

Firdous Community Garden Urban Agricultural Science Project-Based Learning Program

Introduction:

This proposal seeks funding of \$10,000 from the office of Commissioner Ted Terry to support Mohammed Schools of Atlanta through Firdous Community Garden's Urban Agricultural Program aimed at providing Project-Based Learning at Mohammed Schools of Atlanta. The program's objective is to introduce high school students to agribusiness and entrepreneurship through practical education and experience while focusing on skills development and project-based learning, fostering a strong sense of environmental stewardship.

Who We Serve:

Demographics of High School Teens:

Our primary beneficiaries are high school students attending Mohammed Schools of Atlanta. Our student body is a diverse mix of cultural backgrounds, with a significant representation of African-American, Hispanic, and immigrant students from South Asia, the Middle East, and Africa. Our students come from various socioeconomic backgrounds, reflecting the diversity of the Atlanta community.

Pilot Program Overview: Introduction to Skills Development Through Urban Agricultural Science:

The proposed pilot program seeks to introduce high school students to agribusiness and entrepreneurship. Through hands-on experience at our school's community garden, Firdous Community Garden, students will gain knowledge about sustainable agriculture, business management, marketing, and the economic aspects of agribusiness, all while focusing on skills development and project-based learning. The program aims to empower students with practical skills that will open doors to future educational and career opportunities while fostering a strong sense of environmental stewardship.

Need/Impact:

High school students at Mohammed Schools of Atlanta require an agribusiness course as an integral part of the project-based learning model to address the pressing need for practical, skills-oriented education. This need arises from the growing demand for a holistic educational approach that equips students with hands-on experiences, fosters entrepreneurship, and cultivates environmental stewardship, preparing them for the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century. Additionally, given the diverse student body and the rich cultural tapestry at Mohammed Schools, this program is essential in catering to varied interests and providing a comprehensive, inclusive education for Dekalb citizens.

Fiscal Impact:

We are seeking \$10,000 in funding to expand our Garden Program beyond K-8 and develop project-based learning opportunities for High School students. The breakdown is as follows:

1. Educational Materials and Resources: \$3,500

- Purchase of textbooks, learning materials, and resources to support the project based learning curriculum.

2. Garden Infrastructure and Maintenance: \$2,500

- Investment in essential garden infrastructure, tools, and maintenance to ensure a conducive learning environment.

3. Instructor Training: \$500

- Compensation for training teachers in curriculum delivery of agribusiness, skills development, and project-based learning.

4. Marketing and Outreach: \$1,000

- Promoting the program within our community and school to ensure maximum student enrollment, participation and community engagement.

5. Miscellaneous Expenses: \$1,000

- Covering unforeseen costs and program contingencies.

6. Administrative Costs: \$500

- Allocated for program administration, deliverable reporting, student course enrollment services and management.

Conclusion:

Commissioner Terry, your support in funding this program would significantly contribute to the development of teens, the promotion of real-world skills development and project-based learning, and the enhancement of our local community and agricultural systems. We are committed to providing updates on the program's progress and outcomes to ensure transparency and accountability for the use of funds.

If you have any questions regarding this proposal please do not hesitate to contact Terri Ali, Garden Manager, firdouscommunitygarden@mohammedschools.org or Stephanie Williams, Director of Advancement, fundraising@mohammedschools.org.