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**For Immediate Release**

***Seven Harvest, Inc.***

Seven Harvest, Inc., 2242 Holland Corner Rd, Suffolk, VA received $41,500.00 to develop a workforce program for Military Veterans and Youth in the areas of the housing industry construction, and renovation for homeless people; and the tire recycling industry: collecting used tires, baling the rubber tires, and shipping them in containers to India.

The next phase is rent to own hydrolysis equipment to convert rubber tires into a granular substance to repurpose into climate-smart, demand-driven-products, with outstanding returns on investments in climate-smart farming and agri-business.

The target audience/beneficiaries of the program are: 1) military veterans returning to civilian life and 2) high school juniors and seniors. Both represent human capital investments in the underserved black communities of Hampton and Newport News, VA. The reception of careers in farming and agriculture in the black community at best is lukewarm and negative at worst. The backstory is aging farmers without an emerging pipeline of young farmer replacements, black land loss, skyrocketing costs of land, and climate change volatility. There is a need to keep pace with the job market and obtain career counseling and a year or less of vocational/technical training and readiness in climate-smart employment. For example, both high school graduates and military veterans returning to civilian life can obtain a license by completing the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) course to pilot, unmanned aircraft or drones which perform agricultural tasks in urban and rural areas to scout insects, monitor soil moisture, provide aerial photos of crop damage and to herd cattle. (<https://www.deltaquad.com/>, 2024)

Seven Harvest, Inc. was formed in 2007 and received its non-profit 501c3 status in 2009.  Our historic mission supported building the capacity of owner operators of food enterprises in limited-resource communities using local, national, and international partnerships. SH provided experiential learning in Controlled Atmosphere Environment (CAE) growing of organic farming and sustainable agriculture for youth, young farmers, socially disadvantaged, and beginning farmers.