

Pacific Northwest Region and Urban Gardens Partner to Grow Food and Cultivate Relationships



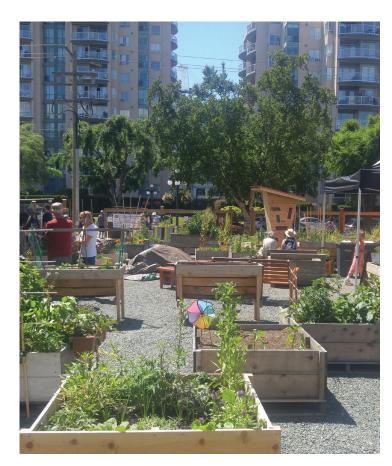
Grant Daisley | Pacific Northwest Regional Office Vancouver, BC

An Associate Marketing Coordinator, Grant has been with Whole Foods Market for seven years. He believes, "All citizens should have access to fresh, healthy food options regardless of where they reside or current economic situations. This is a necessary starting point for healthy eating." His mission aligns with the Public Health Association of British Columbia's Can You Dig, which works to establish inclusive, foodgrowing gardens. The Victoria Store has helped support several community gardens through volunteer days, and Grant secured a Community Grant First to amplify Whole Foods Market's support. The funds will be allocated to host a gathering that connects community garden coordinators in the Victoria area. Grant hopes this will strengthen individual community gardens, encourage new gardens, and ultimately, improve fresh food access throughout the city.

The Public Health Association of British Columbia cydi.ca

Can You Dig It, a program of The Public Health Association of BC, transforms communities by creating sustainable and inclusive neighbourhoods through community gardens.

They believe community gardening contributes to health and wellbeing, positive social interaction, neighbourhood connectedness, food production, environmental education, habitat development, and a connection to nature. In addition to increased access to fresh, healthy food, the broader community also benefits by having increased opportunities for gardening and cooking workshops while also enjoying green spaces. Whole Cities Foundation is proud to partner with Can You Dig It to fund its first Community Garden Coordinators gathering. This 1-1/2 -day event aims to provide opportunities for education, networking and to mobilize and align efforts around equitable food access.



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