



THE GARDEN CLUB of AMERICA

2018 FOUNDERS FUND AWARD FINALISTS

Proposal Summaries

Roots Rising: A Food Truck and Financial Stability

Proposed by: The Lenox Garden Club, Zone I

Seconded by: The Worcester Garden Club, Zone I

Roots Rising seeks to launch a non-profit food truck that will be a mobile classroom, a work site, a business incubator and our flagship enterprise. At-risk teens who work on farms, in community gardens and in food pantries will source ingredients from local farms and prepare nutritious meals that will be sold to the community while they learn entrepreneurial, horticultural, and culinary skills.

Dunbar Garden Kitchen-Classroom

Proposed by: The Little Rock Garden Club, Zone IX

Seconded by: The Memphis Garden Club, Zone IX

For 25 years Dunbar Garden has provided educational opportunities to students and adults. The proposed kitchen-classroom will facilitate cross-curriculum knowledge to over 800 children via workshops in the neighboring community.

Visualize children cooking and eating eggs gathered from their chickens; honey on bread ground from wheat they have grown; marketing locally their herbs and vegetables, if the children have not eaten them first!?!

Dunbar's current primitive facilities limit the programs sowed and excitement reaped!

A Therapeutic Garden: Nurturing Plants and Lifting Spirits

Proposed by: The Kenilworth Garden Club, Zone XI

Seconded by: The Evanston Garden Club, Zone XI

Misericordia provides care to over 600 children and adults with wide ranging developmental disabilities. The installation of a garden that will include walker/wheelchair accessible paths and raised work spaces will allow the staff to implement horticultural therapy techniques, gardening activities and vocational training. In addition to these everyday activities, the tangible benefits are beyond measure: increasing awareness and enjoyment of the outdoor world, facilitating communication and socialization, improving focus and reducing stress and anxiety.