

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
Between



And
Grower Member of Cooperative
For Application to 2021 Grow Out

This Memorandum of Understanding establishes a type of partnership between Ujamaa Cooperative Farming Alliance and Grower Member of Cooperative. UCFA is an initiative that is being incubated by STEAM ONWARD Inc, a 501c3 non-profit organization.

I. Our Mission

Ujamaa Cooperative Farming Alliance (UCFA) is a collective of emergent and seasoned growers who cultivate heirloom seeds and grow culturally relevant plants for food, healing, and textiles.

UCFA recognizes the need for preserving and expanding crop biodiversity in farming and the seed industry, and the need to provide more opportunities and support for growers from historically oppressed and marginalized communities. To this end, the Ujamaa Cooperative Farming Alliance is working to bridge the gap between prospective growers and seed companies.

As a community of creatives, UCFA includes growers, makers, teachers, and bakers. We are committed to the collection, preservation, advancement, and dissemination of agricultural and environmental practices that will benefit and sustain current and future generations.

UCFA supports a healthier way of living for our youth and adults through agriculture. UCFA utilizes environmentally sustainable practices for gardening and farming that will support a more nutritious diet and a more active lifestyle. In the spirit of this mission, we want to foster, support, and enhance relationships of mutual aid and solidarity.

II. Purpose and Scope

Together, the Parties enter into this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to mutually promote cooperative growing and seed production among marginalized communities. Activities undertaken through this may include, but are not limited to, delivery of information and educational materials, development of outreach and promotional items, collaboration on contract negotiation, and development of regional engagement.

III. Responsibilities

A. UCFA Agrees to:

1. Provide information and education opportunities as it deems necessary and appropriate to Grower Members as provided by UCFA staff, volunteers, and fellow UCFA Members;
2. Utilize its information resources to inform Grower Members about the growing needs of the seeds they are endeavoring to cultivate appropriate techniques, standards, and assistance available from UCFA Cooperative members;
3. Facilitate information exchange about farming and seed cultivation to Cooperative Members on various programs, opportunities, and initiatives, and technical information from other Cooperative Members; and
4. Subject to the availability of funds, UCFA will provide a monetary incentive to Grower Members for attempting to engage in seed production activities.

B. Grower Member of Cooperative Agrees to:

1. Establish suitable arable lands for the cultivation and production of seeds;
2. Utilize resources that are made available by UCFA, including but not limited to researchers, seed production professionals, and seed companies;
3. Carry out seed production operations that include cultivation and management of crops, either directly or in collaboration with others, at their discretion;
4. Deliver seeds in accordance with the terms and conditions, and any other express agreement, stated in the contract negotiated with the seed companies;
5. Provide weekly data reports to UCFA via the Crop Journal template including photo
6. Sell seeds to the contracted seed companies and donate seed stock back to the collective in order to support our Ujamaa seed store.

C. The Parties Mutually Agree:

1. To collectively identify and develop cooperative programs, activities, and projects conducted under this MOU that advance the mission of UCFA;
2. To periodically review the progress of programs, activities, or projects developed under this MOU and plan future program directions as appropriate;
3. That this MOU is neither a fiscal- nor funds-obligating document. Any endeavor by either party that involves reimbursement, the contribution of funds, or transfer of anything of value between the parties

shall be subject to available funding and will be handled in accordance with applicable laws, regulations, and procedures. The terms of this agreement are subject to the availability of funds. In the event that adequate funding is not made available, the Parties agree that they will terminate their respective responsibilities under this MOU as agreed to under the termination clause of this agreement below. Such endeavors shall be outlined in separate agreements and shall be made in writing by representatives of both parties;

4. That this MOU in no way restricts either party from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organizations, and individuals;

5. That each party will be responsible for its own actions and results, thereof. Accordingly, each party (where liability is otherwise imposed by law) is responsible alone (exclusive of the other parties) for any injury or loss to persons or property resulting in any manner from the conduct of its own operations, and the conduct of its agents or employees occurring in furtherance of the objectives of this MOU.

IV. Terms of Understanding

The term of this MOU is for one year from the effective date of this agreement and may be extended upon a written mutual agreement. It shall be reviewed at least annually to ensure that it is fulfilling its purpose and make any necessary revisions.

Either party may terminate this MOU upon written notice without penalties or liabilities within 30 days of submission.

Authorization

The signing of this MOU is not a formal undertaking. It implies that the signatories will strive to reach, to the best of their ability, the objectives stated in the MOU.

As a party to this MOU, I wish to sign this MOU and contribute to its further development.