

USVI MICRO-GRANT for FOOD SECURITY PROJECT (MGFSP) - AWARDED PROPOSALS			
Last Name	First Name	DESCRIPTION	Award
Aurelien-Wilson	Mathilde	Mathilde's Farm establishing specialized vegetable beds for intensive market gardening. This project will enhance the farm's food crop production by building a 1 acre of highly efficient garden beds designed for intensive crop production through constant crop rotation that produces a steady stream of high-quality chemical-free produce to Saint Croix food-insecure population at local markets and food programs. Grant funding obtained will buy drip irrigation equipment, organic soil amendments, and organic and fabric matching materials. It will also enable purchase of seeds, plant starts, harvest, soil preparation equipment, and/or rentals.	\$5,000
Badeau	Christophonte	Badeau's healthy and affordable produce farm. The project proposes to manage crop production and prevent crop loss by developing a micro-irrigation system which will aid in the development of nutritious and affordable agriculture products that will be accessible to the local community. By protecting crops from the harsh effects of drought I will be able to produce watermelon, cucumbers, pumpkins, tomatoes, sorrel, green banana, bell and seasoning peppers, papayas, cassava, turmeric, and pineapples in abundance. Funds will be used to purchase micro-irrigation system supplies.	\$5,000
Bully	Lenn	Produce Safety Alliance (PSA) Facility to comply with Food Safety Mordernization Act (FSMA) standards. The project proposes to increase local food security by decreasing the quantity of waste of edible products (both fruits and vegetable) on my 6 acre farm. Construction has been completed on the 20' x 5' facility, and a range of equipment needed to create a food packing house and value-added product processing facility has been purchased (industrial blenders, freezers, refrigerators, stainless steel sinks and pressure sprayers, stainless steel tables, and commercial mats). Grant funds will be used to purchase food dehydrators and pay for the services needed to hook up electrical and plumbing components of this project.	\$5,000
Boyea	Kimani	Water consolidation and youth education of agriculture through STEM. Project proposes to create an aboveground catchment system large enough to consolidate a significant amount of water for use during drought. Additionally this project will continue an educational initiative that exposes the next generation to the importance of food and the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) processes involved in creating and growing local food to address agriculture sustainability and food security for today and the future. Funds will be used to purchase materials and supplies to develop the water catchment system, and to train students in the related STEM sciences involved.	\$5,000
Benjamin	Marie	To increase the quantity of locally grown produce in the territory relative to low income and individuals at a disadvantage. The project proposes to develop 2 acres of land into subdivisions to grow bananas, pumpkin, lettuce, plantain, tomatoes, and peppers. Funds will be used for land preparation, fencing, water tanks, water pump, seedlings/plants, t-posts, and irrigation supplies.	\$5,000
Muhammed	David & Linda	VI Farmacy grows food for local consumption, and to produce veggie burgers, condiments and toppings. We propose to use locally grown produce to develop value-added products namely veggie burgers, condiments, toppings, probiotic drinks, and fermentations. In addition, in order to minimize unfavorable conditions caused by drought and flooding, we will produce compost to use as soil amendment and to sell. Funds will be used to buy seeds, farm tools, refrigerators and refrigeration units; assemble a compost bin and continue instructing the community on how to prepare affordable, healthy, tasty, locally grown food, and introduce speciality foods and value-added products.	\$5,000
Baptiste	James	"Grandma's Garden" will seek to grow local produce/spices without chemicals and preservatives. This project proposes to increase the amount and availability of locally grown produce by ensuring proper hydration year round through the establishment of an irrigation system supported by a functioning well. Funds will be used to purchase materials to repair an existing well on cultivated property, installation improvements of irrigation system, installation of fence areas to increase food security, support systems for fruit trees, and procurement of a 800 gallon water tank.	\$5,000
Giron	Ortilio	Sustainable Backyard Garden Project. This project proposes to increase the quantity and quality of food produced. Because I am a senior citizen, I need resources such as irrigation hoses and tubing, PVC pipes and connectors, water tanks for storage, and labor to assist with farm work. Additionally, in order to better use integrated pest management strategies to reduce pest occurrence, I need access to organic pesticide such as Dipel and Spinosad, along with a chemical sprayer and related protective gear.	\$5,000
Gordon	Searl	Small scale/self-sustaining garden project for supplying locally grown food for consumption. Garden will also serve as a hands-on training ground for embryonic farmers. The project aims to utilize some of our unused lands to create a training ground for students interested in expanding their knowledge base in agricultural science; and to demonstrate the usefulness and benefits of serving the community through food production and distribution. Funds will be used to protect the entire gardening by erecting security protective fences (already purchased) to ward off the deer population. Funds will also be used to secure a portable water supply source and the related plumbing materials that can be connected to a drip irrigation system.	\$5,000
Buntin	Julio	Developing a sustainable poultry farm to provide affordable and high-quality food to the community. This project would provide fresh eggs to the community and establish new markets for consumer access to the products. This grant will be used to buy materials to rebuild a current chicken coop, to establish a healthy outdoor area, to buy new chicks, and to buy the food needed to establish them.	\$5,000

William	Artherley	Fencing and supplies to sustain local food production. This project would provide protection from deer and wild chickens invading a 1 acre farm that produces beets,, lettuce, celery, papaya, cucumbers, tomatoes, kale, carrots, packchoi, parsley, passion fruits,pumpkins, sweet peppers, etc. By purchasing the materials and supplies needed to secure the fenceline we would be able to eliminate the damage done by these predators that result in at least a 50% decrease in yields.	\$5,000
Gonzales	Wendy	Learning to love what we grow, Learning to love what we eat. This project proposes to expand on an urban forestry project to include horizontal and vertical farming structures to develop viable growth opportunities for herb gardening and fruit trees propagation. The two gardens on the property will be expanded to include the production of herbs, sweet peppers, hot peppers, celery, parsley, onion, garlic, thyme, and basil. These items will be packaged in the form of dry seasoning and bottled hot sweet pepper sauce. 50% of the harvest will be donated to the schools kitchen to make the meals more tasty. 50% of the harvest will be used to sell seasoning and seedlings to genuine public. A fruit tree Lane will be included consisting of grafted varieties of mango, golden apple, passionfruit, Jujube, and banana. (Claudoe Markoe ES)	\$5,000
Lee	Andrea	Increase local produce development. This project will allow a 80 year old senior citizen to purchase materials to facilitate the tedious upkeep of her 4.5 acre farm where she currently grows tomatoes, cucumbers, eggplants, okra, bell peppers, sweet peppers, plantains, and a range of fruit trees (coconut, avocado, mango, papaya, and passion fruit). Resources such as irrigation hoses and tubing, PVC piping and connectors, fencong ton keep deer out, water tanks for storage, and labor to assist with production.	\$5,000
Warner	Trevor	Local honey production and marketing project. This project proposes to increase the success of the farming operation by allowing for production growth and supporting the implementation of increased marketing strategies to reach a wider audience base. Funds awarded will be used to purchase a large quantity of bee boxes, and to develop and print banners to advertise products in a more consistent manner.	\$5,000
St.Valle	Maria	Local produce is the better choice. This project proposes to enhance the farm infrastructure by purchasing two water buffaloes, materials to develop an effective irrigation system, a tiller, seedlings and fertilizer. These investments will ensure adequate palnt growth, and result in higher production yields. The objective is to increase the production of local fruits and vegetables to offer the community a healthier choice of local produce, and provide quality value-added agricultural products to the community.	\$5,000
Allembert	Roniel	Elimination of challenges such as impact of termites on local honey production. This project will allow for replacement of wooden bee boxes with plastic boxes. Wooden bee boxes currently being used do not last for the desired length of time and makes our operation very costly. This grant opportunity will allow us to divert from a possible cost increase for customers. This grant award would allow us to purchase a minimum of 100 large plastic bee boxes and the fund the required freight charge.	\$5,000
Chichester	Errol	Enhance food production and availability through appropriate tree pruning practices to increase food security in the Virgin Islands. This project proposes to control tree height through the use of various proven pruning practices. Trees will be pruned annually after each production season. Pruning will maintain tree height to between 8 to 10 feet high to facilitate easy hand harvest, invigorate tree health, and increase yield. Food loss would be greatly reduced as smaller tree size will allow for easy access to fruits from the ground. Consequently, implementing the program will allow more produce to be available for sale to the public and contribute to food security in the territory. Funding from the grant will be used to purchase supplies, equipment, and services to meet objectives of the product. Supplies such as a chipper, chainsaw, new chains, hand pruners, and labor.	\$5,000
Cornelius	Maude	Organic, sustainable, leafy green vegetables, and local, exotic fruits nursery. This project proposes to build and establish a greenhouse for local fruit slips, and leafy green vegetables. Grant funds would be used to purchase materials for building the greenhouse and also to fund the tractor work to clean and prepare farmland for crop production. Fruits and vegetables produced will also be developed into value added products and sold to different markets locally. Grant funds will be instrumental in helping to enhance production, presentation, and market advertising strategies to market products.	\$5,000
Southwell	Johnston	Striving toward food security in the United States Virgin Islands. This project proposes to expand and clear lands for the development of an agricultural crop prduction project. to grow underground (tuber crops), and crops that could last long periods without refrigeration, to increase food security during hurricane season. The activities to be conducted are as follows. Clearing of the existing agricultural land, fencing of the land with wire and poles,development of a drip irrigation system to include prrchase of a water catchment tank, and removing debris from the farmland.	\$5,000
Saks	Heather	Joseph Sibilly Elementary School garden program for food security. This project proposes to expand access to food and knowledge of food security by creating and maintaining a small-scale garden on the school campus. The students will be engaged in providing fresh, locally grown produce for their families and the school community, through the development and maintainance of a vegetable, fruit, and herb garden. Grant funds will be used to purchase soi; ammdments, fertilizers, seeds, seedlings. tools, supplies, and educational materials to enhance this Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Mathematics (STEAM) integrated experiential learning project.	\$5,000

Michealrose	Ravalier	Expansion of the Science Club Rain Garden to include Sustainable Food Production. This project proposes to grow herbs that will be used in the school kitchen for the preparation of lunches, and in the culinary arts classes. Additionally, breadfruit trees will be planted to increase the biodiversity of plants on the campus and provide fruit that can be used to prepare local dishes. When implemented, this initiative will engage students in experiential learning activities proven to improve student performance on standardized tests, while promoting responsibility in caring for the garden. Through this initiative 4 -5 major community and professional partnerships will be generated for ongoing support beyond the life of this grant. Funds awarded will be used to purchase plants, soil, tools, organic fertilizers & pesticides, and miscellaneous items to include materials to enhance soil balance. (Ivanna Eudora Dean HS)	\$5,000
Orta	Louis	Vertical Hydroponic System. This project propose to build a vertical hydroponic system to be used for growing lettuce and herbs, for marketing through the VI Department of Agriculture. This system will be able to grow twenty times more vegetables by maximizing on space. A list of supplies for the project will be provide and purchased from our local Home Depot.	\$5,000
Richards Jr	Lothrop	Mount Victory Coconut Cultivation Project. This project proposes to build out a water irrigation infrastructure to support a successful watering process for plants along with soil preparation and securing the infrastructure from wild animals. Once completed the first batch of 400 coconut trees will be planted. A "Coconut Farm" will be developed. The coconut tree provides food, fuel, cosmetics, folk medicine and building materials, among many other uses. Mature, ripe coconuts can be used as edible seeds, processed for oil and plant milk from the flesh, charcoal from the hard shell, and coir from the fibrous husk. Sweet coconut sap can be made into drinks or fermented into palm wine or coconut vinegar.	\$5,000
TOTAL AWARDS			\$115,000
		<i>In the event that any of the above candidates forfeits in any way (ex. no timely response, not physically on the island to conduct the project etc.) the following candidates who are next in ranking will be considered.</i>	
Garcia	Michael	Operation: Thirsty Plants. This project proposes to expand the amount and variety of food grown locally. The grant award will be used to purchase equipment and supplies to increase production despite the increase in temperatures. Funds will be used to update the greenhouse and composting system. We will purchase a shade cloth frame and metal poles to reestablish the greenhouse, as well as to repair and redesign a composting system severely damaged by hurricanes.	\$5,000
Joseph	Phillippa	Joseph Family USVI Food Security Mission. This project proposes to aid in increasing production and to provide additional space for storing food. Funds will be used to purchase additional gardening supplies such as soil ammendments, seeds, seedlings, fertilizers, and food storage equipment. Food grown will not only be sold, will also be donated to families in need islandwide.	\$5,000
Tzaddi	Tafari	Herbs & Tea Bush, Leafy Greens, Fruits Productivity and Added Value Products Marketing. Project funds will be used to expand crop productin, build a greenhouse, to establish a hydroponics garden, and to establish a vegetable/organic market store, supplying fresh food and drinks from locally grown foods to the community. Purchased items include irrigation supply items, water capture & storage tanks, seeds, seedlings, building materials for a marketing stand, and packaging for value added products.	\$5,000
Warren	Margot	Warren farm, nursery, and local egg production. This proposal seeks to enhance 1.5 acres of land that is partially being utilized to vegetable crops and 12 chickens. Funds will be used for land preparation on 1 acre, land division into four 100 sq foot growing areas, plant vegetables (eggplants, tomatoes, peppers and plantains), and to construct chicken coops to house 200 chickens for egg production.	\$5,000