



SLC Food Microgrants

Selection Committee Orientation

March 3, 2026

Agenda

1. Welcome and roll call
2. Open & Public Meetings Act (OPMA) Training
3. Committee by-laws review & adoption
4. Overview of SLC Food Microgrant Program
5. Review of scoring process & rubrics
6. Next steps & timeline
7. Adjourn



Introductions

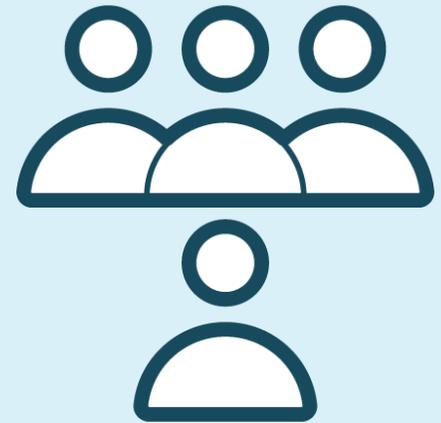
- Name
- Connection
- Favorite food in SLC

SALT LAKE CITY



Open & Public Meetings Act (OPMA)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QNVBuXB7vkM>



Committee By-Laws

Review & Adopt



Draft of Committee By-Laws



Review



Questions or concerns



Vote to adopt



Roles



SLC Food Microgrant Program



Program history & purpose



Nuts & bolts



Funding categories



Why does this program exist?

Nearly **1-in-3 SLC residents** may be considered food insecure. **More than 40% are not able to access the types of food they prefer** to eat, especially healthy foods, culturally relevant foods, or medically needed foods. Food insecurity is not spread evenly among Salt Lake City residents or neighborhoods.

Grocery prices have risen an average of 30% since 2019. Other food system challenges like avian flu and safety recalls have created food shortages.

Salt Lake City provides **access to resources and opportunities** that support everyone in overcoming barriers to their success so that our community today, and generations tomorrow, can thrive.



Resident Food Equity Advisors



Program Purpose

*To **increase access** to healthy, affordable, culturally relevant food and to **build an inclusive community** around healthy food choices so individuals living in Salt Lake City have many opportunities to shape, participate in, and enjoy a sustainable, accessible, and resilient local food environment.*



SLC Food Microgrant Program Overview



SALT LAKE CITY



Program Goals

1. Foster resilient, diverse, and inclusive healthy neighborhood food environments.
2. Support multiple pathways for traditionally marginalized individuals and neighborhoods to consistently access and grow fresh, affordable, healthy, and culturally relevant food.
3. Increase the availability and accessibility of food information and resources.



Program Basics

- About \$50,000 to distribute
- Supported through General Fund with additional funding through the Okta-Solar Stewards REC Community Program
- Grant categories:
 - Home Food Production Grant (\$250)
 - Community Grant (up to \$5,000)
- Eligibility
 - Salt Lake City boundaries
 - No political, media, government groups



Key Funding Categories

1. ***Growing Food*** – expand opportunities & access to grow food locally
2. ***Inclusive Outreach*** – support accessible information about food resources
3. ***Dignified Food Access*** – improve ways to access healthy food that respect individual agency & choice
4. ***Neighborhood Healthy Food Environments*** – support access to healthy, fresh foods near where people live, work, & learn



Support for Impacted Groups

This program aims to support projects led by and serving those who identify as members of groups that have been most negatively impacted by the food system. Identifying with one or more of these groups is not required to receive funding.

- Black, Indigenous, and People of Color
- Historically marginalized or under-resourced people and neighborhoods
- People and households living in poverty or with low- or moderate-incomes
- Unsheltered or informally housed people
- LGBTQIA2S+ individuals
- People with disabilities
- Veterans
- Adults 65+ years
- Families with children under 18 years
- Single parent households with children
- Nontraditional students
- New Americans
- Formerly incarcerated people
- Groups for whom other funding opportunities are or historically have been limited



Impact of Microgrant Program

“[The microgrant] allowed me to have fresh produce without having to worry about whether these nutrient-rich items fit my weekly grocery budget. I was able to have **fresh and flavorful meals with my family more often** than I would've been able to do without the grant.”

“...I've been able to put out produce for neighbors and unhoused passersby every day. People pick what they want, and I love that I'm able to give a little back to our amazing neighborhood. We have lots of elders on our block and they don't get a lot of fresh produce. **I think the produce you've helped me grow is partially responsible for how safe and welcome I feel at home.**”



Scoring Process



SALT LAKE CITY



Challenging traditional grant processes to promote accessibility

Where issues surface in grantmaking & how we can address them



Power over & gatekeeping



Worship of the written word



Only one right way



Individualism & paternalism



Perfectionism



Power over & gatekeeping



Shared decision making and centering community leaders

Worship of the written word



Scoring based on content and project impact rather than writing skills

Only one right way



Looking for creativity & diverse problem-solving strategies

Individualism & paternalism



Trust-based funding mindset

Perfectionism



Learning approach & flexibility



Steps to Scoring & Recommending Home Food Production

Process

1. Receive a selection of applications
2. Review & score: recommended or not
3. Follow up discussion for any concerns or questions at next meeting

Proposed Award Selection

1. 100 grants reserved for HFP category
2. Selection can be further based on
 - Location
 - Income
 - Past funding
3. Send out award notifications & payments



Steps to Scoring & Recommending Community

Process

1. Receive all grant applications
2. Review & score applications
3. Follow up discussion for questions, concerns, & scoring discrepancies

Proposed Award Selection

1. Total scores per category & overall
2. Determine category weights then *math*
3. Use score rankings &/or prioritization criteria (location, budget size, past funding) to recommend awarded organizations & determine funding levels



Scoring Rubrics



SALT LAKE CITY



Applicants

Overview



146 - Home Food Production

\$36,500 requested



37 - Community

\$ 167,315.18



\$203,815.18 - Total Request



Community Grant Applicants

Accumold Distribution Green Farms
Albert's Produce
Allred Greens Family Farm
Blue Sky Institute
Chef Mikey
Community Health Centers, Inc.
Craft Lake City
Dorcas Tando Kafuti (Farmer)
East Central Community Council Outreach Garden
Edison Elementary
Evelyn's Prime Poultry
Food Not Bombs SLC
Frog Bench Farms
Future Craft Farm Collective
Garden Crew's Braided Roots Soil Share Program
Good Garden Friends
Green SLC
Grow the Village
Hartland Community 4 Youth & Families

Herrera Food Movement for Community Nutrition
IRC's New Roots Program
Jayhawks
Mazzella Community Garden of Fletcher Court
Mother & Bean
New Neighborhood Food Movement
New Seed Farmers
Rose Park Bee Club
Save the Lake Farm
Solstice Malt
Somali Community Self-Management Agency
StrEATS
The Center Contemplative
U of U Center for Community Nutrition: Food, Movement, and You
U of U Farmers Market
Utah Animal Rights Coalition
Utah Pacific Islander Health Coalition
Wasteless Solutions

Next Steps

Actions & Timeline

- **This week:**
 - Eligibility & duplicate review
 - Confirm training/orientation
 - Notify about potential conflicts of interest
 - Receive HFP applications
- **March 16 (eod) – Review & score HFP applications**
- March 17 – Meet to review and approve HFP awardees; receive CG applications



Next Steps

Actions & Timeline

- **March 30 - Review & score CG applications**
- March 31- Meet to discuss CG applications & scores
- April 7 – Meet to continue discussions on CG applications & scores
- April 14 – Meet to finalize funding recommendations





Questions?
