

2024 Lots of Compassion Grant

Please note: Do not submit this document to KidsGardening. Instead, it is to help your organization prepare your application responses ahead of time before you complete the online application. Simply copy and paste your answers from this document into the online form.

For full details, eligibility information, and the link to the online form, visit our website at <https://kidsgardening.org/grant-opportunities/lots-of-compassion-grant-24/>.

Eligibility Quiz

Is your organization tax-exempt, or are you partnering with a fiscal sponsor that has achieved tax-exempt status?

- Yes
- No (not eligible message)

Is your organization a municipality, like a city, state, or federal government, or a politically-funded organization?

- Yes (not eligible message)
- No

Did your organization receive a Lots of Compassion Grant last year?

- Yes (not eligible message)
- No

Will fifteen or more people participate in your garden program?

- Yes
- No (not eligible message)

Does your organization support, work with, or serve communities with a majority of individuals that are under-resourced? (i.e., systematically denied resources and opportunities based on race, gender, ethnicity, income level, abilities, geographic location, etc., or currently experiencing hardship such as a natural disaster, etc.)

- Yes
- No (not eligible message)

By September 2024, will you have access to a vacant lot that has sunlight and access to water? *A vacant lot is defined as a piece of land that is not being used currently. Examples include but are not limited to, unmaintained areas filled with weeds, areas not cared for, and areas that are not welcoming.*

- Yes
- No (not eligible message)

Do you plan to use this vacant lot to grow compassion in your community through the garden?

- Yes
- No (not eligible message)

If chosen as a winner, will your organization be able to use all of the funds and implement programming by June 2025? *Award funds will be distributed in two payments, September 2024 and January 2025, based on the grantee's budget.*

- Yes
- No (not eligible message)

If chosen as a winner, do you agree to interviews, site visits, and media requests from Mrs. Meyer's Clean Day and KidsGardening?

- Yes
- No (not eligible message)

If chosen as a winner, do you agree to submit a short year-end report by June 2025 and a brief update after years two, three, and four?

- Yes
- No (not eligible message)

Not eligible message: Based on your responses, you are not eligible for the 2024 Lots of Compassion Grant. For details on eligibility, please review our grant landing page.

Contact Information

- Grant Applicant First Name:
- Grant Applicant Last Name:
- Grant Applicant Job Title:
- Grant Applicant Email Address:
- Confirm Grant Application Email Address:
- Email Communication: I understand that by applying for the grant opportunity, my email will be shared with KidsGardening for communication about this grant and other related opportunities.
- Grant Applicant Phone Number:
- Organization or Group Name:
- Organization or Group Tax ID #:

Note: All organizations must have a 501(c)(3) status or be otherwise tax-exempt to be considered for support. If your organization has not achieved 501(c)(3) or tax-exempt status, you may apply for a Lots of Compassion Grant by partnering with a fiscal sponsor who has achieved this status.

- Organization or Group Address:
- Organization or Group's Mission (100 words maximum):
- Vacant Lot Garden Name:
- Vacant Lot Address:

Background Information

Have you received a grant from KidsGardening before? (Select one)

- Yes
- No
- Other

If yes, what grant(s) and what year(s)?

Which of the following best describes your organization or group? (Select one)

- Nonprofit Organization
- School (Public, Private, Charter, Head Start, Child Care, etc.)
- University
- Religious Organization
- Group or Individual with Fiscal Sponsorship
- Other: _____

What type of community is your organization located in? (Select one)

- Urban
- Suburban
- Rural

What is the total square footage of your lot? (Number)

What is the square footage of your planned garden space? (Number)

How many months of the year will the garden be used (activities, classes, meetings, programming, etc.)? (Number)

How many people from each age group do you estimate will participate directly in the garden program? Enter "0" if you do not anticipate any people in the age category. *Note: The number of people must be equal to or greater than 15 to be eligible. Applicants should be prepared to provide supporting documentation if requested.* (Number)

- Youth (Ages 0 - 18)
- Adults (Ages 18+)

What are the identities of your target audience? If you do not know this information, you may use your zipcode's demographic information from the US Census Data or another reputable source. (Number)

- African American or Black People %
- Asian or Asian American People %
- Hispanic, Latine/LatinX, or Spanish Origin People %
- Middle Eastern or North African People %
- Native American or Alaska Native People %

- Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander People %
- Biracial or Multiracial %
- White %
- Migrant Worker Families %
- Refugee Families %
- Undocumented Families %
- People who Speak Multiple Languages %
- People in the Justice System %”
- People with Incarcerated Family Members %”
- LGBTQ+ People %
- People Experiencing Homelessness %
- People with Disabilities %

Does your target audience experience food insecurity? If you do not know this information, you may use your zipcode’s demographic information from the [US Census Data](#) or your nearby school district’s free and reduced lunch rate. (Number)

- Nearby School’s Free and Reduced Lunch Rate %
- Low-Income/Poverty %

What is the total budget for your vacant lot transformation garden project? (Number)

How much funding has your organization already requested and/or received related to transforming this vacant lot into a garden? (Number)

List the funding organization, amount, year, and if the request was funded or is pending. Write N/A if no funding. (150 words maximum)

Garden Information

In this section, we want to learn more about your organization’s interest in transforming vacant lots into gardens to grow compassion in your community. For three of the ten questions, you have the option of submitting a video or a text response.

1. Why would your organization like to transform a vacant lot into a garden?
 - I will submit a video. (1 minute maximum)
 - I will submit a text response. (250 words maximum)
2. How will your garden help to grow compassion in your community?
 - I will submit a video. (1 minute maximum)
 - I will submit a text response. (250 words maximum)
3. What does the vacant lot look like? Please describe the landscape. e.g., water access, sunlight, soil type, nearby buildings, walkways, etc.

- I will submit a video. (1 minute maximum)
 - I will submit a text response. (250 words maximum)
4. What will your garden include, and when will these features be built? Describe the garden growing spaces/features and your anticipated work plan from September 2024 - June 2025. e.g., raised beds/in-ground, learning spaces, structures, types of plants, etc. (250 words maximum)
 5. How will you use the grant funds? Provide a detailed itemized budget of when and how you will use the \$20,000 funding. (250 words maximum)
 6. What needs, gaps, or challenges does your community experience that this grant will help address? e.g., financial challenges, environmental issues, safety concerns, health challenges, lack of community support, or regulatory hurdles. (250 words maximum)
 7. Who will lead your garden installation and future garden programming? Please list their names, roles, affiliations, and experience managing garden programs. (250 words maximum)
 8. How will the community support your garden? e.g., volunteers, donations, partnerships, etc. (250 words maximum)
 9. What is the maintenance plan for your garden in the fall, winter, spring, and summer? (250 words maximum)
 10. How will you sustain your initiative over time? (250 words maximum)

Required Attachments

- **Verification Document (Required).** Please attach a document verifying your organization's tax-exempt status. *If you have trouble uploading the attachment, you may email it to grants@kidsgardening.org.*
 - For 501(c)(3) Organizations: IRS Determination Letter.
 - For Schools: A letter on school district letterhead, signed by a school district official, stating that the school in question falls under the school district's jurisdiction.
 - For Other Tax-Exempt Organizations: Provide a letter on official letterhead stating that you are designated as an automatically tax-exempt organization and thus exempt from needing a 501(c)(3) documentation to claim nonprofit status with the US government.
 - Fiscal Sponsorship: Submit your sponsor's IRS Determination Letter and a signed contract detailing the fiscal sponsorship relationship between your organizations.

- **Proof of Vacant Land Use Rights / Ownership (Required).** Attach a letter of commitment from the land owner or proof of land ownership. Examples of proof of land ownership include, but are not limited to, a land deed, tax bill, etc. *If you have trouble uploading the attachment, you may email it to grants@kidsgardening.org.*
- **Video (Required).** Please attach 1 video or provide a link to the file below quickly showing the vacant lot space (1-minute maximum). *If you have trouble uploading the attachment, you may email it to grants@kidsgardening.org.*
- **Photos (Required).** Please attach 3-5 photos of the vacant lot or provide a link to the files below. *Note: .heic files are not supported. If you have trouble uploading the attachments, you may email them to grants@kidsgardening.org.*

Optional Attachments

- **Survey or Scale Map of the Vacant Lot (Optional).** Attach a survey or scale map of the vacant lot. If you do not currently have this information, search for the address of your lot on [Google Earth](#), [Google Maps](#), or request the digital land records or parcel map information from your city. This is often available on your city's website. *If you have trouble uploading the attachment, you may email it to grants@kidsgardening.org.*
- **Letters of Support (Optional).** Attach a one-page letter of support for your project written by a community partner or another organization involved in the project demonstrating their support for your organization. *If you have trouble uploading the attachment, you may email it to grants@kidsgardening.org.*

Grant Applicant Demographic Information (Optional)

We are collecting demographic information as part of an effort to ensure our grant application process is equitable. **Answers will not play a role in the grant application evaluation nor influence winner selection.**

- I identify as... (Select all that apply)
 - African American or Black
 - Asian or Asian American
 - Hispanic, Latine/LatinX, or Spanish Origin
 - Middle Eastern or North African
 - Native American or Alaska Native
 - Native Hawaiian or Pacific Islander
 - Biracial or Multi-racial
 - White
 - Prefer not to answer
 - Other: _____