Green Village Initiative (GVI) has been busy this year streamlining our efforts and focusing on our core mission of sustaining our farm as a center for education and community. We continue to focus on food justice as a goal for all that we do.

We are here to ask for your support so that together, we can continue our work towards creating a more just food system in Bridgeport and expand the number of people we serve.

Green Village Initiative - goGVI.org
Mailing Address: 135 Clarence Street, Bridgeport, CT 06608
Reservoir Community Farm: 1469 Reservoir Avenue, Bridgeport, CT
Email the GVI Team: diego@gogvi.org, media@gogvi.org
Under the leadership of our managing director Diego Osses and our volunteer board of directors, we have advanced exciting new projects at Reservoir Community Farm this year. Keep reading to learn more about what we’ve done so far this year and how you can support our upcoming plans to keep GROWING!

Donate by visiting tinyurl.com/donategvi or by scanning the QR code; or by mailing a check made out to Green Village Initiative to our office at 135 Clarence Street, Bridgeport, CT 06608.
• We built more raised garden beds compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) to increase accessibility at the farm.

• In a collaborative youth leadership program with Groundwork Bridgeport we’ve built garden beds at 3 Bridgeport early learning centers to support children learning through gardening.

• In partnership with UConn Extension, GVI is hosting a 6 week Urban Farmer Training program at Reservoir Farm for farmers and gardeners to learn about vegetable production and sales.

• GVI welcomes many new organizations to Reservoir Farm to grow food including: Bishop Jean Williams Food Pantry, Cavalry Seventh Day Adventist Church, Park City Harvest, Blissful Awakenings and Bridgeport Youth Lacrosse.

• A diverse group of 41 community gardeners from across Bridgeport will be gardening in plots at Reservoir Community Farm to grow food for their families’ tables.

• In partnership with Groundwork Bridgeport, 12 Bridgeport youth will work and study in a 6-week intensive leadership-building class. This class will provide a hands-on overview of managing a small farm.
LET’S KEEP GROWING
What We Need From You to Make it Happen

HOW TO DONATE
Donate by visiting tinyurl.com/donategvi or by scanning the QR code; or by mailing a check made out to “Green Village Initiative” to our office at 135 Clarence Street, Bridgeport, CT 06608.

WHAT YOUR DONATIONS BUY FOR GVI
- $5- packets of seeds for community gardeners
- $50- two hoses for the farm
- $250- supplement a week of farm staff wages
- $500- transportation & lunch for summer Youth Leadership trips
- $1,000- updated and translated farm signs and materials
- $1,500- money to rebuild the hoop house
- $2,000- supplies for natural pest control and fertilizer
- $25,00- repairs for the current coolbox that stores all harvests
- $5,000- an automated irrigation system for sections of the farm
- $10,000 an irrigation system for the entire farm, improving our efficiency around water usage and increasing our harvest
**FUTURE PLANS AT GVI**

Here’s What Your Contributions Can Help Us Achieve

- **Much-needed shelter from the heat:** We plan to build several “heat-shelters” to provide shaded places for gathering and learning at the farm. Farms are hot in the summer, and these structures will keep our gardeners, urban farmers, and youth leaders comfortable and safe in the heat.

- **Operational costs, from the office to the farm:** Your contribution will allow us to continue compensating our small and hardworking staff, along with paying the monthly rent for our office space and buying crucial supplies like seeds, soil, and other farm and garden maintenance materials.

- **Maintaining Reservoir Community Farm as a sanctuary in Bridgeport:** Reservoir Community Farm is the heart of GVI, and we want to continue to provide education, green space, and other programming there for our community. Your contributions will enable more offerings at the farm this summer including:
  - yoga classes
  - cooking classes
  - neighborhood get-togethers
  - a farmers market
  - networking for urban farmers across CT and New England
  - and more!
WHO WE GROW FOR
GVI’s Community Impact in Their Words

COMMUNITY QUOTE ON GVI’S IMPACT

"Gardening at GVI gives me the satisfaction of growing my own food and spending time with the community here - we take care of each other, we look out for each other. We'll be bringing our youth corps leadership training program here to care for our beds. We have a holistic view when we work with youth, mind, body and spirit, all is connected and we are connected to nature. To have this urban farm in the heart of the city, we are teaching kids how to survive growing their own food."

○ Don Wilson, Founder of Bridgeport Youth Lacrosse

FARM FRESH RECIPE

Our farmers are amazing cooks and bakers and use Reservoir-grown food to make delicious treats. Here is a recipe for vegan Lemon-Rosemary Cake, made with rosemary grown at Reservoir Community Farm:

OUR TEAM
The People Behind GVI and Reservoir Community Farm

**Diego Osses**
Managing Director
Diego brings 25 years of experience as an agricultural engineer with an MBA and a Masters degree in Finance. He has extensive experience in farm management, international business development, and diplomacy in both his home country of Chile and abroad in countries such as China and Thailand.

**Maegan Bogetti**
Outreach Coordinator
Maegan has been with GVI for 2 years. She has a BA in Global Studies and Environmental and Sustainability Studies. She is currently completing an environmental justice Fulbright grant in Naples, Italy before she returns to CT to begin her Masters of Environmental Management with a concentration in People, Equity, and the Environment at Yale in 2024.

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Penny Cook, Board Secretary
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Phil Ambrosino, Board Treasurer
Valeria G. Bisceglia
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