

Choose Your Pillar

Deciding the future of food together.

Big Green Table grants fund work across four pillars: Hunger, Health, Habitat, and Humanity. When you apply, pick the one pillar that best fits what your project does. If your work spans more than one, choose the pillar where you'd most like to apply, report, and build community with organizations that share your purpose. The metrics under each pillar are examples of what you might track and report if you're funded.

HUNGER

Getting fresh food to people

Getting fresh food to the people and neighborhoods who need it. Choose Hunger if you grow food for your community; run markets, pantries, or delivery that keep produce flowing; work to make food more affordable for households; or help your community build more control over where its food comes from.

YOU MAY TRACK:

- Servings or meals provided
- Households reached
- Markets or distribution points operated

EXAMPLE PROGRAMS

- Pay-what-you-can or pick-and-pay produce stands
- CSA (community-supported agriculture) shares
- Mobile food pantries and pop-up distributions

HEALTH

Helping people be healthier

Helping people eat well and use food and gardening to support health and wellbeing. Choose Health if you teach cooking or nutrition; help people build healthier eating habits; run food-as-medicine or produce prescription programs; or use food and gardens to support activity, time outdoors, and mental health.

YOU MAY TRACK:

- Participants in nutrition or cooking programming
- Education or cooking sessions held
- People completing a program
- Tastings or demos held

EXAMPLE PROGRAMS

- Cooking classes and culinary literacy workshops
- Nutrition education programs
- Food-as-medicine or produce prescription programs

HABITAT

Healthier land and green space

Making the land healthier, greening the community, and helping people learn to care for it. Choose Habitat if you teach environmental education or land stewardship; build healthy soil; create food forests or gardens and green space; compost or divert waste; support pollinators and biodiversity; or help your community handle heat and a changing climate.

YOU MAY TRACK:

- Square feet or acres in production
- Growing sites or beds supported
- Pounds of compost or waste diverted
- Native or pollinator plantings

EXAMPLE PROGRAMS

- Garden-based environmental education programs
- Tree planting and urban canopy restoration
- Composting programs (community or school-based)
- Native plant and pollinator gardens

HUMANITY

Connecting people, building opportunity

Using food and gardens to connect people and open doors. Choose Humanity if you bring neighbors together through events and shared meals; keep cultural and food traditions alive; engage and develop young people; create jobs, training, or leadership roles; or help your community build a stronger voice in its own food system.

YOU MAY TRACK:

- Youth reached
- Volunteers engaged
- Sessions or events held
- People completing workforce training
- New paid or leadership roles created

EXAMPLE PROGRAMS

- Community potlucks and harvest festivals
- Intergenerational gardening programs (elders and youth)
- Reentry and workforce training gardens

Choose one pillar per project when you apply. If you're funded, you'll report using the metrics that fit your work, and you can add your own.

biggreen.org/grantmaking