B. Emergency &amp; Healthy Foods Funding</b> – Cultivate has leveraged funds at the local (\$100,000 in CACF Strengthening Systems), regional (\$50,000 in No Kid Hungry), and federal (\$100,000 in USDA Farm to School) level.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Diversified Multi-year Funding</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>\$50,000</b> USDA Farm to School grant</li> <li>✓ <b>\$291,860</b> NCS Urban Agriculture Innovations Program grant</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>A. Cultivate received a USDA Farm to School two-year grant</b> (\$50K/year) to support the Healthy School Foods Initiative with training to Charlottesville City Schools nutrition staff by Culinary Concepts.</li> <li><b>B. Cultivate was awarded a NCS Urban Agriculture Innovations Program two-year grant</b> (\$291K total) to support development of citywide urban agriculture policies, designs, and practices driven by community residents.</li> </ul>

<p><b>IV. Contribute subject matter expertise</b> to discussions on transportation, zoning, and other planning and policy development to ensure that the City, the University of Virginia, community organizations and citizens are aware of the impact of policy on food equity.</p>	
<p><b>FEI Implementation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ <b>6 City Department leads, 3 City &amp; Deputy City Managers, 2 City Councilors, and 5 School board members</b> engaged around Food Equity Initiative implementation</li> <li>✓ <b>7 of 20 Climate Justice &amp; Food Justice recommendations</b> incorporated to date</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. <b>City Department FEI Support</b> – Hosted meeting with City departments to review the Food Equity Initiative Policy Platform and glean feedback.</li> <li>B. <b>Food Equity Implementation</b> – Specific focus on the intersection of Climate Justice and Food Justice. Collaborated with C3 and City’s Climate Action Plan to make 20 recommendations for inclusion of food equity language, 7 of which have been included to date.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Advisory Roles and Food Equity Leadership</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Cultivate Team engaged in Local Coalitions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. <b>Steering Committee</b> – Cultivate staff are on the Steering Committee of the City’s Cville Plans Together working to integrate food equity priorities.</li> <li>B. <b>University of Virginia Sustainable Food System Coalition</b> is developing a multi-year sustainability plan for the university and community.</li> <li>C. <b>Move2Health Equity</b> – Engaged in the Food Access team</li> <li>D. <b>Community Input</b> – UAC hosted weekly community markets to distribute food grown and engage in conversations on redevelopment, garden design and healthy communities, and the city comprehensive plan.</li> </ul>
<p><b>V. Implement opportunities to highlight the City’s food equity work statewide &amp; nationally.</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 20 presentations and trainings engaging a collective 1,317 people at those presentations</li> </ul>	<p><b>Provided Thought Leadership</b> in conferences, panels, and presentations: Presented at twenty local, regional, state and national venues (detailed in Section I.C. above)</p>
<p><b>Statewide &amp; Regional</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Cultivate Team engaged in 3 Regional Coalitions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. <b>Virginia Tech Center for Community Food Systems &amp; Transformation Steering Committee</b>, Cultivate Co-Executive Director, Jeanette Abi-Nader</li> <li>B. <b>VA Farm to School Regional Planning Teams</b>, Cultivate City Schoolyard Garden Program Director, Jordan Johnson, and Farm to School Coordinator, Shamera Banks participated</li> <li>C. <b>Blue Ridge Area Hunger Action Coalition Backbone Organization</b> Cultivate Charlottesville transitioned leadership of the HAC to the Blue Ridge Area Food Bank which represents the complete health district region</li> </ul>
<p><b>National</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Cultivate Team engaged in 6 National Coalitions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. <b>Johns Hopkins Center for Livable Futures -Food Policy Council Racial Equity Community or Practice</b> Cultivate Co-Executive Director, Jeanette Abi-Nader, represents Cultivate on this National Learning Group</li> <li>B. <b>National Farm to School Network Equity Evaluation</b> Cultivate Co-Executive Director, Jeanette Abi-Nader serves on this national steering committee to establish guidelines for evaluating racial equity in farm to school efforts across the country</li> <li>C. <b>HEAL Food Alliance Steering Committee</b> – Cultivate Co-Executive Director, Richard Morris, was selected to join this national steering committee</li> <li>D. <b>Mother Earth News Online Fair</b> - Urban Agriculture Collective Program Director, Amyrose Foll, is a featured speaker on Indigenous Foodways</li> <li>E. <b>No Kid Hunger Centering Equity Cohort</b>– Cultivate Co-Executive Directors, Richard Morris and Jeanette Abi-Nader</li> <li>F. <b>Rooted In Justice Cohort</b> — Cedar Tree Foundation engaging six youth food justice organizations from across the country. City Schoolyard Garden Program Director, Jordan Johnson, and Cultivate Co-Executive Director, Richard Morris</li> </ul>

# Food Equity Initiative: Emergency & Ongoing Food Access

Cultivate Charlottesville Food Justice Network was a centralizing stakeholder in the food security response to the Covid-19 Pandemic in Charlottesville and surrounding areas. Over the past year we have wrapped up COVID-19 response efforts and transitioned some of the most critical emergency responses to more sustainable, long-term initiatives. While the focus of the Food Equity Initiative partnership with City Council is to develop and implement system-wide solutions to persistent hunger and food insecurity issues in Charlottesville, we also recognize the need for integrated approaches of direct food provisions, especially fresh, community grown produce. This section summarizes a few of those efforts.

<b>Activities and Progress towards Emergency &amp; Ongoing Food Access</b> <b>October 2021 – September 2022</b>	
<b>A. Community-based Food Security Infrastructure:</b> Build an emergency food security response infrastructure that enables the Charlottesville community to effectively respond to expanding food insecurity.	
<b>Community Gardening &amp; Food Equity Capacity Building</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 5,000 spring seedling transplants distributed to local nonprofits and community members</li> <li>✓ 6,800 student garden interactions</li> <li>✓ 80 students totaling 720 hours participated in cooking club in Buford Urban Farming Kitchen</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. <b>Spring Seedling Give-Away</b> – Youth Food Justice Interns and Buford Urban Agriculture students worked with the City Schoolyard Garden team to continue our annual tradition of supporting home, nonprofit, and community gardens by growing and sharing spring seedlings.</li> <li>B. <b>Students in the Garden</b> – Youth are 3 times more likely to eat food that they have grown. The City Schoolyard Garden Coordinators play an important role in engaging youth through the Charlottesville public schools in hands-on garden experiences.</li> <li>C. <b>Nutrition Education</b> – Cultivate’s new Farm to School Coordinator, Shamera Banks, worked closely with Buford middle school students with weekly cooking classes. This was a critical addition since there is no longer a family and consumer science class at the school.</li> </ul>
<b>Healthy School &amp; Community Meals</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 20,000 Harvest of the Month fresh snacks shared with 2,800 students profiling 8 local crops</li> <li>✓ 1,000 servings for 250 families of Sweet Potato Chili Ingredients at CCS REN event</li> <li>✓ 75 local meals distributed at community market gathering</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. <b>Healthy Meals</b> – While many of the direct meal provisions that flourished during the first two years of COVID are no longer being provided, Cultivate worked with CCS and UAC partners to share fresh, healthy meals, snacks, and produce.</li> </ul>
<b>Cultivate Direct food relief-community produce market</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ 8,972 pounds UAC grown produce</li> <li>✓ 2,348 pounds donated/purchased)</li> <li>✓ 39 Community Market Days</li> <li>✓ 678 Residents participate</li> <li>✓ 87 community volunteers</li> <li>✓ 10,000 sq ft additional growing space</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. <b>Urban Agriculture Collective –Community Produce Market</b> Hosted 39 market days and distributed a total of 8,972 pounds of fresh, locally grown produce at no cost to residents at Friendship Court, South 1<sup>st</sup> Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Westhaven, Midway Manor, Riverside, CATEC, and other locations in Charlottesville.</li> <li>B. <b>CATEC Community Farm</b> -To continue to address the loss of community urban agriculture space, Cultivate UAC program partnered with CATEC to establish a 10,000 sq ft production farm on site. Students in culinary and construction engaged in onsite projects.</li> </ul>



# Charlottesville Food Equity Initiative

## FY22 End of Year | Budget to Actual

### October 2021 – September 2022

<b>CULTIVATE CHARLOTTESVILLE FOOD JUSTICE NETWORK</b>					
<b>FOOD EQUITY INITIATIVE - FY22 BUDGET TO ACTUAL</b>					
<b>OCTOBER 1, 2021 - SEPTEMBER 30, 2022</b>					
<b>ACCOUNT</b>	<b>FY22 FJN BUDGET APPROVED</b>	<b>FY22 FJN ACTUAL</b>	<b>FY22FEI COUNCIL BUDGET APPROVED</b>	<b>FY22 FEI COUNCIL ACTUAL</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>493,397</b>	<b>480,625</b>	<b>155,000</b>	<b>155,000</b>	
Staff Compensation	319,697	307,625	90,000	80,500	40% FJN Program Director, 25% Co-Executive Director, 30% UAC Program Director, 50% Food Justice Policy Associate
Program - Support	75,070	81,000	37,535	55,000	5 Community Advocates (20 hrs/wk) 11 Youth Food Justice Interns (year round) Volunteer, Advocate & Intern Supplies
Program - Expenses	12,730	15,000	6,365	6,400	Community Meetings Community Advocate & Intern lunches Community member stipends
Partner Support	35,000	35,000	-	-	Funding for community partners including Charlottesville City School equipment and food, Local Food Hub, International Rescue Committee New Roots, Trinity Bread and Roses
Professional Services	20,700	15,000	11,350	7,500	Racial Equity Training, Evaluation
Communications & Technology	5,700	2,500	2,000	1,000	Community Advocate computers Database management
General & Administration	24,500	24,500	7,750	4,600	Rent, Insurance, Office Supplies, etc.

# Charlottesville Food Equity Initiative

## FY23 Core Priorities

### FY23 Looking Forward

Over the past year Cultivate, like many organizations, underwent staff transitions. We are excited to start this next phase of the Food Equity Initiative work with a full FJN team including: FJN Program Director – Onawa Dufresne-Barger, FJN Community Engagement Program Director – Christopher Simms, FJN Policy Associate – Quentia Taylor, Cultivate Outreach and Resource Program Director – Aleen Carey, and our Co-Executive Director of Advocacy & Systems – Jeanette Abi-Nader. We have seen increased commitment and implementation of racial equity practices among FJN partner organizations. Throughout this year, we have continued to prioritize the voices and choices of youth and community members affected by food insecurity as we bridge community advocacy, increased partner engagement, and intensified thought leadership around building food equity and racial equity.

As we look forward to this next three-year phase of our partnership with the city, we will be moving towards strong deliverables with the launch of a *Power to Grow* campaign to restore urban agriculture land to Charlottesville’s low-wealth neighborhoods, ongoing recommendations at the intersection of Climate Justice and Food Justice, heightened authority of community leaders to shape food equity goals, and ongoing advocacy across multiple organization and city departments.

### FY23 Core Priorities

- 1. Community Leadership** In addition to cohorts of Community Advocates and Youth Food Justice Intern deepening our investment in grassroots community leadership, we plan to host several community circles to cultivate community decision-making around the urban agriculture initiatives.
- 2. City Climate Action Planning** With the city’s comprehensive plan in the final stages, we will continue to focus on clearly identifying specific food equity actions in line with climate action and implementation of the Comprehensive Plan food equity goals.
- 3. Food Equity Policy Platform Public Education Efforts** Food Justice Network will continue to host community events to build support for and understanding of the platform planks as well as represent Charlottesville at numerous state, regional, and national spaces. We will solicit robust community feedback and modify as needed with specific focus on implementation needs.
- 4. City Department Food Equity Plans** During this year’s meetings with City staff, we recognize and ongoing commitment to integrating food equity into numerous city departments. This year we aim to build out implementation plans and budgets for their food equity priorities as outlined in the *Policy Platform*.
- 5. Power to Grow** The plan to launch a *Land Is Liberation* campaign last year was slowed to ensure more significant and updated community input. Based on community feedback, we have renamed the initiative to The Power to Grow and now have matching funding to implement this intensive community design process.
- 6. REVISIT Food Equity Fund** One key goal for FY22 was the launch of a Charlottesville Food Equity Fund. But because of the tight city budget, and our interest in fully funding Charlottesville City Schools and reconfiguration, we paused this work. If the landscape is ready for this advancement, we are poised to engage in this work.

# Food Equity Initiative FY23 Budget Overview

CULTIVATE CHARLOTTESVILLE FOOD JUSTICE NETWORK FOOD EQUITY INITIATIVE - FY23 BUDGET REQUEST			
ACCOUNT	FY23 FJN BUDGET APPROVED	FY23 FEI COUNCIL BUDGET OVERVIEW	COMMENTS
<b>TOTAL EXPENSE</b>	<b>495,397</b>	<b>155,000</b>	
Staff Compensation	319,697	80,000	40% FJN Program Director, 40% FJN Policy Advocate, 40% FJN Community Engagement Program Director 10% CO-Executive DirectorS (% covered by FEI)
Program - Support	75,070	55,000	5 Community Advocates (20 hrs/wk) 10 Youth Food Justice Interns (year round) Volunteer, Advocate & Intern Supplies Travel - local & regional conference
Program - Expenses	12,730	7,500	Community Meetings Community Advocate & Intern lunches Community member gift cards   stipends
Partner Support	35,000	-	Funding for community partners including Charlottesville City School equipment and food, Local Food Hub, International Rescue Committee New Roots, Trinity Bread and Roses
Professional Services	22,700	6,500	Racial Equity Training, Evaluation
Communications & Technology	5,700	1,000	Community Advocate Database management
General & Administration	24,500	5,000	Rent, Insurance, Office Supplies, etc.

### **Charlottesville Food Justice Network Planning Team**

Jeanette Abi-Nader, Cultivate Charlottesville, Advocacy & Systems Co-Executive Director  
Theresa Allan, International Rescue Committee, Manager Food and Agriculture Programs  
Aleen Carey, Cultivate Charlottesville, Outreach & Resource Program Director  
Jane Colony-Mills, Loaves & Fishes, Executive Director  
Onawa Dufresne-Barger, Cultivate Charlottesville, Food Justice Network Program Director  
Amyrose Foll, Cultivate Charlottesville, Urban Agriculture Collective Program Director  
Jordan Johnson, Cultivate Charlottesville City Schoolyard Garden Program Director  
Joe Kreiter, Blue Ridge Area Food Bank, Partner Services Coordinator & Network Development  
Cecilia Lapp Stoltzfus, International Rescue Committee  
Jackie Martin, UVA Presidents Council, Department of Diversity & Community Engagement  
Tegan Medico, University of Virginia Health Services  
Richard Morris, Cultivate Charlottesville, Farm & Foodroots Co-Executive Director  
Emily Grace Mortimer, UVA Global Environments & Sustainability, Institute for Engagement & Negotiation  
Todd Niemeier, Charlottesville Office of Human Rights, Director  
Kristan Pitts, Trinity Bread & Roses  
Josh Rockett, Local Food Hub, Executive Director  
Diane Sampson, Blue Ridge Health District, Maternal & Childhood Health  
Sara Santa Cruz, Virginia Department of Agriculture  
Rebecca Schmidt, Blue Ridge Health District, Population Health Manager  
Christopher Simms, Cultivate Charlottesville, Food Justice Network Community Engagement Program Director  
Emily Smith, Local Food Hub, Food Access Associate  
Briana Stevenson, Virginia Foodshed Capital & Local Food Hub  
Quentia Taylor, Cultivate Charlottesville, Food Justice Network Policy Associate  
Barbara Yager, Community Member, Bread & Roses

### **Charlottesville Food Justice Network A program of Cultivate Charlottesville**

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