

Global Support Partners with Micro-Enterprise Garden to Empower People Coming Out of Chronic Homelessness



Raj Roy | Global Support Austin, TX

A Senior Team Leader on the Enterprise Information Delivery team, Raj has been a Team Member for three years. He believes, "Healthy food is a right that everyone deserves. Helping people gain access to the foods that nourish and nurture us serves humanity." He was introduced to Mobile Loaves and Fishes' Community First! Village and its community garden while planning a team build. Raj sees Whole Foods Market's commitment to celebrate and strengthen its local communities through employment and investments in local nonprofits as aligning well with Community First! Village's goals to provide affordable, permanent housing and a supportive community for men and women coming out of chronic homelessness. Raj would like to see the Community First Grant help amplify the nonprofit's impact in East Austin.

Mobile Loaves & Fishes mlf.org/community-first

Genesis Gardens is a residential program at the Community First! Village, a 51-acre master-planned community that provides affordable, permanent housing and support for people coming out of chronic homelessness. A development of Mobile Loaves & Fishes, this **transformative residential program** serves those who have been living on the streets, while also empowering the surrounding community into a lifestyle of service with those experiencing homelessness. Genesis Gardens utilizes **sustainable agriculture**—including vegetables, livestock, berry, fruit and nut trees—as a means to connect residents of the village to the land, to their neighbors and to an income source. Community First! Village and Whole Cities Foundation share a belief: Food has the power to **bring people together**, in the field and at the table.



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