



HERITAGE WORKS



**NORTH CORKTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD**

Neighborhood Development & the New Beginnings Garden Project

**A FORMATIVE EVALUATION ASSESSMENT**

October 2016

**Program of Heritage Works**

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**Funded by**

Detroit Future City

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PROJECT FUNDERS



Fred A. and Barbara M. Erb Family Foundation

THE  
KRESGE  
FOUNDATION



PROJECT PARTNER



North Corktown residents at community meeting



Youth Ensemble dancing at Freedom House Cultural Exchange event

## Program Description

Heritage Works, along with the community, is leading the efforts to develop two community gardens on 17<sup>th</sup> Street in North Corktown that will facilitate cultural exchange and appreciation of food traditions. The addresses of this New Beginnings Cultural Exchange Project are 2851 17th Street on the north and 2825 17th Street to the south. This project of Heritage Works seeks to provide input in the City of Detroit process to redevelop North Corktown. Specifically, it seeks to provide the important framework values in the crafting of the request for proposal that is currently being drafted by the City of Detroit. Seven values have been identified to be included in the North Corktown redevelopment efforts: unity, sustainability, diversity, balance, equity, inclusion, and attractive appearance.

In order to make these values concrete, Heritage Works has sought out involvement and input from neighborhood and Freedom House residents in designing and developing the garden. This will help build an even stronger North Corktown community that appreciates and fosters cultural exchange. This is part of an ongoing partnership with Freedom House, which has included two cultural exchange events that included dancing, stories, food, and language exchanges among Freedom House residents and youth ensemble members. Youth participants have worked side-by-side with the Freedom House residents to do gardening together, learning how to plant and do garden maintenance activities like weeding, planting, and spreading woodchips.

In addition to the garden project, Heritage Works also facilitated discussion among North Corktown residents regarding the redevelopment process being initiated by the City of Detroit. The North Corktown residents want to ensure their input is heard and their seven core values are recognized and upheld during this process. This evaluation highlights findings from these efforts to obtain input from the community regarding the garden project and neighborhood redevelopment.

Since efforts began at the gardening sites, one of the New Beginnings gardeners has documented all of the progress on activities related to the development and creation of the garden. On the following page, this progress is tracked month by month, starting from the first garden visits to the most up to date projects.

### Cultural exchange happening naturally in the garden

“It was a very interesting time spent with [Freedom House] residents and Heritage Works youth at [the garden] site. When we found a snail shell on the site, one of the Freedom House residents told a story of his family heritage about how they cannot ever eat or harm a snail. It all goes back to how the father founder of their family line was lost in the jungle and could only get back to safety with the help of snails he had seen along the trail. So to this day, nobody in the family can knowingly harm or eat a snail.”

– New Beginnings Gardener

## Monthly Progress at the Garden Sites – May 2016 to Present\*

<b>April</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Blank field with piles of litter visible from the street.</li></ul>
<b>May</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Early visits to the site.</li><li>➤ Reported dumping to Improve Detroit for pickup. Two pickups were made by the city, but the tires remain. It is much better than when started.</li><li>➤ Made several trips to city of Detroit offices to determine site boundaries and possibilities for water resources to irrigate. At that time it was decided that getting a Wabash box and reinstalling service to the site would be too expensive (about \$5000), so the site was watered with the gardener's personal residential water source using a rain barrel and hose in the back of pickup truck. This worked well.</li><li>➤ Initiated soil tests and plowed in early May through the Keep Growing Detroit Garden Resources Program, of which the garden is a member.</li><li>➤ Learned that we won grant proposal funding in mid-May.</li></ul>
<b>June</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Six soil tests at the two sites, 2825 and 2865 17th, revealed that only one site on 2825 was usable. So focused was on a 30 x 30 foot garden there.</li><li>➤ Tilled the site with the aid of a local farmer's tractor.</li><li>➤ Transported and dumped 8 yards of compost on site, using the help of Freedom House residents.</li><li>➤ Tilled the site again with a roto-tiller and formed beds, again with the residents' help.</li><li>➤ Planted 4 of the 5 beds, with the help of Freedom House (FH) residents and Heritage Works (HW) youth performers, all by the end of June. This was late planting by most standards, but in the time frame we had it was the earliest we could get crops in the ground.</li></ul>
<b>July</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Repeated visits to garden site about every other day to water and coax plants to health in hot and dry summer.</li><li>➤ Two mulching and weeding events with FH residents and HW youth to add woodchips to paths around site.</li><li>➤ Planting of fall garden bed with kale and spinach for fall garden with FH residents and HW youth.</li><li>➤ Application of dried pork blood (several times) to perimeter of garden to prevent rabbits and squirrels from raiding sites. It was fun explaining why this worked to the Heritage youth.</li></ul>
<b>Aug.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Daily visits to eliminate caterpillars eating the kale and spinach.</li><li>➤ Replanting some caterpillar-devastated plants with collard greens.</li><li>➤ Late August was the first harvest of okra, jalapenos and zucchini (we had 2 plants).</li></ul>
<b>Sept.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Kale, spinach, okra, winter squash, and a variety of peppers in weekly harvest for FH residents.</li></ul>
<b>Oct.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>➤ Bed cleanup and garlic planting. Harvest continues.</li></ul>

\*All information was self-reported by the New Beginnings gardener.

## Evaluation Methods

North Corktown and Freedom House residents were assessed on their gardening practices and interest in becoming involved in the garden project and neighborhood development. Data was collected on three separate occasions: 1) canvassing the North Corktown neighborhood by going door-to-door to survey residents and engage in conversation; 2) engaging Freedom House residents in group and one-on-one discussion at Freedom House Detroit; and 3) at a community meeting with North Corktown residents, held at the Spirit of Hope Church in North Corktown, to engage in group discussion and surveying.

Evaluation Design Methods				
	Setting	Date	Population Assessed	Methods Used
1	Canvassing in North Corktown	September 26	North Corktown Residents	Survey In-depth Interview
2	Freedom House Detroit	September 28	Freedom House Residents	Group Interview In-depth Interview
3	Community Meeting	September 29	North Corktown Residents	Survey Group Interview

## Participant Description

Participants included residents of North Corktown (n=29), residents of Freedom House Detroit (n=16), and one person who owns a home in North Corktown but does not reside there (n=1). Freedom House Detroit is a temporary home for indigent survivors of persecution from around the world who are seeking asylum in the United States and Canada and is located in Southwest Detroit. Home regions of Freedom House participants include Uganda, Palestine, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Guinea, and Congo-Brazzaville.

Number of Participants				
Setting	Survey	Group Interview	In-depth Interview	Unduplicated Total
Canvassing in North Corktown	13	0	3	13
Freedom House Detroit	0	16	2	16
Community meeting	10	17*	0	17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>46</b>
*Estimate				

Of the North Corktown resident participants that completed a survey (either through canvassing or at the meeting), 45% were African American, 41% Caucasian, one person *biracial*, one person *Chinese*, and one person *other* (n=22). The majority were male (62%) and were in their 30's (29%) or were older than 70 (19%), ranging in age from younger than 15 to older than 70 (n=21). The majority (65%) have lived in North Corktown for more than 7 years, while 15% have lived there 5-7 years and 20% for 2-3 years (n=20).

In regards to staff participation, four canvassers (n=4; part of the external evaluation team Mission Lift) provided door-to-door canvassing. At the Freedom House visit, there were six staff members (n=6) present to assist: 2 from Heritage Works, 1 from Mission Lift, 2 gardeners (lead gardeners on the project) who are North Corktown residents, and 1 from Freedom House. At the community meeting there were four staff members to assist (n=5): 2 from Heritage Works, 1 from Mission Lift, and 2 gardeners (lead gardeners on the project) who are North Corktown residents.

## New Beginnings Harvest Garden Project

Freedom House resident participants disclosed whether they had a garden when they lived in their home country and North Corktown residents disclosed whether they currently have a garden. More Freedom House residents had a garden in their home country than North Corktown residents currently do now. For residents who currently have a garden, 43% do collective gardening while 57% have their own plot (n=14).

**Percent of Freedom House residents who had a farm or garden in their home country** (n=10)

**70%**

**Percent of North Corktown residents who currently have a garden** (n=16)

**44%**

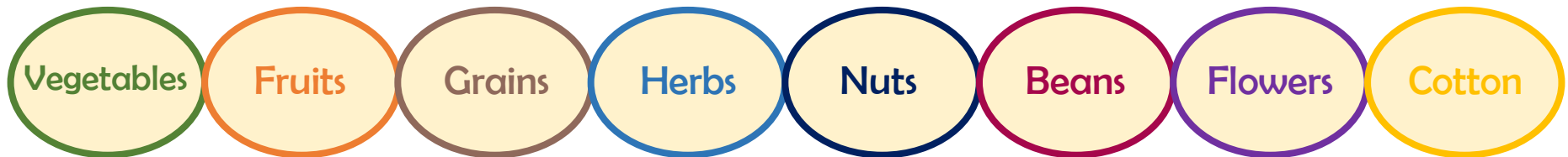
### Hot & Mild Peppers: Cultural Variations

“One of the beds we planted was all peppers. Freedom House residents, for the most part, enjoyed the hot peppers and are more used to the hotter peppers than our [in the United States] green and mild varieties. We planted jalapeno, serrano, chili and habanero peppers.”

– New Beginnings Gardener

## The Types of Plants Grown

Participants disclosed the types of plants that they grew, their ancestors used to grow, or what they currently grow (n=44). Responses are categorized by culinary terminology and not by botanical classifications (for instance, avocados and tomatoes are botanically a fruit, but for culinary purposes and in the common English language usage, they are generally considered vegetables). The most commonly grown plants were vegetables.



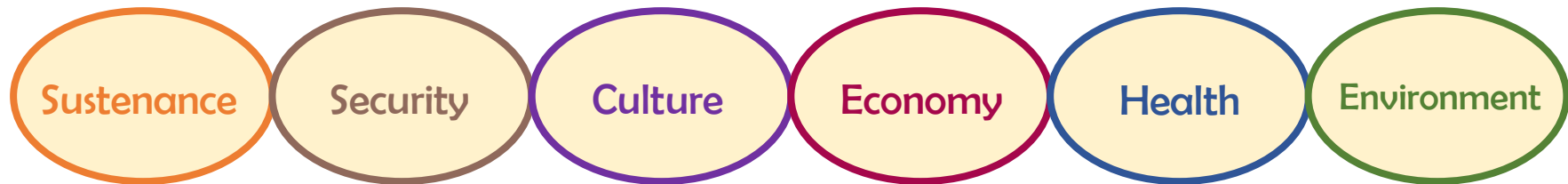
- 🌱 **Vegetables [30]:** Asparagus, Avocado, Cabbage, Carrots, Cassava, Collard Green, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Green Onion, Green Pepper, Greens, Hot Pepper, Kale, Mustard Greens, Okra, Olive, Onion, Parsnip, Pepper, Pole Bean, Pumpkin, Spinach, Squash, Sweet Potato, Tomato, Turnip, White Potato, Yam, Yellow Pepper (Hot)
- 🌱 **Fruits [8]:** Banana, Lemon, Mango, Melon, Orange, Passion Fruit, Pineapple, Watermelon
- 🌱 **Grains [4]:** Corn, Rice, Millet, Sorghum
- 🌱 **Herbs [4]:** Chamomile, Ginger, Lavender, Mint, Basil
- 🌱 **Nuts [2]:** Almond, Peanut
- 🌱 **Beans [2]:** Butterbean, Black Eyed Pea
- 🌱 **Flowers [1]:** Sunflower
- 🌱 **Cotton [1]:** Cotton Plant

### Depth of Impact: Gardening Leads to Neighborhood Cohesion

An 86-year-old resident was visited while canvassing the neighborhood. When asked about the gardening project, not only did she have prior knowledge about the project, she knew the garden's name and location. She excitedly recounted how another resident, one of the lead gardeners on the project, would be giving her a ride to the community meeting. These two neighbors were already bonding as a direct result of the garden project, signifying the depth of impact and cohesion already occurring because of the garden.

## The Meaning of the Plants Grow

Participants disclosed the meaning of the food and plants that they grew, their ancestors used to grow, or what they currently grow (n=44). The most common reason was for food, or *sustenance*.



☞ **Sustenance [14]:** Food, Eating, Fresh Food, Tasted Better, Big Family Meals, Cooking, Tea, Soup, Hearty, Goods, Freeze [It], Store It, Can It, Home Consumption

☞ **Security [9]:** Support Family, Save Money, Source Of Income, Children’s Education Fees, Warmth – Firewood For Stove, Home, Community, To Feed Animals That Would Become Meat For The Family To Eat, Plots For Hunting (Rye)

☞ **Culture [5]:** Defines Culture And Identity, Ceremonial, Rituals, Religion, Tribal Expression, Staple

☞ **Economy [3]:** Economic Development, Technology Development, Education

☞ **Health [2]:** Healthy Eating, Healing, Medicinal

☞ **Environment [2]:** Beautification, Prevent Climate Change

## Gardening Saved My Mom’s Life

While canvassing, an African-American resident enthusiastically agreed that gardening helps build neighborhoods. His mom had a garden and would always share her produce with neighbors, including the man across the street. He went on to explain how there was once a time the KKK came to his mother’s house to harass her. The man across the street shouted over to them to leave her alone. Years later, after both had passed away, the children of the man across the street were going through his belongings and found out that he had been a Grand Marshall of the KKK. This same man was the one who called to the KKK harassers to leave the woman alone. He did this because this woman shared everything that she cooked. They knew this was why the neighbor did not allow the KKK to go after her. Her garden not only built neighborhood cohesion, but also saved her life.



## Cultural Experiences around the Gardening Season

Participants described what cultural experiences happened at the beginning, during, or end of the farm or gardening season (n=38). Much of the responses included celebration, sharing, cooperation, and preparation.

Beginning	End
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌱 <b>PLAN:</b> Community or family planning of what to plant</li> <li>🌱 <b>COORDINATE:</b> Coordination for consumption and selling               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Giving / exchanging of crops</li> <li>→ Shared growing responsibility</li> <li>→ Coordination of skills</li> <li>→ Exchange with meats</li> </ul> </li> <li>🌱 <b>PREPARE:</b> Prepping soil – weeding, fertilizing</li> <li>🌱 <b>PREPARE:</b> Preparation for harvest</li> <li>🌱 <b>CELEBRATE:</b> Holidays, Passover</li> <li>🌱 <b>SHARE:</b> Share story and <i>how to</i> tips or tricks of trade</li> <li>🌱 <b>PREPARE:</b> Men prepare gardens (Division of labor)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>🌱 <b>CELEBRATE:</b> Community feast and dancing</li> <li>🌱 <b>COOPERATE:</b> Cooperatives               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>→ Of families</li> <li>→ Singing / celebration of successful harvest</li> </ul> </li> <li>🌱 <b>SHARE:</b> Shelling peas and sharing – everyone comes at night (house is cool) or in morning</li> <li>🌱 <b>SHARE:</b> Share harvest / cross cultural sharing of food</li> <li>🌱 <b>TEACH:</b> Stress reliever, taught bartering fried green tomatoes</li> <li>🌱 <b>CELEBRATE:</b> Festivals, Harvest festivals to celebrate a good season</li> <li>🌱 <b>HARVEST:</b> All women sow harvest (Division of labor)</li> </ul>

## Other Activities in the Garden

When asked what else participants did in the garden, they responded (n=16): sports in surrounding area, relaxing, brewing, art/artwork, and singing.

### Bananas' Significance in the Teke Tribe of Congo-Brazzaville

“The banana is used in several ways, depending on the family, by my tribe Teke. In my family, when a man meets a woman and wants to marry her, it is customary that the two families exchange gifts. In those gifts, there are always sweet and plantain bananas. In my village, if a family has a banana plantain, he’s rich. [In my tribe] bananas represent wealth and happiness.”

– Freedom House resident

## Gardening Experience of Freedom House Residents

One-on-one in-depth interviews were conducted with the two Freedom House residents who gardened over the summer. These residents were able to work on the garden 4 to 6 times during the past summer. They gave in-depth perspectives to gardening practices in their home countries.

### Home Country?

Rwanda

Congo-Brazzaville

### Favorite part of gardening this summer?

Compost. Getting compost from truck and putting it in garden; digging small holes; learned how to protect them, how to grow them, once in soil, insects come; showed how to protect the plants in different ways; Meeting students from Heritage Works

Planting, walk together, And after when I see it growing

### Percent of people in home country who had their own garden?

80%. In the city, it is asked that every house have a small garden to have vegetables for own household

40%

### Percent of people in home village who had a garden? Farm?

--

90%; 10-20%

### Did you have a garden?

No. Did it in high school at the school's garden

Yes. Potatoes, mango, lemon, onion, pineapple, tomato, avocado, passion fruit, green pepper carrot, beans, bananas

### Main crops of home country

Beans, green peppers, yams, potatoes, sweet potatoes, bananas

Potato, cassava, squash, legumes, vegetables

### Any other points to add about your garden experience this summer

Enjoyed being there, growing food and having another experience in U.S. Able to talk and exchange ideas and US culture – discuss news, meeting the kids, showed culture from their culture so there was an exchange of culture

Would love to have more time to work on it – weekends, etc. Intervals too small of time – need more time. Want it to be a more consistent and serious project; wants to be able to contribute more; in the future – make larger / more acres

### Anything you suggest to do differently to make the garden better?

Put seats on the other side that is not being used; put fruit trees by bench; put other plants besides veggies; make sure there is dumping like gas, trash, oil at the garden

Add lemon, passion fruit, potatoes, corn; Seeing the lead gardener put his heart into it, he would like to help him with this project on a more consistent basis; Have more transportation so more residents can work on garden

# Neighborhood Values for Redevelopment

The City of Detroit, who is spearheading this redevelopment process, will be putting out a Request for Proposal (RFP) for development in the North Corktown neighborhood. Residents of North Corktown want to ensure they are being heard and their input is taken into account during this process. The North Corktown community meeting was held in order to collectively discuss how residents will have a voice in the neighborhood redevelopment process, including providing input in the RFP drafting process, and to discuss the neighborhood's seven values for redevelopment. First in pairs and then as a group, residents discussed what each of the seven values would ideally look like in North Corktown throughout the redevelopment process (n=17). Residents also discussed best practice models for each value that could be emulated and learned from (n=17).

## Important Values for the Redevelopment Process

### 1. UNIFIED

Ensure a unified plan that encompasses the whole area and strengthens connections to Woodbridge, Midtown, Southwest, and Historic Corktown.

### 2. INCLUSIVE

Engage as many residents as possible and build community as an integral part of the planning process.

### 3. BALANCED

Provide balance of new development and preservation of open space that is maintained and managed with a mix of public and private strategies.

### 4. EQUITABLE

Support a mixed-income neighborhood that embraces the current working class; Builds community with intentional planning that does not displace residents, is equitable, and allows current and new residents so all benefit area together from improved economics of the area.

### 5. SUSTAINABLE

Ensures all developments of housing, commercial and open space lead to an environmentally sustainable and healthier community.

### 6. DIVERSE

Promotes redevelopment that embraces a racially, ethnically, and income-diverse community.

### 7. ATTRACTIVE

Ensures high quality design that blends with the existing housing stock.

## What would each value ideally look like in North Corktown?

### 1. UNIFIED

- Change and improve streets and “in between” streets
- Highway exits are stations
- Local couriers
- Sports leagues
- North Corktown teams
- GH Quality Protected bike
- Canesto, 14<sup>th</sup>, Rosa Parks, Spruce, MLK, Fountain Court, Bridge 17<sup>th</sup> St / Spruce crossing
- Better freeway connection to parkway / stations for automated car drop off

### 2. INCLUSIVE

- Have social services to connect city, state, and federal
- Keep people in homes (seniors, persons with mental disabilities)
- Water fountains
- Things to walk to
- Diverse housing types
- Welcome immigrant freedom
- LGBTQA
- Homeless – help with drinking
- Wildlife – pheasant
- Seniors – stay
- Walking / biking
- Mass transit
- Accessible and community retail
- Connecting path – way to river way
- Life-stage housing

### 3. BALANCED

- Open space
- Nobody is alone
- Leave space for farm, urban prairie, garden, parks
- Event planning for public spaces

## 4. EQUITABLE

- ☞ Community garden
- ☞ Community benefit agreement – a payment to get better services
- ☞ Considers needs of all types of residents
- ☞ Include residents in the economic gain / opportunity
- ☞ Consider tax and rent implications

## 5. SUSTAINABLE

- ☞ Growing food
- ☞ Green alley
- ☞ Motor City Brewery
- ☞ Preserve vacant space
- ☞ Community group gets a fee if developer
- ☞ Build a parking garage
- ☞ Construction
  - Geothermal – (shared) – community soldier field
  - Solar, using insulation
- ☞ Parking
- ☞ Lots of development, little parking / limited street parking
- ☞ Plowed streets

## 6. DIVERSE

- ☞ Condos / rentals
- ☞ Shape community areas (hockey rink, basketball)
- ☞ Ways for diversity to mix – play together
- ☞ Fusion of shared food
- ☞ All ethnic / racial groups – not just black or white
- ☞ Create commercial district
- ☞ Social support staff for economic diversity
- ☞ Freedom House supports

## 7. ATTRACTIVE

- ☞ Lighting
- ☞ Consistent building Style
- ☞ 19<sup>th</sup> Century
- ☞ Walkability Scale
- ☞ More walking paths
- ☞ Clean line of site
- ☞ Ambiance / feel
- ☞ Small business / county needed ketal

## Best Practice Models in other Places

### 1. UNIFIED

None discussed

### 2. INCLUSIVE

- ☞ NSO – on MLK not a model (what went wrong at NSO)
- ☞ Highland Park – Tiny Houses
- ☞ Not Family Dollar
- ☞ Presbyterian village
- ☞ Bengali-town
- ☞ Lafayette Park
- ☞ Belle Isle – park nearby
- ☞ Brush Park Manor

### 3. BALANCED

- ☞ Fitzgerald area RFP
  - 1 house = 1 green space
- ☞ “The El More” Green Garage
- ☞ Residents donate hours
- ☞ On small paper: Troy Gardens in Madison, Wisconsin, Blue Zone living

### 4. EQUITABLE

- ☞ The 2005 housing development in NC ensured that land assessment remained fair
- ☞ Access to walkable / safe transit and nearby amenities that serve basic local needs (food healthcare, healthy activities)

### 5. SUSTAINABLE

- ☞ Detroit Future City -> snow melter -> snow into lots

### 6. DIVERSE

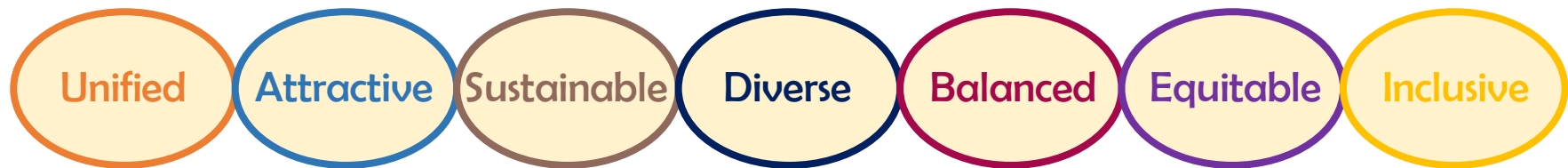
- ☞ Hyde Park – Chicago (mixing group)
- ☞ Our current mix of residents
- ☞ Economic Regent Park Toronto, Private / public mixed income with shared swimming pool, basketball court, ice hockey rink (just started TBD)

### 7. ATTRACTIVE

- ☞ Boston Edison
- ☞ Indian Village
- ☞ Cambridge, MA

## Ways that Gardens & Farms Build Community – The 7 Values

Residents described ways they have seen farms and gardens build community (n=23). All of the ways mentioned promote the seven North Corktown neighborhood values.



☞ **Unified [3]:** Neighbors getting to know each other, working together, cooperation

☞ **Attractive [3]:** Positive street presence, Make improvements, Looks better

☞ **Sustainable [2]:** Wellness education, Knowledge of food systems

☞ **Diverse [2]:** Great icebreaker for people coming from different cultures, Common bond over food – a point of sharing cultures

☞ **Balanced [1]:** Interactions with community on local urban farms

☞ **Equitable [1]:** Shared ownership

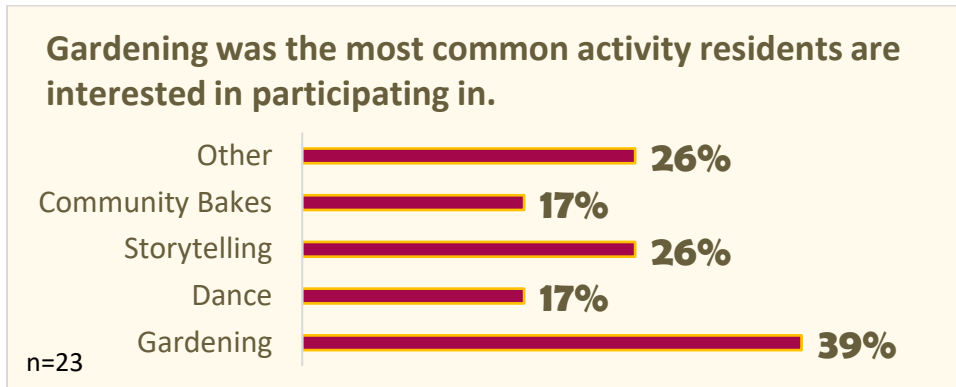
☞ **Inclusive [1]:** This is something we automatically have in common – we all eat

### A Resident's Voice was Heard: Safety Concerns in North Corktown

While canvassing the neighborhood, one resident did not want to talk about gardening. Rather, he wanted to be heard about a neighborhood issue he was having. He has concerns with a local store because his wife continues to be harassed by persons who are homeless whenever she goes there. They have even threatened her. He likes this store and wants to go to it but does not feel safe anymore. This is his number one concern for the neighborhood – making the store a safer place to visit.

## Community Engagement in North Corktown

Of all the ways to get involved, gardening was the most common way as well as storytelling and *other* ways besides those mentioned. *Other* ways they would be willing to get involved include (8 responses) *music, up for everything, basketball, sports, parks, local and fresh food, giving food away, and passing out food at Brother's Keeper* (homeless shelter providing food giveaways and weekly meals – located at Trumbull / MLK Jr Blvd).



Of the North Corktown resident participants, 65% could see themselves getting involved in the garden project (n=23). One noted they were already involved while others suggested in what ways they wanted to be involved: pull weeds and plant herbs since they *have a certificate*. In regards to work groups, 26% would join one on garden design and 43% would join one on neighborhood planning (n=23). One person noted they will do *whatever is needed*. Residents will also be organizing into workgroups in order to stay involved in the redevelopment process.

**65% of residents would become involved in the garden project.**

**43% would join a work group for neighborhood planning.**

**26% of residents would join a work group for the garden design.**

## Conclusion

Heritage Works and the lead gardeners have gathered useful feedback from North Corktown and Freedom House residents to help in designing the New Beginnings Garden Project. The garden design will now utilize influences from regions across Africa, Palestine, and Detroit. Gathering this data from a variety of heritages and backgrounds has fostered greater cultural inclusion and diversity for the gardening project as well as cultural understanding in general. In addition, there is strong interest among both North Corktown residents and Freedom House residents to contribute and get involved with the New Beginnings Garden Project. One Freedom house resident noted that, although they are not interested in working on the garden, they would love to visit it and see all the work everyone did on it.



## Appendix A – Flier for Canvassing

### COMMUNITY MEETING NORTH CORKTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD

Heritage Works & Jeff Klein invite you to a  
Community Work Group Meeting ...

...To discuss the city of Detroit's plans for  
Neighborhood Development in North Corktown.



We will also be seeking input on the



17th Street Garden Cultural Exchange Project.

### COMMUNITY MEETING NORTH CORKTOWN NEIGHBORHOOD



MEETING INFORMATION

Thursday, September 29, 2016

6:30–8:30 pm

Spirit of Hope Church Basement

1519 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Detroit, MI



HERITAGE  
WORKS

DETROIT  
FUTURE  
CITY™

Please call (313) 496-4000 for more info.

## Appendix B – Agenda at Freedom House

Residents' names were covered up for privacy and confidentiality purposes.

<b>NEW BEGINNINGS HARVEST GARDEN PROJECT</b>		
<b>Freedom House &amp; Heritage Works</b>		
<b>September 28, 2016 Event Agenda</b>		
<b>Garden Design Planning &amp; Cultural Exchange Dinner</b>		
<b>TIME</b>	<b>ACTIVITY</b>	<b>LEAD</b>
<b>4:00-4:30 pm</b>	<b>Creating gardens that facilitate cultural exchange</b>	
	1. What did you like about gardening this summer?	Maria, Jeff, 2 Freedom House residents (██████████ ██████████) & Rick
	2. What percentage of people in your community had a garden?	
	3. Did you garden with others or did everyone have their own plot?	
<b>4:30-4:35 pm</b>	Official Start, Welcome, Purpose of Event, Introduction	Deb or TJ
<b>4:35-5:00 pm</b>	<b>Sharing your cultural story</b>	
	1. Did you have a farm or garden in your home? Yes or No. (Raise of hands)	Maria
	2. What was the meaning of the food / plants you grew? (Post it notes and discussion)	
	3. What cultural experiences happened at the beginning or end of a gardening season? Was gardening or harvesting a community event? (Post it notes and discussion)	
	4. What else did you do in the garden besides grow food?	
5. What are the roots of American Soul food? (Discussion)		
<b>5:00-5:15 pm</b>	Recipe exchange (post it note or as a group and recorded on flip chart)	Maria & Angela
<b>5:15-5:30 pm</b>	Dance exchange that includes symbolism of food	Maria & Angela
<b>5:30-6:00 pm</b>	Dinner and cooking of plantains and putting out the soul food on tables	Residents (██████████ ██████████) & Youth
<b>6:00 pm</b>	Event conclusion	All

## Appendix C – Recipe Swap: Recipe from Freedom House

### CONGOLESE FRIED SPINACH

This recipe is traditionally served with a whole grilled chicken and grilled potatoes and plantains. You eat everything with your fingers! (It tastes much better that way)

#### Ingredients

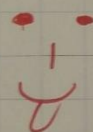
- 1 (10 ounce) package baby spinach rinsed;
- 1 cup fresh Shiitake mushrooms, stemmed and quartered.
- 1 medium onion, coarsely chopped
- 1. tablespoon olive oil
- 5 blinded garlic or 2 spoons of garlic powder

#### Directions

Preparation → 10 min  
Cooking time → 15 min  
Ready In → 25 min

- 1- Heat the olive oil in a ~~wok~~, or large frying pan over medium-high heat.
- 2- Add the mushrooms and onion, saute until they are about halfway done.
- 3- Dump in the spinach has wilted; about 5 to 8 minutes. liberally sprinkle with garlic powder.
4. Ready to be served

Bon appetit !



# Appendix D – Canvassing & Community Meeting Survey

## HERITAGE WORKS – 17<sup>TH</sup> STREET GARDEN PROJECT

Heritage Works is working to develop gardens on 17<sup>th</sup> Street in North Corktown that will facilitate cultural exchange and appreciation of our food traditions. The addresses are 2851 17th Street on the north closer to Butternut and 2825 17th Street to the south closer to Perry. We are seeking your input to help build community that appreciates and fosters cultural exchange in order to develop a stronger North Corktown neighborhood.

Please help by completing this survey. Your participation in this study is completely voluntary. You may choose not to participate and can skip a question if you do not feel comfortable responding to it. Your responses will be confidential and we will not use your identifying information when using the results from the study. If you have any questions about this study, please contact Heritage Works at (313) 496-4000.

There will be a community meeting on Thursday, September 29, 2016 from 6:30–8:30 pm at Spirit of Hope Church Basement located at 1519 Martin Luther King Jr Blvd, Detroit, to discuss these ideas further.

### DEMOGRAPHICS

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you live in North Corktown Neighborhood?  Yes  No

How long have you lived in North Corktown?  Less than 1 year  2 - 3 years  4 - 7 years  over 7 years

AGE:  15 or younger  16-19  20-29  30-39  40-49  50-59  60-69  70 or older

GENDER:  Male  Female  Self-Defined  Other \_\_\_\_\_

RACE:  AA/Black  Hispanic/Latino  Caucasian/White  Middle Eastern  Hmong  
 Bangladeshi  Native American  Bi-Racial  Romanian  Other \_\_\_\_\_

### GARDENING DEVELOPMENT GARDEN

1. Do you currently have a garden?  Yes  No
2. Do you garden with others or does everyone have their own (e.g., plot)?  Collective Gardening  Own Plot
3. Please select the following activities you would be interested in participating in. Check all that apply.  
 Gardening  Dance  Storytelling  Community Bakes  Other \_\_\_\_\_
4. What are ways you have seen gardens / farms build community?
5. What were some of the plants your ancestors grew or plants that are currently in your garden?
6. What was the meaning / use of the food / plants you currently grow or your ancestors grew?
7. What cultural experiences happened at the beginning, during or end of a farm/gardening season? What were their purpose(s)?
8. Do you see yourself becoming involved in the new garden?  Yes  No
9. Would you consider joining a work group for (check all that apply):  Garden Design  Neighborhood Planning

# Appendix E – Community Cultural Arts Center Layout Plan with Garden & Orchard

