

Chicago Community Gardeners Association Resources and Distribution Committee 2024 Annual Report

The mission of the Resources and Distribution Committee is to obtain and distribute useful garden materials to Chicago community gardens. We spend the revenue we generate for the same purpose. In 2024, the Committee accomplished the following:

Six major distributions of material, including the April distribution of spring annuals (65 gardens, 2000 plants); May distribution of summer vegetable starts and ornamental plants (103 gardens, 8000 plants); June distribution of perennials (74 gardens, 2500 plants); July distribution of perennials (115 gardens, 2000 plants); August distribution of perennials (56 gardens, 2000 plants); and the September distribution (116 gardens, 6000 plants).

Numerous “Mini Distributions,” i.e. smaller events to pass along materials grown by the Resources Committee or unexpectedly received from donors, such as seed garlic, seed potatoes, onion sets, vegetable starts, tropical and house plants, native flower seeds, straw bales, spring bulbs (two distributions), hardscape materials, garden tools, dahlias, and cannas, and outdoor holiday container materials.

Propagation of 8000+ vegetable and ornamental seedlings by Committee members working at two local greenhouses, and all distributed to community gardeners.

Three workshops: Growing Luffas and Growing Vegetable Sprouts Indoors (taught by Chicago community gardeners Eve Venable and Carolina Ara); Planting for Pollinators (in cooperation with Garfield Park Conservatory); and Tool Sharpening.

Through the above, the Committee promptly distributed to Chicago community gardens all materials donated to, or purchased or grown by the Committee in 2024.

In 2024 the Committee received revenue from registration fees, donations and plant sales. 2024 expenses included soil for greenhouse work, pots, workshop supplies, specialty seeds, truck rentals, and spring bulbs. We began 2024 with a \$960 surplus and ended with a \$2,670 surplus.

We thank all the volunteers who helped in so many ways in 2024 as well as participating community gardens. Also, a big thank you to our generous donors, who are recognized on the reverse of this page.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Newcomer
Chair, Resources and Distribution Committee

CCGA Resources and Distribution Committee 2024 Donor Honor Roll

Nick Michaud and Westover Farm: thousands of seedlings, as well as seeds, shrubs, seed potatoes, garden supplies, excellent advice and expertise and hard work at distributions.

Bridget Schroeder and The Contained Garden: ornamental annual and perennial seasonal plant material, decorative items for containers, evergreen boughs, and decorative materials for holiday containers.

Elite Growers: over nine thousand perennials for the summer and fall perennial distributions, as well as transportation of the materials to the distribution site.

Scott Byron & Company: perennial plant materials and shrubs, as well as leading the coordination of the September Distribution and delivery of the two large truckloads of materials for this event.

Home Chef: hundreds of garden tools and 30 bat houses.

Hoffie Nursery, Intrinsic Perennial Gardens, Mariani Landscape, and Twixwood Nursery: each donated perennials and other plant materials for the September Distribution.

Four Star Mushrooms: 200+ mushroom blocks.

Adams & Son & Daughter: shrubs and trees

City Escape Garden Center: 200 bulb crates.

Lakeshore Garden Club: dug up and donated over 200 canna bulbs.

City of Chicago: dug up and delivered hundreds of tulip bulbs from the Michigan Avenue spring display.

Green With Ivy: hundreds of ornamental annuals as well as decorative materials for holiday containers.

Sprout: trees and shrubs

Metric Coffee: coffee bean chaff, burlap sacks, and trash bags.

Starbucks: coffee bean chaff and burlap bags.

Several anonymous donors: garden tools, plants, and soil.

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