



THE GIVING GROVE
LITTLE ORCHARDS. BIG IMPACT.

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CONTACT: Geri Strong Grow North
Texas Giving Grove Mgr.
(214)563-0227
geri.strong@grownorthtexas.org

NATIONAL NONPROFIT OPENS AFFILIATE PROGRAM IN DALLAS

Giving Grove orchards provide free fruits, nuts and berries for neighborhoods facing food insecurity

Who: GROW North Texas & The Giving Grove, Inc. **Where:** Dallas Metropolitan
What: National non-profit opens local affiliate program **When:** Planting will begin spring 2022

Kansas City, MO- The Giving Grove, a national nonprofit serving food insecure communities, announces today it will expand into Dallas in partnership with GROW North Texas, a Dallas nonprofit that connects North Texans with food, farms, and community in order to create a sustainable, regional food system.

Since its launch in 2013, The Giving Grove network has planted 304 orchards across the nation that transform unused and vacant land into safe green spaces that provide free holistically-grown fruits, nuts, and berries. Giving Grove's mission is to provide healthy calories, strengthen community, and improve the environment through a nationwide network of sustainable little orchards that dramatically increase access to healthy foods. Communities Foundation of Texas, W.W. Caruth Jr. Fund has provided funding for this new program at GROW North Texas.

"Being a Giving Grove affiliate allows us to provide a piece of the local food puzzle. Through collaboration with community and school gardens,

faith-based and not-for-profit organizations, we can contribute to alleviating food insecurity in Dallas," said Geri Strong, GROW North Texas Giving Grove program manager.

After finding success with its model in Kansas City, The Giving Grove began expanding to other cities with high food insecurity rates, launching affiliate programs in St. Louis and Omaha in 2017 and in Memphis, Louisville, rural Kansas, and Cincinnati in 2020. This month The Giving Grove has announced its expansion into Dallas, Atlanta, and Seattle. The Giving Grove's expansion plans include launching affiliates in 11 more U.S. cities by 2025.

"We now have Giving Grove programs from the East to the west coast. With each new affiliate added, we expand the diversity of programming, growing smarter and nimbler as a network. Volunteer orchard stewards caring for a single orchard in one city will have the lessons and experience of the 300 that came before," said Giving Grove Chief Replication Officer Ashley Williamson.

At full implementation, Giving Grove orchards will reach 15% of all food insecure Americans. The typical Giving Grove orchard will produce more than 9,800 servings of holistically grown, free, healthy foods worth more than \$8,200 each year. With a 50-60+ year lifespan, each orchard will produce over its lifetime more than 212,000 servings of food for people in need while sequestering carbon, reducing stormwater runoff, and providing urban tree canopy.

Giving Grove's vision is thousands of little orchards in food insecure urban neighborhoods across the nation, creating a local food production system that feeds people for decades.

Learn more at
www.givinggrove.org.

With the goal of building thriving communities for all, Communities Foundation of Texas (CFT) works locally and across the state through a variety of charitable funds and strategic initiatives. The public foundation professionally manages 1,000 charitable funds for individuals, families, companies and nonprofits in addition to powering several key initiatives such as W. W. Caruth, Jr. Fund at CFT, Educate Texas at CFT and CFT's North Texas Giving Day. CFT has awarded more than \$2 billion in grants since its founding in 1953.

Learn more at CFTexas.org.

