



Lexington Store Supports Community Gardens Supporting Self-Sufficiency Through Agriculture



Catherine Kiely | Lexington Store Louisville, KY

With more than 15 years at Whole Foods Market under her belt, Catherine understands that, “Our **core values** guide every decision we make. Forming **relationships that truly matter** in our community will reflect in how we approach what we do every day.” She points out that a large portion of the Lexington community is undernourished. By **uniting neighbors** and volunteers in gardens, Seedleaf believes the community can **connect and reconnect** with food and with the soil. Catherine is an active volunteer who works closely with both the garden and the Lexington Store to **further this mission**. She hopes that this relationship will not only create stronger Team Members but also **build trust** in the community.

Seedleaf seedleaf.org

Founded in 2007 with the mission of nourishing communities by growing and sharing food, Seedleaf cultivates 13 free “u-pick” **community gardens** in Fayette County neighborhoods facing barriers to fresh, local food access. The gardens are open to the public and provide **locally grown produce** to surrounding neighborhoods. Seedleaf’s work with these gardens served as a launching pad for **diverse educational programming** serving adults and children. For individuals wishing to grow specific items, they offer private plots at select garden locations. The organization’s Market Garden Training Program offers local residents information about urban agriculture through planning, growing and marketing their produce to local buyers and encourages **economic and entrepreneurial opportunities** around accessible, healthy, local food systems.



Whole Foods Market Team Members can nominate a local nonprofit increasing access to fresh, healthy food or nutrition education for a \$5,000 grant.

WholeCitiesFoundation.org