

Appendix 7: Resources and Funding for Gardens

Adopt-a-Garden

Foster partnerships with organizations that have resources, for example, businesses, universities, community colleges, hospitals, and faith-based groups. Contact the local Chamber of Commerce to identify potential partners.

Community Development Block Grants

These are federal funds given to cities to help meet local priorities and needs. Contact your local mayor's office for information and application procedures. Involve youth participants in the process of securing funds—they can be helpful advocates by attending council meetings and writing letters to successfully lobby for grant money for their gardening program.

Accredited Community Foundation Locator

[Community Foundation Locator](#), Council on Foundations

Corporate Partners

Seek business partners for funding, in-kind donations, workforce, networking, publicity, and more. Contact seed companies, garden supply stores, compost operations, hardware and home improvement stores, restaurants, and grocery stores.

Donations

Develop a budget and a specific wish list. Form a plan for raising the money, including a list of potential donors, what you will request, who will do the asking, how donors will be

recognized and involved in the project, and how you will express your appreciation.

Individuals or Community Members

Interview gardeners and community members to determine what skills and resources they can contribute. Consider garden plot rental fees. Organize letter writing to attract donors (explore the U.S. Postal Service's [Every Door Direct Mail®](#) program) or online crowdfunding campaigns.

Publicity

Seek out publicity. Apply for awards and recognition. Donors want to be associated with success. Demonstrate to the community that you are making a difference.

Sales

Consider selling garden produce or value-added products (for example, salsa, preserves, and artwork). Seek sponsors for memorial or recognition items (for example, engraved bricks, benches, or fence posts).

Service Organizations

Ask for funding or in-kind support from Jaycees, Optimist Clubs, Rotary Clubs, NC State Extension Master Gardener SM program, garden clubs, scouts, faith-based groups, and environmental organizations.

Special Events

Offer classes in gardening, art, and cooking. Host harvest celebrations, guest speakers, tours, meals, or tasting events. Charge a fee or ask for donations.