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Application Summary of: Rowan County Cooperative Extension | Albertson, Amy-Lynn
Program Name: Asphalt to Gardens

Organization Information

Organization Information

*Organization Name: Rowan County Cooperative Extension

Mailing address:

*Street Address 2727-A Old Concord Road

*City: Salisbury

*State: North Carolina

*Zip: 28146

*Telephone: 704-216-8970

Fax: 704-216-8995

Web Address: rowan.ces.ncsu.edu

Application Contact Information

Organization Information	
*Salutation:	Ms.
*Contact First Name:	Amy-Lynn
*Contact Last Name:	Albertson
*Title:	County Extension Director
*Telephone:	704-216-8970
*Email Address:	alalbert@ncsu.edu
*Is the contact person listed above also the Executive Director?	Yes
<hr/> Organization Status <hr/>	
*Is the organization a tax exempt charitable organization 501(c)3:	No
<u>Is your organization a:</u>	
*Government tax-exempt unit:	Yes
*Accredited educational Institution:	Yes
*What are the current Assets of the organization?	\$7888.00
*Does your organization conduct an audit?	Yes
*What is your most recent audit date?	12/01/2022
*What is your annual operating budget?	14,000.00
*List your income from the previous fiscal year:	\$16,135.00
*List your expenses from the previous fiscal year:	\$20,302.00

Project Request Information
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Project Request Information	
*Project Title:	Asphalt to Gardens
*Grant request amount:	\$6,000.00
*Total Project Budget :	\$250,000.00
*Start date:	3/01/2023
*Completion date:	6/30/2025
*Provide a brief project summary (<i>Max words 50</i>):	Rowan Cooperative Extension with Rowan County Extension Master Gardener Volunteer Program wants to build a sustainable garden area for demonstration and community gardens in the 2 acres of the parking lot behind the new agricultural center at West End Plaza in Salisbury, using permaculture as a guiding principle.

Project Request Information

**Describe your proposal in detail: (include objectives, background of project, demonstration of need and how funds will be used)? (Max words 500)*

The funds will be used for the design proposal for the gardens. Cooperative Extension and the Rowan County Master Gardeners want the gardens to be a destination garden site for plant lovers to visit when they come to Salisbury. We also want the gardens to be functional and beneficial for teaching, demonstration, and recreation in the surrounding neighborhoods. At the Current location of Cooperative Extension's offices at 2727 Old Concord Road in Salisbury, the Master Gardener Volunteers maintain and develop close to 1 acre of demonstration garden area. Pollinator gardens, sensory gardens, herb gardens, southern living gardens, and raised bed gardens are part of the landscape's demonstration portion. In addition, a beehive has been added, as well as bat houses. The Master Gardener Volunteers have spent the last 30 years fundraising to work towards improving the existing gardens. West End Plaza will double the area where Volunteers and Educators will have to work, allowing for community garden teaching and sharing with the educational expertise that Cooperative Extension can provide in gardening and healthy eating. We also see the potential for horticultural therapy work and creating ability gardens as well. We have asked for ability gardens to be a part of our design. We plan to plant trees, shrubs, and perennials to assist with runoff as rain gardens and swales. This is where permaculture principles become essential to our design process so that we look at the environment as a whole and how all the plants can work together to suit our urban situation best.

The 2020 census indicated that 36% of residents in this part of Salisbury are paying more than 30% of their income toward housing. Furthermore, the number of low-income households facing a severe cost burden for shelter is 49.71%. The Salisbury Parks and Recreation Master Plan for 2019 identified the West End Plaza area as a gap with no parks or greenway access within a half-mile. Many studies have shown that health benefits may be most substantial among disadvantaged groups in green spaces. The more green space in an area, the more residents experience a reduced stress level and better well-being than those with poorer green space availability. These gardens will provide green space and access to healthy food for those living in the West End Plaza Neighborhood. In the census block that the West End Plaza would serve, the poverty rate is 23%, and unemployment is 10%. Fifty-two percent of the housing is renter-occupied, with a median household income of \$44,723. In Rowan County, food insecurity affects 20.6% of our children. These households are likely to utilize local food banks for nutritional needs. Community gardens help families reduce pandemic-related economic losses by supplementing their diets with nutritious foods. The community gardens at West End Plaza will serve as a food source and a place for community socialization. Cooperative Extension has an Expanded Food and Nutrition Educator who will work directly with participants in the garden on how to prepare healthy meals with garden produce.

**What funds from other sources have been received or are under consideration for this project? List sources and amounts.*

As part of the base plan for renovations to the West End Plaza to become an Ag center, Rowan County has committed \$30M towards this project. Most of those funds are toward the renovation of the building, but the removal of the asphalt is part of the base plan as the installation of base irrigation. The Master Gardener Volunteers have committed \$3,000.00 towards this project as of January 2023 for the design and planning phases.

Cooperative Extension is applying for various grants to support the installation and implementation of the plan.

Project Request Information	
*Are you willing to make this grant application a Challenge Grant (where by no funds from The BJRFF, Inc. will be disbursed until funds are secured from other sources and approved by The BJRFF Board)? List sources and amounts.	We feel it is vital to have the design in hand in order to apply for other grants to show other funders what the finished project will look like. Right now we have a subjective idea in place but we would like to have renderings with a solid budget plan to use for future grant proposals.
*What percentage of your annual budget is spent in Rowan County?	90%
*What percentage of your Grant project budget will be spent in Rowan County?	50%
*Will local vendors be used for the project?	No
*If no, please explain:	We want to work with a design firm that specializes in permaculture. Sow Permaculture is a part of the Greensboro Permaculture Guild and came highly recommended.
*How many people do you employee?	7
*What percentage of your employees live in Rowan County?	85%
*How many people will be impacted by your project?	140000
*What is a measurable result you expect to accomplish with this grant? Please be specific in your reply.	<p>The gardens will provide green space to Salisbury/Rowan County residents living near West End Plaza.</p> <p>The gardens will allow more fresh fruits and vegetables in the diets of those near the West End Plaza. Cooperative Extension will provide nutrition education for those participating in the community gardens and general gardening education. Cooperative Extension would like to partner with other agencies to use the parks for horticultural therapy. DayMark is next door to where the gardens will be built and would be a great partner.</p>
*Do you have another measurable result you expect to accomplish with this grant?	No
*How do you plan to fund this project in the future? Explain your sustainability plan (<i>Max words 100</i>):	Once the gardens are established, maintenance of the gardens will be kept up by the Rowan County Master Gardener Volunteers and the Rowan County Cooperative Extension Program. The Rowan County, Master Gardeners Volunteers, fundraise annually and volunteer labor in the gardens. Cooperative Extension will use the gardens as part of its teaching program, and maintenance and repair of the gardens will be part of the annual county budget process.

Organization Overview	
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Organization Overview	
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<p>*Organization mission:</p>	<p>NC State Extension extends research-based knowledge to all North Carolinians, helping them transform science into everyday solutions that improve their lives and grow our state.</p>
<p>*What is the geographic service area being served, such as neighborhood, county-wide, Salisbury area, etc.? (50 words max)</p>	<p>We serve all the residents of Rowan County, and North Carolina.</p>
<p>*Organization core services (100 words max):</p>	<p>We are the trusted, go-to resource for connecting research and education to the communities, economies and families of our state, creating prosperity for all North Carolinians.</p> <p>Core Services: Agriculture and Food, Health and Nutrition, 4H and Youth Development.</p>
<p>*Address the qualifications of the organization and the person or persons who will lead this project:</p>	<p>Amy-Lynn Albertson is the County Extension Director for Rowan County Cooperative Extension</p> <p>MS Horticulture University of Tennessee 2001</p> <p>22 years experience as Horticulture Extension Agent for NC Cooperative Extension</p> <p>Coordinating and leading successful Master Gardener Volunteer Program</p> <p>7 years experience as County Extension Director for Rowan County revitalizing Rowan County Voluntary Agricultural District</p> <p>the adoption of the Rowan County Working Ag Lands Plan 2023</p> <p>project leader for the West End Plaza Ag Center move</p> <p>Rowan County Master Gardener Extension Volunteers</p>
<p>*Do you need licensing, zoning, or other regulatory approval to conduct the project?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>*Have you received a grant from The Blanche and Julian Robertson Family Foundation in the last 3 years?</p>	<p>No</p>
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Project Impact	
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<p>*What is the main area of impact for your grant? Choose one:</p>	<p>Education</p>

Attachments

Attachments

Please upload the following documentation in support of your application:

*Current list of Board of Directors or Board of Trustee: <i>(Please identify Gender & Race)</i>	2023 Rowan County Cooperative Extension Advisory Council.docx
*Recent 990 Form or financial report:	Rowan - 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.pdf
*IRS 501 (c) 3 or appropriate tax determination status letter:	W-9 County of Rowan 2023.pdf
*Project budget:	ROWAN COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION (1).pdf
*Organization's annual budget for current fiscal year, including income and expenses:	Budget2023.pdf
*Organization's annual budget for the previous year, including income and expenses:	FY22Budget.pdf
Please submit any pictures that correlate with your project:	WestEndPlazaGardens.pdf

Certification

Certification

*Do you certify that this application has been reviewed by the organization's governing body and chief executive officer and approved for submission, all information provided is accurate to the best of your knowledge and the project and schedule as presented will be addressed:

Yes

*Signature of Representative requesting grant:

Amy-Lynn Albertson 2/20/2023 1:35 PM

Document Title	Question	Size (KB)	Date Uploaded
Budget2023.pdf	ATannual budget for current fiscal year	224.71	2/20/2023 12:58 PM
FY22Budget.pdf	ATannual budget for the previous year	243.96	2/20/2023 1:34 PM
W-9 County of Rowan 2023.pdf	ATappropriate tax determination status	150.41	2/20/2023 12:58 PM

2023 Rowan County Cooperative Extension Advisory Council.docx	ATCurrent list of Board of Directors	13.8	2/20/2023 12:58 PM
WestEndPlazaGardens.pdf	ATPlease submit any pictures	2931.8	2/18/2023 11:48 AM
ROWAN COUNTY COOPERATIVE EXTENSION (1).pdf	ATProject budget	241.58	2/18/2023 11:46 AM
Rowan - 2022 Annual Comprehensive Financial Report.pdf	ATRecent 990 Form	3819.36	2/20/2023 12:58 PM

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