



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Sprout City Farms Receives Grant from The Denver Foundation for Mountair Park Community Farm

Sprout City Farms is pleased to announce that they have received a Community Grants Program grant from The Denver Foundation's Economic Opportunity Endowment Fund. Grant funds will support education and community wealth-building programs at Mountair Park (MAP) Community Farm. In partnership with the City of Lakewood, Sprout City Farms established MAP Community Farm in the spring of 2014, transforming an unused area of a city park into a living classroom and urban food oasis. The \$20,000 of funding from The Denver Foundation will enable Sprout City Farms to work with the community to build skills and explore ways in which the farm can become a valuable resource to all members of the community.

"We chose Mountair Park for our second community farm based on feedback from the community that they wanted to see local food production, healthy food access, and economic opportunities" says Alison Hatch, Sprout City Farms Director of Development and Outreach, "There are unlimited opportunities to collaborate with the community and create a farm here that supports all of these goals and more. We are proud to have this opportunity to partner with The Denver Foundation, and to work toward our common goal of strengthening communities."

Mountair Park Community Farm will offer a variety of food access and education programs during the 2014 season. Produce grown at the farm is already being distributed to the community through a CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) program with free, work and paid participation opportunities. A donation-based farm stand will be opening in August, and 10% of all produce grown will be donated to local food relief programs. Education programs at the farm currently include a series of Saturday workshops, weekly volunteer learning days (Friday and Saturdays from 10am-noon), urban farming internships, and a day long Homestead Festival on September 13th. Sprout City Farms will be working with local schools this fall, as well as implementing other programs as guided by the Community Farm Advisory Committee.

About The Denver Foundation: The Denver Foundation is a community foundation dedicated to improving life in Metro Denver through inspiring people and mobilizing resources to strengthen the community. Community foundations are endowments — permanent pools of money contributed by donors to benefit a specific geographic area. In 2012, The Foundation awarded \$69 million to nonprofit organizations.

About Sprout City Farms: Sprout City Farms is a non-profit organization that cultivates educational urban farms that engage and strengthen communities. SCF currently operates two one-acre community farms located at The Denver Green School and Mountair Park in Lakewood. Both farms provide food access and learning opportunities to their surrounding communities.

About MAP Community Farm: MAP Community Farm is located in Mountair Park at 5620 W 14th Ave, Lakewood.
