

**KING CONSERVATION DISTRICT**  
**GRANT SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING**  
**OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
Monday, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
5:00 pm – 6:00 pm  
Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://zoom.us/j/7821503460>

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Meeting Agenda

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Call to Order

**1. Preliminary Matters**

- a) Introductions
- b) Additions or Corrections to the Agenda
- c) Adoption of the Board Agenda

**2. Public Comment**

**3. Grant Subcommittee Items:**

**Member Jurisdiction Grant Program Items**

Updates & Discussion:

- Seattle Community Partnership Grant Applications Submitted
- Equipment policy continued – garden and agricultural equipment

Applications:

- 1. City of Bellevue – Bellevue Well KEPT 2022

Amendments: None

Close outs:

- 1. Anchor QEA – Seahurst Park Phase 2 Post-Construction Eelgrass Survey 2021

**Regional Food System Grant Program Items**

Strategic Initiative Grant Application

- 1. King County Farmland Lease Program - Immigrant/Refugee Farmer Outreach Coordinator

Amendments: none

Close outs:

- 1. Harvest Against Hunger (formerly Rotary First Harvest ) King County Farmers Share (Farm-to-Food Bank Strategic Initiative)
- 2. Harvest Against Hunger (formerly Rotary First Harvest ) King County Farmers Share

# Bellevue Well KEPT 2022

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## *Member Jurisdiction Grant Program*

### ***Bellevue***

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Jammie Kingham  
Attn: Service First  
PO Box 90012  
Bellevue, WA 98009-9012

O: 425-452-6800

### ***Curtis Kukal***

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Bellevue Parks & Community Services – Lewis  
Creek Visitor Center  
PO Box 90012  
Bellevue, WA 98009

Ckukal@bellevuewa.gov  
O: 425-452-4195

# Application Form

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## *Summary Information*

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### **Project Title\***

Bellevue Well KEPT 2022

### **Project Description - Short\***

Provide a short, concise description of the project no more than two or three sentences.

Grant funding for the 2022 season of the Bellevue Well KEPT (Kids Environmental Project Training) program.

### **Principal Partners (if any)**

### **Amount of KCD Funding Requested\***

You will need to upload a detailed budget document before you submit your application. Please make sure the amount requested and total project cost amounts you list here match the amounts in the uploaded budget document.

\$70,847.00

### **Total Project Cost\***

\$70,847.00

### **Total Matching Funds (optional)**

\$0.00

### **Project Start Date\***

03/01/2022

### **Project End Date\***

10/01/2022

## Close Date

### Project Location\*

Address, Parcel #, OR L&L Points, for site specific projects only.

If more than two locations, state “multiple” and explain.

Multiple - Bellevue Well KEPT Crews operate throughout the Bellevue Park & Open Space System

### Jurisdiction

If the applicant is not a city or jurisdiction, please type in the city or jurisdiction this project is located in.

*[Unanswered]*

### Is your project on public or private land?\*

Public

### State Legislative District #\*

Click here to find it on the web. If your project resides in more than one district, type in the primary district or type in zero.

0

### King County District #\*

Click here to find it on the web. If your project resides in more than one district, type in the primary district or type in zero.

0

## *Narratives, Budget, & Attachments*

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### Project Description - Detailed\*

Provide a description of the project that summarizes what you will do, how you will do it, and why you will do it. Describe target audience, outcomes, objectives and general timelines.

For 33 years, Bellevue Parks & Community Services' Well KEPT Program has invested in our city's future by providing valuable opportunities to Bellevue youth while delivering exceptional services to the public. The Well KEPT program is a summer youth employment opportunity offered through the Bellevue Parks' Natural Resource Division. The program is designed to provide Bellevue youth with education, job skills, and career development training in the field of park resource management.

The work crew focuses on parkland restoration and maintenance. Typical projects include noxious weed management, forest enhancement activities, trail construction and renovation, agricultural projects, and

wetland restoration. Well KEPT combines on-the-job work experience with environmental education and career development to instill strong self-esteem, good work habits, and sound environmental ethics. Trainees develop and strengthen technical experience related to natural resource best management practices, trail construction techniques, and agriculture.

In 2020, during a difficult budget cycle, funding for the Well KEPT program was cut. The 2021 was funded King County, but future seasons are currently unfunded.

## Project Activities and Measurable Results\*

List specific project activities to be completed with KCD grant funds and the associated outcomes or measurable results, and timeline.

Pre-Season Administration & Preparation: March 1 to June 28, 2022

- Recruit, interview, hire, onboard, and train x2 crew leads (Seasonal PBEs)
- Recruit, interview, hire, and onboard x10 student interns (Seasonal PBEs)
- Select and scope crew work project(s) for summer
- Coordinate program logistics (vehicles, technology needs, uniforms, etc.)
- Prepare tools and order materials as needed
- Schedule ~x8 educational workshops for student interns

Well KEPT Crew Season: June 29 to August 19, 2022

- Train x10 student interns
- Complete crew work project(s)
- Host ~8 educational workshops for student interns
- Collect project outcome(s) data

Post-Season Administration: August 22 to October 1, 2022

- Organize and analyze project outcome(s) data
- Organize and compile project notes, maps, daily work logs, etc.
- Prepare a program memo for the Parks & Community Services Board
- Organize, inventory, service, and purchase new tools as needed
- Separate all seasonal employees

## Project Budget and Expenses\*

Fill out and upload separate Application Budget Form also available on the KCD Member Jurisdiction Grant Program website. Budget must be detailed with footnotes, appropriate and reasonable, *meeting state auditor/GAAP guidelines*. Please do not use forms from previous applications. Please only upload the form linked above. Thank you!

KCD-Member-Jurisdiction-Grant-Program-Application-Budget-Form\_Bellevue Well KEPT 2022\_FINAL SUBMITTED.xlsx

## Member Jurisdiction Authorization Letter

If you are a nonprofit organization seeking Member Jurisdiction funding, you must upload written authorization from the Member Jurisdiction to apply for funding. This can be in the form of a letter or scanned copy of an email.

## Additional Attachments

Upload any photos or maps of your project here. Only one file will be accepted. Please combine multiple files into one if possible.

## Natural Resource Improvement Actions- Criteria Checklist

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**You must select at least one natural resource improvement action, otherwise your application is not eligible.** However, please only select "yes" below the action that your project **directly** addresses.

### Direct Improvement of Natural Resource Conditions\*

To improve landscape and natural resource conditions as a result of direct action that enhances water quality, protects and conserves soils, implements ecosystem restoration and preservation projects (*examples include supporting private property owners with land stewardship, water quality, aquatic and wildlife habitat resources, removal of invasive weeds, stewardship on public land*)

**Does your project directly address this issue?**

Yes

### Education and Outreach\*

To raise awareness, deepen knowledge, and change behaviors of residents, landowners, and other land managers and organizations to practice exemplary stewardship of natural resources (*examples include education about stormwater management; the value of farmland, local farms and food systems, shorelines, salmon habitat, forests and other ecosystems*)

**Does your project directly address this issue?**

Yes

### Pilot and Demonstration Projects\*

To test and/or improve concepts and/or approaches in natural resource management that can be replicated by others (*examples include low impact development or green infrastructure demonstration projects, development of new best management practices, distribution of local farm products, urban agriculture (e.g. farmers markets and backyard food production to promote or support social economic independence and healthy living); technological innovation for natural resource conservation*)

**Does your project directly address this issue?**

No

### Capacity Building\*

To enhance the ability of organizations, agencies, residential landowners and other land owners and managers to have knowledge, skills, tools, support systems and technical resources to implement exemplary best management practices and deliver natural resource management actions on the ground (*examples include urban agriculture*

*development, assistance to and inclusion of private property owners, preservation, restoration, and/or expansion of urban and/or rural agricultural lands, rural and urban forest lands, riparian restoration and stewardship on private and public lands)*

**Does your project directly address this issue?**

No

### **Project Type\***

Agriculture, Urban  
Education  
Forestry, Urban

## ***KCD Acknowledgement and Signature***

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By signing below, the applicant agrees to acknowledge King Conservation District funding by placing the KCD-provided logo on signs, materials, and documents produced as part of the above proposal. In addition, the applicant will notify KCD of public events and activities funded by the KCD.

\*

I have read the above paragraph about acknowledging KCD and I will use the provided logo.

### **Authorized Applicant Electronic Signature\***

Please enter your full name to sign and agree to the above.

Curtis Kukal for the City of Bellevue, WA

### **Title**

Park Ranger & Environmental Programs Coordinator

### **Date\***

01/26/2022

## File Attachment Summary

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### *Applicant File Uploads*

- KCD-Member-Jurisdiction-Grant-Program-Application-Budget-Form\_Bellevue Well KEPT 2022\_FINAL SUBMITTED.xlsx





# Member Jurisdiction Grant Program

## Grant Application Project Budget Form

*Promoting sustainable uses of natural resources  
through responsible stewardship*

Project Name	Bellevue Well KEPT 2022		
Applicant	Bellevue Parks & Community Services - Natural Resource Division		
Contact	Curtis Kukal		
Mailing Address	Attn: Lewis Creek Visitor Center, PO Box 90012, Bellevue, WA 98008		
E-mail	Ckukal@BellevueWA.gov	Project Start Date:	
Phone	425-452-4195	Project End Date:	

**Please provide detailed budget information below. Itemize categories such as supplies, contracted services, etc. with detailed descriptions below**

Budget Item	KCD Funds	Other Funds	Other Funds
		<i>(identify source and status of matching funds here ex. Rose Foundation - Pending)</i>	<i>(identify source and status of matching funds here ex. DON Small and Simple - Secured)</i>
Salaries & benefits	\$60,000		
New & replacement tools	\$2,000		
Uniforms, protective gear, etc.	\$2,000		
Office supplies	\$250		
Mobile phone service - 2 phones for 3 months ea	\$500		
Recruitment - Job postings	\$250		
Long-Term Rental Vehicle(s) & Fuel - 8 Passenger Van *	\$1,300		
Long-Term Rental & Fuel - 4 Passenger Truck **	\$4,547		
Other: <i>(specify)</i>			
Other: <i>(specify)</i>			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$70,847</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Total Project Cost	<b>\$70,847</b>
Total Match	<b>\$0</b>
Amount of KCD Funding Requested	<b>\$70,847</b>
Match Percentage	<b>0%</b>

*Footnotes:*

*\* \$1,300 per month x 1 month*

*\*\* \$1,515.50 per month x 3 month*



# King Conservation District Member Jurisdiction Grant Program Grant Agreement Close Out

## Grant Summary Information

Recipient: Anchor QEA

Project Title: Seahurst Park Phase II Post-Construction Eelgrass Survey 2021

**Project Description:** The project entails conducting a post-construction eelgrass (*Zostera spp.*) survey at Seahurst Park to meet regulatory requirements of the City of Burien's 401 Water Quality Certification and to understand how the restoration project has affected eelgrass habitat.

Construction of the seawall removal project was completed in 2014 and removed 2,800 linear feet of concrete seawall and rock shoreline armoring as well as removed fill material behind the seawall. The project developed a naturally sloping beach habitat. Eelgrass has been monitored before construction in 2012 and after construction in 2018 and 2021

**Funding Source and Year:** KCD-Burien Member Jurisdiction Funds from 2012, 2014, 2015, 2019, 2020

**Start Date:** 03/15/2021

**End Date:** 11/30/2021

**Date Awarded:** 04/12/2021

## Grant Budget Summary

## Returned Funds:

## Payment Summary

Award Amount:

\$40,266.00

Amount Returned:

\$5,001.34

Amount Paid to Date:

\$34,372.45

Amount Spent:

\$35,264.66

Date Returned:

n/a

Final Payment Date:

\$892.21

After KCD signs this form

## Amendment Request Summary:

Yes N/A Notes:

Scope of Work Revision:

☐
☒

Budget Revision:

☒
☐

Revised to reflect actual expenditures, funds go back to KCD-Burien funds as available for other projects

Completion Date Extension:

☐
☒

## Copies of Work Product (check box or describe below)

☐ Designs/Plans

☐ Brochures/Publications

☐ Curricula

☐ Photos

☐ Video

☐ Sign Mock-Ups

**Report:** *Post-Construction Eelgrass Monitoring Report, September 2021, Seahurst Park Phase II Ecosystem Restoration Project. Prepared for Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers*

**KCD Acknowledgement:** KCD was acknowledged on the cover of the monitoring report as the funding agency and was recognized as the funding source in the introduction of the report.

**Site Visit**

Date:

N/A: ☒

Description:

### Planting Projects:

Maintenance/Monitoring

Needs to be tracked: ☐

Ongoing until: \_\_\_\_\_

Completed: ☐ N/A: ☐

### Reporting Summary:

Yes

No

Notes:

Progress Reports: ☒ ☐

Expense Reports: ☒ ☐

Final Reports: ☒ ☐

### Project Accomplishments and Successes

The post-construction eelgrass survey determined the density and distribution of eelgrass in the Seahurst Park Phase II Ecosystem Restoration Project (Project) area. The survey also documented macroflora and macrofauna. The survey results demonstrated that the Project is still meeting its goal to achieve no net loss of eelgrass distribution and density. Eelgrass in the survey area was denser or as dense in 2021 compared to 2012, while 2018 had the highest densities of the 3 surveyed years, and the total amount of continuous eelgrass was greater in 2021 and 2018 (post-construction) than in 2012 (pre-construction). A diverse array of macroflora (other types of eelgrass, kelp and algae) and macrofauna (crabs, flounder, Harbor seal, birds) were observed with greater macroflora species richness in 2021 compared to 2018 and 2012. WDFW priority habitat and species observed included eelgrass, great blue heron, Dungeness crab, Pacific sand lance, and geoduck. The change in species richness could be attributed to the change in survey timing (June for 2021 and 2018 compared to August 2012, and the very low tide experienced in 2021), potential changes due to project construction, or better visibility due to less *Ulva* sp. blanketing the project area.

### Regional Benefits

These survey results support the larger benefits of the Project. The restored shoreline supports dense eelgrass beds which provide rearing and migration habitat for sensitive aquatic species such as juvenile salmon.

Some of the Project's benefits included the following:

- Preserved existing high functioning nearshore habitats
- Restored and protected the natural bluff-to-beach sediment process
- Restored beach slopes and substrates
- Restored forage fish spawning, juvenile salmon rearing, and migration intertidal habitats
- Restored upland and shallow intertidal habitat connectivity
- Diversified habitat in the freshwater/saltwater interface

### Obstacles and Challenges

There were no obstacles or challenges of note during implementation of the post-construction monitoring project. One factor considered during planning that helped avoid a challenge was the timing of the eelgrass survey. We planned on completing the survey as early in the growing season as possible to avoid dense growth of sea lettuce *Ulva* sp. that appears later in the season. The pre-construction survey was conducted in late August and the presence of thick mats of *Ulva* sp. created visibility challenges for the survey.

### Lessons Learned and Recommendations for Future Projects

Performing the post-construction survey in June provided for better visibility than the pre-construction survey that was completed in August of 2012. We recommend that eelgrass surveys be conducted early in the season to avoid periods with dense sea lettuce (*Ulva* sp), which can make underwater video surveys and dive transects difficult to perform. We recommend continued monitoring of the nearshore and intertidal zones at Seahurst Park. It is the largest bulkhead removal project to be implemented in Puget Sound, and lessons learned from this project will be applicable throughout the region.

Excerpts from the report follow.

The purpose of the monitoring survey was to ensure the eelgrass bed area and density stayed constant or improved since completion of the beach restoration. The 2021 survey was conducted in the same manner as both the 2012 and 2018 surveys, using a combination of land-based, underwater video, and dive surveys to map eelgrass beds and determine the turion density.

An Anchor QEA biologist walked the intertidal portion of the survey area from approximately -1.5 to +7.0 feet MLLW and delineated intertidal eelgrass patches using a differentially corrected GPS (DGPS) with sub-meter accuracy.

Underwater video was recorded using a Sea-All camera suspended from the bow of the survey boat. Video was recorded along a track traveled by the boat in the survey and reference areas. The underwater video survey was conducted on June 10 and July 1, 2021.

Observations were conducted by divers (using SCUBA equipment) within the delineated eelgrass beds in the survey and reference areas, as identified in the video survey. In 2012, transects were created by setting out a 200-foot tape measure perpendicular to the shore within the delineated eelgrass beds—these same transects were followed in 2018 and 2021 (Figure 2).

Overall, there was an increase of approximately 2.8 acres of continuous eelgrass between 2012 and 2021 (from 11.8 to 14.6 acres), and a decrease in the patchy areas of eelgrass.

See photos and map excerpts below.

*I certify that the project has been completed, all expenditures have been paid, and the final report has been received by the District.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Representative

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

*I certify that the project has been completed, all expenditures have been reported, and the final report has been completed and submitted to the District.*



\_\_\_\_\_  
Grant Recipient

Name: Peter Hummel

Title: Principal Landscape Architect

Date: 2/15/22





September 2021  
Seahurst Park Phase II Ecosystem Restoration Project



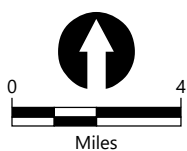
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## Post-Construction Eelgrass Monitoring Report














Publish Date: 2021/09/01, 1:31 PM | User: epipkin  
 Filepath: \\orcas\gis\Jobs\110717-01.01\_Seahurst-DMA\Maps\2021\_EelgrassSurvey\AQ\_Seahurst\_PostConstruction\_EelgrassSurvey\_VicinityMap.mxd

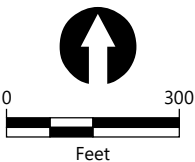


**Figure 1**  
**Vicinity Map**  
 Seahurst Post Construction Monitoring Report  
 Seahurst Park Phase II Post Construction



**LEGEND:**

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
|  Survey Area      | <b>2021 Survey</b>  |  Streams                |
|  Reference Area   |  Continuous Eelgrass Present |  2-foot Contours (MLLW) |
|  Project Boundary |  Patchy Eelgrass Present     |  |
|  Park Boundary    |  No Eelgrass Present         |  |



**Figure 2**  
**Delineated Eelgrass Beds within Survey/Project Area**  
Seahurst Post Construction Monitoring Report  
Seahurst Park Phase II Post Construction



**Photograph 1**  
**Survey Area Looking North During Low Tide**



**Photograph 2**  
**Reference Area Looking South**





**Photograph 3**

***Zostera Japonica* Higher in Intertidal Zone than *Z. Marina***



**Photograph 4**

***Zostera Marina***



**Photograph 5**  
**Intertidal Zone in Central Project Area**



Note: *Ulva sp.* on riprap in central project area. Barnacles and anemones also visible.

**Photograph 6**  
**Eelgrass, Green Algae, and Red Algae**





## APPENDIX C: IDENTIFICATION OF *ZOSTERA MARINA* AND *ZOSTERA JAPONICA*

### *Zostera marina* (eelgrass)

Status: Native



*Zostera marina* is the most widely distributed seagrass in the world. Its range spans the area from Alaska to Baja California on the West Coast of North America; it is also found on the North American East Coast, Europe, Asia, and the Middle East. Common in low intertidal and subtidal zones to a depth of 20-30 feet along sheltered areas with sandy or muddy beaches. Leaf blades are usually about ½ inch (8-10 mm) wide but may be narrower. The blades reach a length of 10 ft (3 m) and are flat. This species blooms from June through August. The inflorescence (flower clusters) grow on the tips of long shoots separate from the leaf blades.

**Habitat:** marine to brackish waters, lower intertidal and shallow subtidal; sandy to muddy sediments.

**Ecology:** Eelgrass habitats play an important role as foraging habitat for juvenile salmonids, particularly chum and Chinook. Pacific eelgrass stands also provide habitat for other important fishes and shellfish, including Dungeness crab and starry flounder. Spawning Pacific herring utilize eelgrass as a substrate to deposit eggs. Pacific eelgrass beds also harbor a diversity of infaunal and epifaunal species, including polychaetes, gastropods, bivalves, amphipods, echinoderms, and other crustaceans that are known prey of many commercially valuable fish and invertebrates. Eelgrass meadows are also important foraging habitats for many species of migratory geese, ducks, and swans. Pacific Black Brant feed almost exclusively on eelgrass (both native and non-native), and their populations can be affected by declines in eelgrass abundance. Eelgrass leaves, roots, and rhizomes attenuate wave energy and provide shoreline stabilization. Eelgrass beds also sequester carbon and may play a role in minimizing the effects of ocean acidification, thus helping to mitigate the effects of global climate change.



## Regional Food System Program Strategic Initiative Grant Application

<b>Project Title: King County Farmland Lease Program - Immigrant/Refugee Farmer Outreach Coordinator</b>	
<b>Applicant: King County Water and Land Resources Division</b>	<b>Contact: Richard Martin</b>
<b>Principal Partners (if any):</b>	<b>Title: Environmental Programs Managing Supervisor</b>
<b>Amount of KCD Funding: \$125,000</b>	<b>Address:</b> <b>King County, Department of Natural Resources and Parks</b> <b>201 S Jackson St, Suite 600</b> <b>Seattle, WA 98104</b>
<b>Total Match (optional): \$</b>	
<b>Total Project Cost: \$</b>	
<b>Project Start Date: May 15, 2022</b>	<b>Phone: 206-477-3876</b>
<b>Project End Date: May 14, 2023</b>	<b>Fax: 206-296-0192</b>
<b>Project Location: Countywide</b>	<b>E-mail: richard.martin@kingcounty.gov</b>
<b>King County Council District #: All</b>	<b>State Legislative District#: 1, 5, 11, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 36, 37, 39, 41, 43, 45, 46, 47, 48</b>

**1. Project Description** – provide a brief description of the project that summarizes what you will do, how you will do it, and why you will do it. Describe target audience, outcomes, objectives, and timelines.

The goal of the King County Agriculture Program, partially supported with King Conservation District (KCD) funding, is to conserve farmland and agricultural soils, increase the economic success of farm enterprises, and improve farm management practices to protect soil, water quality, and wildlife.

The King County Agriculture Program, which is part of the Department of Natural Resources and Parks (DNRP), currently manages a portfolio of nine farms, six of which form the core long-term land-base for the program. The approximately 215 farmable acres managed by the KC Agriculture Program primarily provide farmland access for beginning farmers and BIPOC farmers. In 2019, DNRP assessed immigrant/refugee (I/R) farmers in King County and that assessment clearly documented the need for greater opportunities to access farmland by traditionally underserved communities. Because of the 2019 assessment, King County is pivoting the focus of its Farmland Leasing Program to provide greater support for BIPOC farmers, especially from I/R communities. Land access is a major challenge for many BIPOC farmers and King County farmland can provide an important entry point into the farming economy. Multiple BIPOC communities, including immigrants and refugees, are eager to launch or grow their farm businesses if provided with suitable land to do so. The assessment indicated that demand for suitable farmland is extremely high but the ability to access land in King County by members of those communities is severely limited. DNRP is improving infrastructure and management on existing properties and intends to expand the amount of farmland dedicated to this program to meet the demand.

Historically, King County-owned farmland has lacked the needed infrastructure to support viable farm businesses and, as a result, farmers are limited in their ability to grow and expand their business. Access to irrigation water, potable water for wash/pack, farm equipment, irrigation infrastructure, etc. are all needed to allow farmers to produce high value crops, access more lucrative markets, and develop viable businesses. Significantly, through a new Climate Equity Bond Fund, King County has committed \$1M in 2022 to support the development of much needed infrastructure on County-owned farms. This funding will enable DNRP to purchase needed equipment and supplies, and secure required contractor services for many projects. Those projects include construction of energy and water efficient irrigation systems, fencing to limit crop loss to wildlife, produce wash/pack stations, wells, and waterline extension to provide potable water, pole barns for equipment storage, and activities to improve soil health and productivity.

Additionally, King County and partners must also provide technical support and education to enable tenants to farm successfully. This is especially important for farmers who may have extensive farming experience in countries of origin but are unfamiliar with crops and agricultural practices best adapted to this region. KCD has been an important partner and funder for farm business support services as well as other types of technical assistance.

In May 2019, the King County Agricultural Team hired Bee Cha to manage King County-owned farms, support King County's Farmland Access work and support I/R farmers. Bee joined the County with extensive experience working with and supporting I/R farmers. He has more than 15 years of experience working with underserved agricultural communities and 28 years of dry farming in King County. With King County, Bee Cha has been successful in bringing in new BIPOC tenants onto County-owned farmland, providing technical support to farmers on King County farmland and supporting the County and partners in outreach efforts to multiple I/R organizations. He also has years of experience providing technical support and farm business advice to immigrant farmers around the County and has been the point person for Hmong immigrant farmers in the region.

Bee Cha was hired by King County as a Term Limited Temporary employee, with an initial term of service of 24 months that ended May 2021. We have been able to justify an extension of Bee's service an additional year until May 12, 2022. However, we have been informed that there can be no extensions beyond 36 months unless the proposed scope of work is primarily considered "capital," which includes improvements of farmland assets such as land management and construction, and the funding for the extension is from a non-County grant. The proposed work under a KCD grant would meet both of those criteria and has already been cleared by King County Human Resources. Therefore, without KCD funding for Bee's position, he will be laid off effective May 13.

KCD funding would support Bee Cha's position for an additional year, from May 2022 through May 2023. Retaining Bee's services during this timeframe is critical as it overlaps with the significant infrastructure development that will be occurring on King County farmland during that time. Bee's support and services working with BIPOC farmers and farm organizations that are leasing land from the County will be essential to the successful development and operationalization of these infrastructure projects. The King County Agriculture program has submitted a request to create a permanent farm manager position in the 2023-2024 budget and the request has been received favorably. If included in the budget, the position will begin in early to mid-2023 and would be retained indefinitely. Although Bee would have to apply for the permanent position, his previous experience and time with King County would make him highly competitive.

The beneficiaries of this project are primarily BIPOC farmers in King County who have been traditionally underserved but will also include farmers throughout the County. Overall, the tasks outlined in this proposal will enhance conservation of agricultural land and natural resources, and increase opportunities for BIPOC growers, as well as consumers that buy local food in stores, restaurants, and farmers markets throughout King County. The requested \$125,000 of KCD funds will be augmented by King County funds to carry out the specific programs defined here. The requested funds would be used entirely for salary/benefits for the Immigrant Refugee Farmer Outreach position. County funds for actual project construction, and for other staff who work alongside Bee to support King County farmers, would more than match the KCD contribution.

**POSITION SUMMARY:** Following is a summary of the primary duties and responsibilities of the position:

**A. Farmland Management:** Work with community organizations and individual farmers that lease King County farmland, most of whom are BIPOC farmers, to assess farmland condition and develop recommendations for needed farmland improvements. Work closely with farm tenants to design infrastructure that will meet their needs and manage implementation of highest priority land improvement recommendations. Provide on-call support for issues related to whole-farm management, including soil testing and amendment delivery/application, irrigation system management/maintenance, security, etc. This work would be focused on the six primary King County-owned farms (Sammamish River Farm, Snoqualmie River Farm, Green River Farm, Horseneck Farm, Issaquah Creek Farm, and Green River Road Farm).

**Estimated Percentage of Time Spent: 60%**

**B. Farmland Lease Program Management:** Serve as primary point of contact for farmers who lease County farmland, many of whom are from I/R communities and have communication challenges. Recruit new, beginning, and BIPOC farmers to lease King County-owned farmland and help them navigate the County's farmland leasing system. Provide technical assistance to tenant farmers or link farmers with service providers. This includes assisting tenants with securing needed equipment and providing individual farm management services (e.g., weed control, disking/tilling). This work would mostly be on the above listed farms but would also include support for farmers leasing other King County-owned farms.

**Estimated Percentage of Time Spent: 20%**

**C. Immigrant/Refugee Farmer Outreach Coordinator:** Serve as a primary DNRP point of contact for I/R farmers in King County, especially members of the Hmong community. Respond to requests for support from County Departments, and state and federal agencies to facilitate outreach and communication with those communities. This work would be County-wide in scope.

**Estimated Percentage of Time Spent: 10%**

**D. Landowner Engagement:** Participate as a member of the Working Farmland Partnership (WFP) team and collect information from farmers about agricultural assets, existing land and economic conditions, and obstacles to enhanced farmland viability. Represent immigrant/refugee farmers during WFP discussions and directly connect with Hmong and other I/R farmers that need assistance with farmland access. This engagement will include both one-on-one and small group meetings. This work would be County-wide in scope.

**Percentage of Time Spent: 10%**

## 2. Grant Deliverables and Outcomes

For this proposed project, we will track and report on the deliverables shown in the following table. The program also tracks indicators such as acres in active farm production, dollars spent at farmers markets, and acres in agriculture current use taxation. The program also seeks input from the Agriculture Commission and from individual farmers (specifically including I/R farmers) as ongoing evaluation of programs.

Activity Description		Outcomes/Deliverables/Measurable Results (tangible and intangible)	Timeline
A.	<b>Farmland Management</b>  <i>Approximately 60% of the grant funds will be devoted to this activity.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordinate and manage annual farm activities including soil management, infrastructure and irrigation systems.</li> <li>Work with farm tenants to design infrastructure that will meet their needs and manage implementation of highest priority land improvement recommendations.</li> <li>Assist tenants to understand the terms of their leases and provided needed support to ensure the terms of the leases are met (includes issues related to soil and weed management and use of shared infrastructure).</li> <li>Measures: number of BIPOC farmers supported, number of on-farm projects completed</li> </ul>	Ongoing
B.	<b>Farmland Lease Program Outreach and Support</b>  <i>Approximately 20% of the grant funds will be devoted to this activity</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Serve as primary point of contact for farmers who lease county farmland, many of whom are from immigrant/refugee communities and have communication challenges.</li> <li>Recruit new beginning and BIPOC farmers to lease King County-owned farmland and help them navigate the County's farmland leasing system.</li> <li>Provide technical assistance to tenant farmers or link farmers with service providers. This includes assisting tenants with securing needed equipment and providing individual farm management services.</li> <li>Measures: number of existing leases supported, number of new leases executed, number of new BIPOC farmers placed on KC-owned farmland; number of farmers assisted</li> </ul>	Ongoing



C.	<b>Immigrant/Refugee Farmer Outreach Coordinator</b>  <i>Approximately 10% of the grant funds will be devoted to this activity.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Serve as a primary DNRP point of contact for I/R farmers in King County, especially members of the Hmong community.</li> <li>○ Respond to requests for support from County Departments, and state and federal agencies to facilitate outreach and communication with those communities.</li> <li>○ Provide interpretation/translation services to non-English speaking farmers who lease King County.</li> <li>○ Measures: number of County- and partner-lead projects supported by providing direct coordination with I/R farmers and communities.</li> </ul>	Ongoing
D.	<b>Landowner Engagement</b>  <i>Approximately 10% of the grant funds will be devoted to this activity.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Participate as a member of the Working Farmland Partnership team and collect information from farmers about agricultural assets, existing land and economic conditions, and obstacles to enhanced farmland viability.</li> <li>○ Represent I/R farmers during WFP discussions and directly connect with Hmong and other I/R farmers that need assistance with farmland access.</li> <li>○ Measures: number of WFP project teams supported, number of direct outreach efforts to members of I/R communities.</li> </ul>	Ongoing

### 3. KCD Strategic Initiatives

Under the 2015 ILA, KCD funds earmarked for Strategic Initiatives have historically been used to develop programs and projects (identified through experience and interaction with partners and stakeholders, and lessons learned from the competitive component of the program) that have been identified as having a systemic impact on the region's food system.

In 2019, KCD sought extensive input from regional food system stakeholders, the King County LFI team, and farmers across the region. This input was distilled, vetted, and ultimately incorporated in KCD's current five-year ILA. Through that process, KCD and its food system working group of external partners have identified four primary areas for Strategic Initiative investments over the next 5 years:

- Working Farmland Access – connecting future farmers to land and current farmers to expanded land opportunities.
- Farm Business Support and Technical Assistance Coordination – Address barriers facing farm businesses, including business and capital access support, marketing opportunities and readiness, accounting and recordkeeping, farm transition planning, etc.
- Institutional Purchasing – working with schools, hospitals, corporate campuses, etc. to source locally, and with farmers to prepare for these markets.

- Infrastructure Support - including shared processing, packing, storage, refrigeration, distribution, as well as access to loans for farm structures and equipment, and associated assessments for regional infrastructure needs.

The position supported by this grant proposal would directly contribute to advancing three of four listed Strategic Initiatives. The fourth Initiative, Institutional Purchasing, is supported, but not directly, as Bee would continue to assist farmers with production and crop processing challenges.

**4. KCD Acknowledgement** – By signing below, the applicant agrees to acknowledge King Conservation District funding by placing the KCD logo on signs, materials, and documents produced as part of the above proposal. In addition, the applicant will notify KCD of public events and activities funded by the KCD.

**Richard Martin**

**February 8, 2022**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Authorized Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date



King Conservation District  
Regional Food System Program  
Grant Agreement Close Out

Grant Summary Information

Recipient: Harvest Against Hunger (formerly Rotary First Harvest)

Project Title: King County Farmers Share (Farm-to-Food Bank Strategic Initiative)

Project Description: The rapid spread of COVID-19 throughout King County since February 2020 highlighted the importance of supporting physical health among disadvantaged populations to support long-term health equity. Efforts to mitigate the spread of COVID-19 highlighted the interconnectedness of the local food economy, as closed restaurants and farmers markets left many King County farmers without anticipated early-season income. Closed schools and places of employment increased demand for emergency food assistance in King County, with supply lagging behind in the early months of the pandemic. KCFS agencies reported that upkeeping recommended safety measures in distribution of emergency food increased their need for supplies including grocery bags and PPE. KCD RFS Strategic Initiative funding allowed KCFS agencies to increase purchasing from their farm partners, and expand KCFS to support more food assistance providers requiring additional staff time from HAH in outreach and onboarding, as well as expanded record-keeping and other management activities.

Funding Source and Year: KCD 2019 Rates and Charges

Start Date: June 5, 2020		End Date: December 31, 2021		Date Awarded: May 7, 2020
Grant Budget Summary		Payment Summary		Match
Award Amount:	\$100,000.00	Amount Paid to Date:	\$90,000.00	Cash Match: \$
Amount Spent:	\$99, 952.58	Final Payment:	\$9,995.26	In-Kind Match: \$

Amendment Request Summary:

	Yes	N/A	Notes:
Scope of Work Revision:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Budget Revision:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Completion Date Extension:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	2/2021 extend project completion date from 12/2020 to 12/2021

Copies of Work Product (check box or describe below)

<input type="checkbox"/> Designs/Plans	<input type="checkbox"/> Brochures/Publications	<input type="checkbox"/> Curricula
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Photos	<input type="checkbox"/> Video	<input type="checkbox"/> Sign Mock-Ups

Other: Produce bags

Site Visit	Date:	N/A: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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How was KCD acknowledged: hyperlinks to webpages and social media posts related to KCFS, as well as copies of program documents and outreach materials.

Reporting Summary:	Yes	No	Notes:
Progress Reports:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Expense Reports:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Final Reports:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Accomplishments and Successes:

Activities Performed

Grant Task	Description	2021 Activities
1) Farm food purchasing	Purchases by food banks and feeding programs to purchase from King County farms	We supported a third year of funding beyond the original 2-year period of the RFS Grant for KCFS. See the FF00064 annual performance report for purchase data totals; 2021 funding incorporated FF00075 (SI) funding,

		rolled over FF00064 funding, and outside grant funding from HAH.
2) Additional Supplies	Distribution costs associated with health directives (boxes, paper bags, etc.)	We purchased surgical masks, compostable gloves, compostable plastic produce bags, and paper grocery bags to support agencies' no-contact and home delivery food distributions.
3) Administrative Support	Staff time in outreach and onboarding new participating agencies and farms, expanded record-keeping, etc.	Since the KCFS agency cohort approximately tripled from the initial 12 agencies that piloted the program in 2019, there's been increased staff time needed for managing payments, data entry, and partner support. HAH hired a Farm to Community Program Manager in February 2021 in addition to a Year 3 VISTA to more effectively oversee record-keeping and resource development for KCFS.

**Collaboration**

Extending the KCFS grant funding a third year supported the project’s general collaborative nature because of more time to foster relationships. This time was especially valuable considering how many agencies joined KCFS toward the end of the original grant period because of significant county CARES Act funding added to the program. At monthly meetings, agency representatives would offer resource-sharing of extra donated produce, prepared meals, and network connections.

HAH also taps into our Harvest VISTA program for collaborative resource development and ideas exchange related to local food system capacity-building. Our Harvest VISTA member serving at Blue Mountain Action Council in Walla Walla contributed a Spanish translation of the Community Member Survey we developed, so that we could then provide this resource for KCFS agencies to solicit input from Spanish-speaking individuals they serve.

**Outcomes**

Program Outcome	Quantities Purchased	Beneficiaries
Supplies for COVID-safe food distribution	Grocery bags: 78 cases Produce Bags: 23 cases Masks: 80 boxes Gloves: 126 boxes	The Byrd Barr Place Jewish Family Service International Rescue Committee Teen Feed Sno-Valley Senior Center Pike Market Senior Center and Food Bank Phenomenal She Ujamaa Food Circle We Love Kent @ Calvary Chapel South Hunger Intervention Program South Park Senior Center Plateau Outreach Ministries South Seattle College Food Pantry ACRS FamilyWorks Lifelong White Center Food Bank Rainier Valley Food Bank Kent Covenant Church Jubilee REACH

Program Outcome	2019	2020	2021
\$ distributed to hunger relief for local farm purchasing	\$37,500.00	\$297,634.30	\$139,206.50
# of participating King County hunger relief organizations	12	35	31
# of King County farms purchased from	24	51	57
Lbs of produce purchased and delivered	20,592	87,087	52,443~

~ Some reporting is missing from agencies

**Problems or Delays**  
None

**Future Project Plans**

While the RFS grant has ended, KCFS will continue with another season of funding from King County’s American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding, administered through Public Health Seattle/King County. There will be \$175,000 available for agencies’ farm contracting.

**Funding**

Strategic Initiative award \$100,000. Total spent \$99,952.58.

**Regional Benefits**

Through the King County Farm Business Support Network and other network connections, we have shared KCFS lessons learned and farm contracting resources with farmers and farm service organizations we’ve been introduced to around western WA. Through the AmeriCorps VISTA capacity-building, we’ve developed resources that can be easily replicated and adapted to the needs of different agencies and communities in order to support all of HAH’s Farm to Community programs—including surveys, flyers, contract templates, and planning spreadsheets—thus having state-wide impact. Having our KCFS work be supported within HAH’s overall Harvest VISTA program allowed for collaboration on resources so that they could be useful for even more of our partner food assistance providers (both Farm to Community agencies in WA and Harvest VISTA host sites in other states), such as the above-mentioned Spanish translation services.

**Lessons Learned and Recommendations**

Procuring adequate quantities of supplies for COVID-safe food distribution was sometimes challenging, as supply chains were strained from widespread high demand. However, because of the continued development and spread of new COVID-19 variants and the realization of the value of grocery home delivery to providing food access to vulnerable individuals and families, agencies still have high need for these supplies.

Ultimately, the broader food system impacts of supporting direct connections between local farmers and food access efforts are numerous and interdisciplinary:

- improved nutrient density from more freshly harvested products
- improved cultural familiarity for diverse populations based on community feedback and negotiated purchasing
- reduced food waste from new reliable markets for farmers and tailored purchasing of what communities want to eat
- reducing greenhouse gas emissions through shorter supply chains and less food waste
- efficient throughput of emergency food thanks to more deliberate and strategic scheduling of deliveries
- sustained financial viability supports farms’ capacity to provide fairly-paid labor, which also then ensures more crops are harvested than wasted

These enhancements to social, economic, and environmental sustainability in our local food system improve as farm/food access relationships build trust and mutual understanding of each other’s needs, underscoring the importance of providing long-term stable funding.

*I certify that the project has been completed, all expenditures have been paid, and the final report has been received by the District.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
District Representative

Date:\_\_\_\_\_

*I certify that the project has been completed, all expenditures have been reported, and the final report has been completed and submitted to the District.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Grant Recipient

Name:

Title:

Date:\_\_\_\_\_















Fresh, locally grown  
produce provided by:

# King County Farmers Share

a program of

HARVEST  
AGAINST  
HUNGER.























# Thank you for

Produce I loved:

*fresh Vegetables  
and fruit*

Other produce I'd like:

*eggs and fruit*



Food Bank:

[www.harvestagainsthunger.org/kcfs](http://www.harvestagainsthunger.org/kcfs)



King Conservation District  
Regional Food System Program  
Grant Agreement Close Out

Grant Summary Information

Recipient: Harvest Against Hunger (formerly Rotary First Harvest)

Project Title: King County Farmers Share

Project Number: FF00064

**Project Description:** King County Farmers Share will develop connections between local farmers with hunger relief programs to deliver fresh produce to underserved communities while supporting a healthy food system by developing a new and reliable income stream for local farms. These efforts build off strategies and success of HAH’s statewide Farm to Food Pantry program, replicating the program model in King County to develop direct purchasing agreements between farmers and hunger relief, as well as piloting new ideas and distribution models, and creating flexible arrangements that support the varied needs of participants.

Funding Source and Year: KCD 2018 Rates and Charges

<b>Start Date:</b> 1/1/2019		<b>End Date:</b> 12/31/2021		<b>Date Awarded:</b> 10/15/2018
<b>Grant Budget Summary</b>		<b>Payment Summary</b>		<b>Match</b>
Award Amount:	\$100,000.00	Amount Paid to Date:	\$90,000.00	Cash Match: \$23,333.38
Amount Spent:	\$100,000.00	Final Payment:	\$10,000.00	In-Kind Match: \$43,883.24

Amendment Request Summary:

	Yes	N/A	Notes:
Scope of Work Revision:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Budget Revision:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	11/2021: move budget from Transportation to virtual learning series for small/beginning farmers in partnership with Business Impact NW’s Food Business Resource Center.
Completion Date Extension:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	12/2020: extend project completion date from 12/2020 to 12/2021 due to impacts of Covid and additional CARES funding.

Copies of Work Product (check box or describe below)

<input type="checkbox"/> Designs/Plans	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Brochures/Publications	<input type="checkbox"/> Curricula
<input type="checkbox"/> Photos	<input type="checkbox"/> Video	<input type="checkbox"/> Sign Mock-Ups

Other:

KCD was acknowledged on webpages and in social media posts , as well as copies of program documents and outreach materials.

Site Visit	Date:	N/A: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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Description:

Reporting Summary:	Yes	No	Notes:
Progress Reports:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Expense Reports:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Final Reports:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Accomplishments and Successes:

Activities Performed

Task 1: Develop Model Contracts

Contract templates have been revised over time as terms have been identified to encourage communication and best set up relationships for success. Similarly, lessons learned have been incorporated to begin developing a contracting guide for farmers interested in selling to food assistance agencies.



**Task 2: Connect farmers and hunger relief programs**

Hosted a 2-part webinar series, “Farm-to-Food Assistance: Intro to Community-Centered Wholesaling” with Business Impact NW on December 7th and 14th. These were open and free to farmers with additional live Spanish translation provided. Sessions went over basic wholesaling strategies within the context of working with food assistance programs, in addition to networking tips, pricing strategies, record-keeping, and contracting. Information about HAH’s Farm to Community programs, including KCFS, and how farmers can connect with them to sell their produce to agencies were shared.

**Task 3: Purchasing and distribution of both contracted and donated produce**

- Hopelink:** Oxbow Farm, Terrebonne Truck Patch, Steel Wheel Farm, Local Roots Farm, Carnation Farms
- SKCFC:** Windy Acre Farm, Faithbeyond Farm, Namuna Gardens
- Vashon Maury Community Food Bank:* Northbourne Farm, Forest Garden Farm, Gracie’s Greens, Matsuda Farm, GreenMan Farm, Sacred Gorilla Farm, Sun Island Farm, Provo Farm
- Plateau Outreach Ministries:* Faithbeyond Farm, Ayeko Farm, Small Blessings Farm, Red Barn Organic Farm
- Seattle Food Committee – Pike Market Food Bank:** Lee’s Fresh Produce
- Jewish Family Services:* Sound Sustainable Farms
- White Center Food Bank:* Matsuda Farm
- University District Food Bank:* Carnation Farms, Griffin Creek Farm, Sound Sustainable Farm, Faithbeyond Farm, Steel Wheel Farm, Caruso Farm, Songbird Haven Farm, Alki Farms, Eunomia Farms, Bumblebee Farm
- Rainier Valley Food Bank:* Terrebonne Truck Patch
- Byrd Barr Place:* Windy Acre Farm
- FamilyWorks:* The Common Acre, Songbird Haven Farm, Jon the Farmer
- Lifelong-Chicken Soup Brigade:* Kamayan Farm
- Asian Counseling & Referral Services:* Lee’s Fresh Produce
- Boys & Girls Clubs of King County:** 21 Acres, Oxbow Farm
- FareStart:** The Bellevue Urban Garden, 21 Acres, Terrebonne Truck Patch
- Hunger Intervention Program:** Carnation Farms, Griffin Creek Farm, Cherry Valley Dairy, Steel Wheel Farm, Sno-Valley Mushrooms, Alki Farms, Eunomia Farms
- International Rescue Committee:** Umoja N'inguvu, Namuna Garden, Kopila Garden, Horseneck Farm, Mary Gay
- Jubilee REACH:** Mosby Farms, Carpinito Brother’s Farm
- Kent Covenant Church:** Cascadia Produce
- OSL:** Griffin Creek Farm, Sound Sustainable Farms, Steel Wheel Farm, Sammamish Farms, Faithbeyond Farm, Root and Rabbit Farm
- Mary’s Place:** Songbird Haven Farm, Oxbow Farm, Sound Sustainable Farms, Steel Wheel Farm, Eunomia Farms, Kamayan Farm, IRC New Roots Farm, Griffin Creek Farm, Oxbow Farm, Rain Dog Farm, Summer Run Farm, Bumblebee Farm
- Phenomenal She:** Sound Sustainable Farms
- Plant Based Food Share:** Griffin Creek Farm, Steel Wheel Farm
- Good Food Kitchens Program, Seattle Good Business Network:** Namuna Garden, Friendly Hmong Farms, Carpinito Brother’s Farm, Griffin Creek Farm, Praxis Farm
- South Park Senior Center:** Sound Sustainable Farms
- South Seattle College Food Pantry:** Kamayan Farms, Sound Sustainable Farm, Steel Wheel Farm, Sno-Valley Mushrooms, Griffin Creek Farm, Eunomia Farm, Rising Sign Farm, Summer Run Farm, Alki Gardens, Sound Vegetables, Hand Grown Greens, Faithbeyond Farms, Root & Rabbit, Aash Farms
- Sno-Valley Senior Center:** Oxbow Farm, Griffin Creek Farm, Kamayan Farm, Sammamish Farms, Sound Sustainable Farms, Theary's Flowers and Produce, Carnation Farms, Hand-Grown Greens, Steel Wheel Farm, Reconnecting Roots Farm, Rain Dog Farm
- Teen Feed:** Ecolibrium Farms, Fall City Farms
- Ujamaa Food Circle** (new in 2021): YES Farm, Small Axe Farm
- Vashon Senior Center:** Matsuda Farm, Wild Dreams Farm, Plum Forest Farm
- We Love Kent:** Sound Sustainable Farms

**Task 3(a): Transportation and logistics for delivery of produce**

This budget was shifted from transportation to farmer wholesaling supplies due to the funding being insufficient for large-scale transportation solutions. The budget was instead used to purchase wax-lined boxes, harvest totes, produce bags, and twist-ties for small-scale farmers.

Task 3(b): KCFS Program coordination and management

- Facilitated monthly virtual meetings for check-ins and updates for the program, alongside networking and community problem-solving opportunities.
- Hired 3rd year VISTA member
- Developed resources to support agencies to planning their purchases with farms and to solicit input from community members on local food desired

Task 3(c): Misc. printed materials to promote program

Print materials included KCFS 8.5 x 11” translated placards and farmer appreciation cards translated into Spanish, Vietnamese, Somali, Simplified Chinese, and Russian.

Collaboration

Participating agencies helped develop platforms to support communication and collaboration across the agency cohort in-between monthly virtual check-ins. Seattle Good Business Network provided a free forum for KCFS agencies (Mobilize), and we began working with FamilyWorks staff to develop a virtual whiteboard platform. Agency partner International Rescue Committee helped with distributing wholesaling supplies to their farmer partners in the New Roots program. Black Star Farmers also helped pick up and deliver across multiple local small-farm partners.

Resource development was greatly informed by joining the new King County Farm Business Support Network in 2021, as we learned from farmers and farm service organizations what they were interested in learning in order to connect to food assistance providers as wholesale partners. In December, HAH collaborated with Business Impact NW’s Food Business Resource Center to host two informational sessions for farmers covering an introduction to wholesaling with food assistance programs. These presentations included discussion with small farmers, as well as information about pricing, networking, record keeping, contracting, and basic information about food assistance programs. The live sessions featured Spanish translation, which was recorded in addition to the English version; these recordings are hosted on the BINW website as a resource for farmers.

Outcomes

Program Outcome	2019	2020	2021
\$ distributed to hunger relief for local farm purchasing	\$37,500.00	\$297,634.30	\$139,206.50
# of participating KC hunger relief organizations	12	35	31
# of King County farms purchased from	24	51	57
Lbs of produce purchased and delivered	20,592	87,087	52,443~

~ Some reporting is missing from agencies

Problems or Delays

Due to impacts of COVID-19 and additional CARES funding that became available to support King County Farmers Share, the project timeline for the use of KCD remaining funds was extended.

The use of funds allocated for transportation solutions proved to be a challenge, as \$8,000 was not sufficient to solve agencies’ specific issues. Delivery of produce purchased with program funds is typically handled by farmers, so transportation issues were more often regarding home delivery of food and on-site cold storage. Purchasing refrigerated vehicles for individual agencies who identified this shortcoming would be greatly helpful, but these vehicles are expensive and limited to use by only one agency at a time. As a result, this funding was shifted to make purchases for local small farmers, specifically items used for harvesting/distribution to food banks.

Some farms were unable to fulfill their 2021 contracts due to crop loss from the summer heat waves and/or the fall flooding.

Future Project Plans

While the RFS grant has ended, KCFS will continue with another season of funding from King County’s American Rescue Plan (ARP) funding, administered through Public Health Seattle/King County. There will be \$175,000 available for agencies’ farm contracting. The wholesaling supplies purchased for farmers will support their farm-to-food assistance wholesaling next season.

Funding

Total grant award was \$100,000. This leveraged an additional \$23,333.38 in cash match and \$43,883.24 in in-kind match. Matching funds consisted of grower donations and partner site staffing.

Regional Benefits

Through the King County Farm Business Support Network and other network connections, we have shared KCFS lessons learned and farm contracting resources with farmers and farm service organizations we’ve been introduced to

around western WA. Through the AmeriCorps VISTA capacity-building, we’ve developed resources that can be easily replicated and adapted to the needs of different agencies and communities in order to support all of HAH’s Farm to Community programs—including surveys, flyers, contract templates, and planning spreadsheets—thus having state-wide impact.

Year-end surveys were conducted with participating agencies and farmers. Participating agencies described successes/achievements that resulted from participating in KCFS as well as how produce from KCFS helped and individual/family they served. Participating farmers described successes/achievements that resulted from participating in KCFS as well as how participating in KCFS impacted their ability to enter or learn about new markets and/or build new partnerships and how. (See statements attached).

**Lessons Learned and Recommendations**

We collected several lessons learned and recommendations from the Grower Roundtable conducted in January 2021 with farmers from KCFS and the Growing for Good partnership with Neighborhood Farmers Markets & PCC Markers: <https://www.mindomo.com/mindmap/cd7dd56f60ad4a8598d4ffdcfb21ac>

From hearing the various challenges that arose between farms and agencies, we also learned:

- The importance of agencies and farmers establishing communication plans and having back-up contacts, as both farmers and agency staff are not always reachable by phone or email
- Farmers’ peak harvest doesn’t often line up with agencies’ highest need for fresh produce sources
- What business training gaps exist to help newer and/or direct-to-consumer farms begin wholesaling to agencies, such as using invoicing & receipting systems and how to create weekly fresh sheets
- Agencies vary widely with how much flexibility they can manage when purchasing from local small farms
  - For example, when purchasing for pre-planned menus, meals programs aren’t always as flexible as food banks and thus prefer ordering off fresh sheets, while food banks have sometimes provided general lists of desired & undesired product for farmers to pick product out of their weekly inventory from, and can often accept relatively small amounts of a product
- Planning deliveries to agencies while en route to or from farmers markets, CSA pick-up sites, or other customer deliveries makes transportation more convenient for farmers

For future farm-to-food assistance projects, we recommend that funding be made available for agencies to create contracts with local farms in late fall/early winter, when farmers are starting to plan for the next growing season. This will better allow farmers to incorporate food access work into their overall business plan – rather than trying to fit them in after they’ve planned for their farmers market, CSA, and other regular sales channels. This early planning will allow agencies to better provide input for desired crops to be grown for them, and providing upfront payment reduces the financial risk on farmers for growing new crops.

<i>I certify that the project has been completed, all expenditures have been paid, and the final report has been received by the District.</i>	<i>I certify that the project has been completed, all expenditures have been reported, and the final report has been completed and submitted to the District.</i>
<div></div> <div>District Representative</div> <div>Date: </div>	<div></div> <div>Grant Recipient</div> <div>Name:</div> <div>Title:</div> <div>Date: </div>

### KCFS Year-end Surveys from Participating Agencies

*Describe successes/achievements that came about due to participating in KCFS this year.*

- “We were able to support two different BIPOC owned farms, as well as two farms that were longtime gleaning partners and it was so rewarding to be able to give back to them financially. This partnership really strengthened relationships with those farms, and now we're in talk about sharing volunteers, processing at farms, and taking on different projects and just overall supporting each other! The community building aspect of this program has been so much more transformational and impactful than I expected.”
- “Successes would be connecting with Fall City Farms that we are committed to continuing with regardless of future funding due to their engagement above and beyond our contract. We also got our volunteer meal creators to think beyond their customary menus to support their growth in our program.”
- “Providing culturally appropriate produce. It brings joy to our community members when they see familiar fruits and vegetables relevant to their diets.”
- “We used KCFS produce to support our weekly pantry at Magnuson Park. The small pantry size made promotion of local produce more impactful and easier to call out on the distribution line.”
- “We have been able to support a major leadership change in the farm because of the careful and forward planning in early season.”
- “With work from our new social work team, we were able to grow the interest and access to healthy food.”
- “We built strong and meaningful relationships with new farmers, and had more produce for our clients.”
- “Simply that fresh produce was available to our families. It is the most requested item.”

*Please share a story (no names needed) of how produce from KCFS helped an individual/family you've served.*

- “Our KCFS produce typically goes to supporting a satellite pantry we run in our community each week. One of the kids attending the pantry was brave enough to try a radish that we purchased and he really loved it. He convinced his parent to take some for the family and the next week reported back that they all enjoyed it so much that they wanted to take twice as many and both varieties that we offered that next week.”
- “Just recently a youth swore up and down she didn't like squash. I made roasted delicata squash and explained you could actually eat the skin when you cooked it that way (sliced half moon style). She loved it. Also, one of our Club teens said she was actually able to do a homemade pie for Thanksgiving using the sugar pumpkins we gave to families.”
- “One client told us that they preferred the fresh produce to receiving meals delivered from us as they really enjoy cooking at home. Another client specifically mentioned the produce boxes along with meal deliveries as greatly helping them leave an unsafe home. It provided them with food independence from a violent abuser.”
- “One client specifically was extremely excited to see some of the peppers we had purchased using KCFS funding--an uncommon variety that they recognized from their hometown.”



- “We have a home delivery client who is a cancer survivor on a very restricted diet, including eating only organic foods. We were able to provide an amazing array of organic produce for them this year and they were both surprised and grateful that a food bank could do that.”
- “Vietnamese clients specifically requested amaranth leaves for their nutritious home delivered groceries, and partnering with New Roots allowed us to provide these for the first time.”
- “There were multiple families that shared how they looked forward to and depended on the produce that was provided weekly.”

#### KCFS Year-end Surveys from Participating Farmers

*Describe any successes/achievements for you or your farming operations that came about due to participating in KCFS this season.*

- “It allowed us to get to build connection outside of our typical channels and it was always a joy delivering the produce and seeing it go to a good home”
- “More diversified sales outlets, larger sales made”
- “More food distributed to those in need is always our goal.”

*Did participating in the KCFS program impact your ability to enter or learn about new markets or build new partnerships? If so, how?*

- “We definitely learned about these organizations for hunger relief and developing these relationships has helped not just our farm but has given food eaters great knowledge about local agriculture and opportunities to eat more diverse foods that were locally grown.”
- “It makes us more aware about where our food can go.”



# Thank you for the produce!

## ¡Gracias por los productos frescos!



### Produce I loved:

Productos frescos que me encantaron:

Cherry tomatoes,  
Cauliflower, Onions

### Other produce I'd like:

Otras productos frescos que  
me gustarian:

Potatoes!



### Food Bank/M Meal Provider:

Despensa comunitaria/Proveedor  
de comida:

[www.HarvestAgainstHunger.org/KCFS](http://www.HarvestAgainstHunger.org/KCFS)

### What getting farm-fresh food means to me:

Lo que significa para mí obtener alimentos frescos  
de la granja:

- FRESH  
TASTE!

- Clean!

- Non-toxic!

Thx for  
Sharing Very  
Kind



# Thank you for the produce!

## ¡Gracias por los productos frescos!



### Produce I loved:

Productos frescos que me encantaron:

I like all of the produce

### Other produce I'd like:

Otras productos frescos que  
me gustarian:



### Food Bank/M Meal Provider:

Despensa comunitaria/Proveedor  
de comida:

[www.HarvestAgainstHunger.org/KCFS](http://www.HarvestAgainstHunger.org/KCFS)

### What getting farm-fresh food means to me:

Lo que significa para mí obtener alimentos frescos  
de la granja:

Getting fresh produce  
makes everything  
better





# King County Farmers Share

Building  
relationships for  
a healthy,  
sustainable  
local food  
system

A program of

**HARVEST  
AGAINST  
HUNGER**

Thanks to a generous grant from  
**KED** King Conservation District

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Food Bank:

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