

**City of Milwaukee-Community Development Block Grant
Large Impact Development Project Funding Report**

Project Name: Growing Capacity for the Green Economy **Date:** February 18, 2013

Project Number: C1511B216 **Grant Amount:** \$385,801

Activity Summary:

The goal of Growing Power's Growing Capacity for the Green Economy (GCGE) program is to provide Milwaukee's minority, unemployed adults with skills, training, and hands-on work experiences in the fields of intensive sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, environmental education, and community food system development to prepare them for immediate work in the Green industry. Growing Power entered a contractual agreement with the Community Development Grant Administration to provide:

1. Education and training in advanced methods of intensive agriculture;
2. Research and development of new methods and technologies in the greening field;
3. 15 full-time employee (FTE) positions at the onset of the project and 150 FTE positions upon project completion (2013), with focus on local and sustainable food production; and
4. The promotion and creation of community food security in Milwaukee.

The initial months of the grant consisted of heavy employee recruitment and interviewing. Growing Power partnered with local organizations like the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board, United Migrant Opportunity Services, Goodwill Industries of SE WI and local collaborations (Westlawn Partnership for a Healthier Environment) to recruit employees and reach the goal of enrolling up to 50 low-income, unemployed individuals in the job training program in 2011. Recruiting proved to be more difficult than anticipated. At the end of the grant in February 2012, Growing Power had filled 56 FTE positions (43 were from the Milwaukee CDBG target area), exceeding our year 1 goal by 6 FTE positions. These new hires were engaged in expanding Growing Power's urban sustainable food production by constructing 100 year-round hoop-houses in the City of Milwaukee and the instillation of raised garden beds to grow local sustainable food throughout the year. To date, Growing Power has created 123 FTE positions with livable wages since the start of the program in 2011.

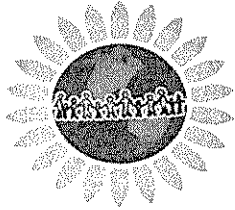
All of Growing Power's new hires (including the 43 from the CDBG target area) participated in an intensive 12-month training period. The hands-on training includes basic construction skills and safety (for building hoop-houses); urban sustainable agriculture (composting, vermiculture, year-round production, raised garden bed installation and maintenance); community engagement and development; and renewable energy practices. In addition, Growing Power entered a contract with the Milwaukee Area Workforce Investment Board to train up to 50 "Out-of-School" youth aged 18-24, who qualify for WIA funds. This past fall, Growing Power entered its second year of contract funding with the MAWIB and is now working with Community Advocates (CA) to track and provide comprehensive case management and job-readiness skills to this group of young people. Growing Power and CA staff identified several young adults to engage in this training opportunity upon exiting the MAWIB program. Training activities will focus on urban sustainable agriculture.

Growing Power is impacting the lives of low-income, disadvantaged populations in at least three ways:

1. Full time, livable wage jobs are being offered to individuals who are oftentimes overlooked, stereotyped against, and lacking on-the-job skills. The organization is taking great care to instill these job-related skills to ultimately improve the quality of life for the individual and create a healthier, more holistic and “working” community.
2. The families of these new hires are no doubt impacted by the repercussions of their newfound employment and access to fresh, affordable, and locally grown food. New full-time staffs receive a Farm-to-City market basket on a weekly basis as part of their benefits package with the option to access Health Insurance: two incredibly important benefits that impact the health and well-being of children and their families.
3. The new hires and job trainees are constructing hoop-houses throughout the City of Milwaukee. This new construction both increases the production of locally grown, affordable and nutritious food as well as raises the consciousness of Milwaukee residents about urban sustainable agriculture and eating local and fresh produce. Milwaukee neighborhoods throughout the city are experiencing revitalization around urban agriculture that is both engaging and catering to the needs of each neighborhood.

Growing Power leveraged 100% of the grant award to support the GCGE project. Growing Power has received \$540,500 in leverage funds for GCGE from the following sources:

- USDA Beginner Farmer & Rancher Development Grant - \$261,000
- Helen Bader Foundation - \$100,000
- Ceres Foundation - \$100,000
- Northwestern Mutual Foundation - \$40,000
- Wells Fargo Foundation - \$30,000
- St. Matthews Evangelic Church - \$9,500



GROWING POWER_{INC.}

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Site	Address	# Hoop Houses
Firestation	1313 W. Reservoir Ave.	4
Carlton Elementary	4116 W. Silver Spring Dr.	26
10th & North Ave.	1003 W. North Ave.	8
16th St. Parkway site (20th St.)		46
Growing Power	5500 W. Silver Spring Dr.	2
Aurora Sinai (11th St.)		1
Pastor Sims (Capitol Drive)	6103 W. Capitol	1
4th & Walnut	lot east of 416 W. Walnut St.	3
6th and Howard (County)	East of 6th St., North of Howard Ave.	5
6th Street Brownfield	4135 S. 6th St.	2
All Peoples Church	2nd & Clarke	3
TOTAL Milwaukee Hoop Houses		101

Organization Name: Growing Power, Inc.

Account Number: CD7850170337

Activity & NSP Area: _____

2012 Direct Benefits Form

CDA - 35

Monthly Report

Report No: 1 Reporting Period 03/11 - 07/12
(Month/Year)

Cumulative From: 03/11 - 07/12
(Month/Year)

Prepared By: L. Nakielski Date: 8/27/12

CDGA Approval: MSB Date: 10/5/12

Check the Appropriate Box:

- Households Benefiting (Head of Household)
- Individuals Benefiting

See Instructions on Next Page

Reporting Category: Totals must be an unduplicated count of clients served	A. Client Race (Those who are counted in any of the racial categories below, may also be counted as Hispanic)																				B. Female Head of Household	C. Client Income Level (*see below)						
	White		Black or African American		Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander		Asian		American Indian or Alaskan Native		Black or African American & White		Asian & White		American Indian or Alaskan Native & White		American Indian or Alaskan Native & Black or African American		Other Multi-Race			Total Served		ELI	LI	MI	Non Low Mod	
	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M								
1. Previous Cumulative Totals																												
2. Total Served this report	3	6	5	22			1	4												2	43	5	9	21	10	3		
3. Cumulative TOTALS (Add #1 & 2)	3	6	5	22			1	4												2	43	5	9	21	10	3		
Of the total number of clients served above, list BELOW those that are also of Hispanic heritage.																												
4. Previous Cumulative Total of Hispanics																												
5. Total Hispanics served this report																				2	2							
6. Cumulative Total Hispanics served (Add #4 & 5)																				2	2							

*ELI = Extremely Low Income (less than 30% of County Median Income)

*LI = Low Income (between 31% & 50% of County Median Income)

*MI = Moderate Income (between 51% & 80% of County Median Income)

*Non Low Moderate Income - Above 80% of County Median Income

NOTE: The number of clients served, as reported on this form must be exactly the same as those reported on the Project Activity Report.

Growing Power of Milwaukee: Food Systems Specialist Job Training Hoop House/Greenhouse Construction



Growing Power's job training program prepares older youth with skills needed to succeed in the growing urban sustainable agriculture sector. Youth completed the 12 months of job training in October, 2011 and celebrated their graduation on October 26, 2011 at the Growing Power Community Food Center where Mr. Will Allen, CEO of Growing Power, presented them with certificates of achievement.

As part of their job training requirement, the youth constructed over 20 hoop-houses and contributed to the local production of over 150,000 pounds of food that was distributed through Growing Power's Rainbow Farmers Cooperative to stores, restaurants, and Milwaukee families via the Farm-to-City Market Basket program.

Growing Power will offer full-time employment to all of the graduates, now trained and familiar with the organization's methods. The graduates who choose to stay on with Growing Power will serve as peer mentors to the next group of job trainees. Growing Power plans to train and hire over 100 people in the next couple of years to address the unemployment rate in Milwaukee.

This training program received **\$385,801** in CDBG funds in 2011.

Growing Power of Milwaukee: Hoop House/Greenhouse Construction

