GIVE GUIDE: BLACK FARMING

Food Justice, Health, Wealth and Land Stewardship

The ongoing call to address systemic racism, patterns of abuse, violence and dispossession have brought back to mainstream the conversation of BIPOC communities’ historical connections to land. The Black Farming movement centers food access and security as vital to thriving Black communities. And this work acts at the intersection of community wealth building, job development & training and environmental justice & sustainability. Below are some of the organizations in relationship, regionally, that are supporting the growing ecosystem of Black-centered farming and creating a way forward where all people have access to healthy, fresh, affordable, and locally sourced food.

Farms to Grow Farms to Grow is dedicated to working with Black farmers and underserved sustainable farmers around the country. They aim to increase the capacity of underserved farmers to keep their farms operational and establish farming as a viable career for future generations. Farms to Grow is committed to sustainable farming and innovative agriculture practices which preserve the cultural and biological diversity and the agroecological balance of the local environment.

Mandela Grocery Cooperative Based in West Oakland, Mandela Grocery Cooperative is operated, centrally governed, and democratically controlled by their worker-owners, guided by cooperative principles and a strong community centered mission. They prioritize sourcing from local farmers and food purveyors to keep money circulating within the local economy longer, providing more jobs to people who live in the area. They intentionally support businesses run by people of color because they are deeply committed to creating opportunity for interdependence in the food space where POC entrepreneurs generate livable incomes that support their families. (Donor Center specifics: Mandela Grocery Cooperative is not a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization and therefore cannot receive donor advised fund grants. Please support MGC by making a direct, non-tax-deductible gift.)

The Black Harvest Fund Black Harvest Fund is a donor advised fund at SFF that supports certified nonprofits to advance the work of Black farmers and farmers of color. American Author Natalie Baszile opened this fund in 2020 upon the impending release of her book, We Are Each Other’s Harvest, to celebrate the resilience and determination of Black farmers and resource their vital work. (Donor Center specifics: Grantee is The San Francisco Foundation; Short Purpose is for the Black Harvest Fund.)

Urban Tilth Urban Tilth inspires, hires, and trains local Richmond, CA residents to cultivate agriculture, feed the community, and restore relationships to land to build a more sustainable food system, within a just and healthier community. They help community grow their own food, train and employ their own young people as “home grown experts,” teach local residents about the relationships among food, health, poverty, and justice, and forge partnerships with local small farmers to increase demand for their produce.

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