



LITTLE ORCHARDS. BIG IMPACT.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
February 22, 2022

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KANSAS CITY NONPROFIT IS TAKING URBAN ORCHARDING TO NEW HEIGHTS

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

**Who:** Denver Urban Gardens & The Giving Grove, Inc.   **Where:** Denver Metropolitan  
**What:** The Giving Grove expands program to Denver   **When:** Planting will begin spring 2022

Kansas City, MO- The Giving Grove, a national nonprofit serving communities experiencing food insecurity, announces today it will expand into Denver in partnership with Denver Urban Gardens (DUG), a nonprofit that provides the access, skills, and resources for people to grow healthy food in community and regenerate urban green spaces.

Since its launch in 2013, The Giving Grove network has planted 330 orchards across the nation that re-established green space on unused and vacant land while providing 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.

**“Denver marks the tenth city with Giving Grove orchards since it began its national expansion. Denver Urban Gardens put together an excellent team to help their communities plant and care for fruit trees and we are excited to grow this partnership,”** said Ashley Williamson, Chief Replication Officer.

After finding success with its model in Kansas City, The Giving Grove began expanding to other cities, launching affiliate programs in St. Louis and Omaha in 2017 and in Memphis, Louisville, rural Kansas, and Cincinnati in 2020. In addition to Denver, The Giving Grove is expanding to Dallas, Atlanta, and Seattle this spring. The Giving Grove's expansion plans include launching affiliates in 10 more U.S. cities by 2025.

**“With the challenge of Denver's climate, it is essential for us to be active stewards of our land. DUG has spent the last 35 years cultivating in-ground community-based food production but realized that there is so much more (vertical) growing to be done,”** said Nessa Mogharreban, DUG Director of Physical Infrastructure and Community engagement. **“We fortuitously met Giving Grove as we were formulating our tree strategy - we are thrilled to be kicking off this initiative in partnership with such an intentional, impactful and supportive organization.”**

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.

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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](http://www.givinggrove.org).