



# **Everyone At The Table – Community Garden**

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# East Chattanooga Recreation Center





**Plant a seed, Eat healthy, Grow a community**

The DOA defines a food desert as an area where 20% are below the poverty line and 33% live > 1 mile from a grocery store

- 33 % of East Chattanooga residents live below the poverty line
- No grocery stores
- 82% African-American, 16% Caucasian
- Median income - \$29,238



# Garden Layout

- 10,000 square foot garden area
- 72 4'x16' Raised bed plots
  - 60 Plots allocated for rental
  - 8 Plots allocated for selling produce
  - 4 Plots allocated to growing food to be donated to the Chattanooga Area Food Bank

# Mission and Vision

- Our mission is to develop a sustainable community garden in the food desert area of East Chattanooga in order to provide access to healthy and affordable food and improve the well-being of the citizens of this predominantly low-income urban neighborhood.
- Our vision is to develop additional community gardens in other low-income areas of Chattanooga, with the goal of including everyone at the table of nutritious and accessible foods.



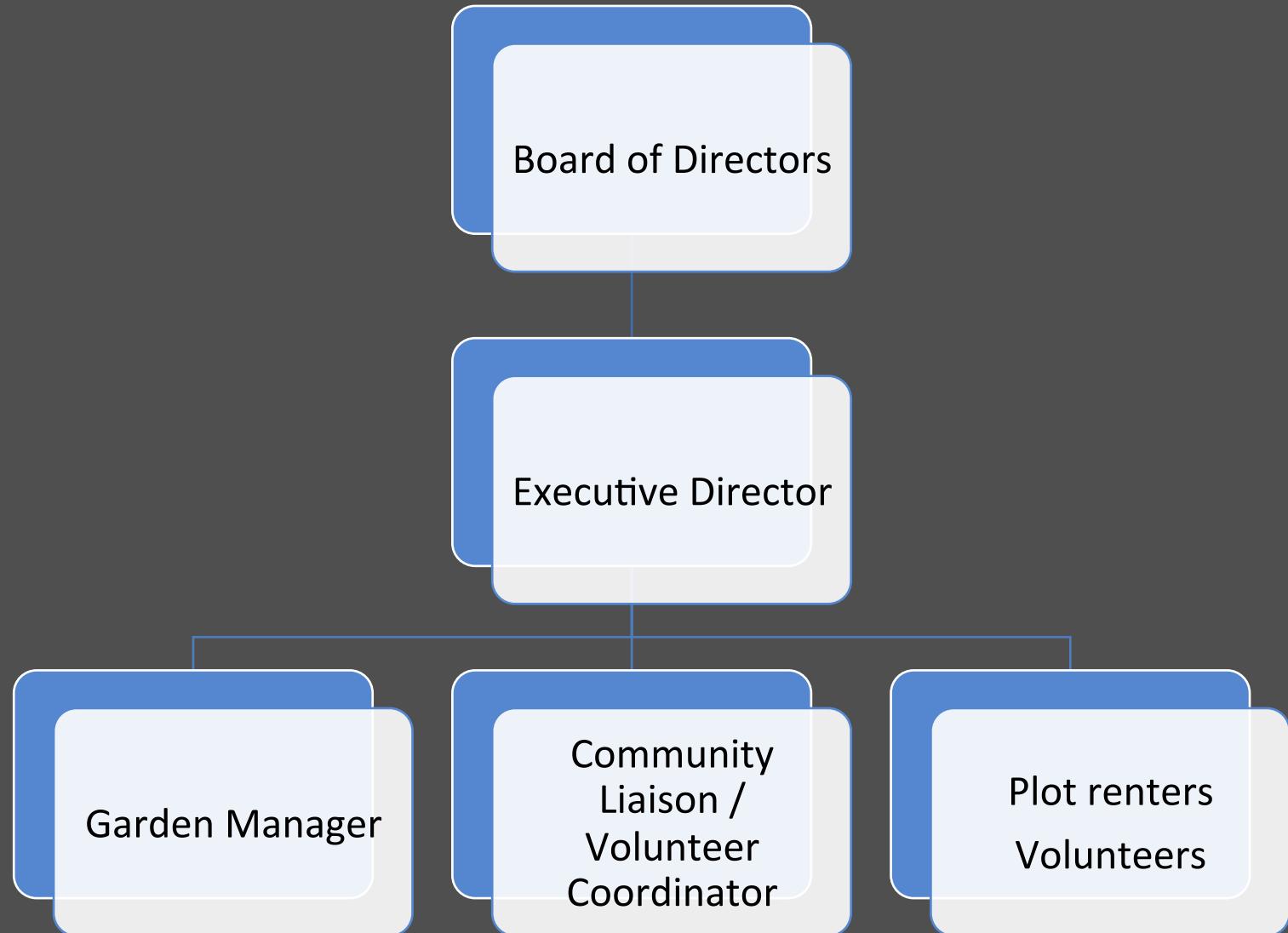


# Cooking Classes

## Services

- Gardening
- Cooking Classes
- Nutrition Classes
- School participation
- Adult service participation
- Community events

# Staff and Participants





## Low Cost

# Relatively low cost

- Sources of funding
  - Grants
  - Sponsors from community organizations and businesses
  - Plot rental
  - Advertising
  - Produce sales to local distributors
  - Annual bake sale
  - Annual family night
- The main ways to keep costs low for this community garden is forming partnerships and having annual fundraisers.

# Partnerships

- Local Businesses
- Local Churches
- Local Schools
- Local Senior Centers, Nursing Homes, and Assisted Livings Facilities
- The Chattanooga Area Food Bank
- The East Chattanooga Recreation Center
- Master Gardeners



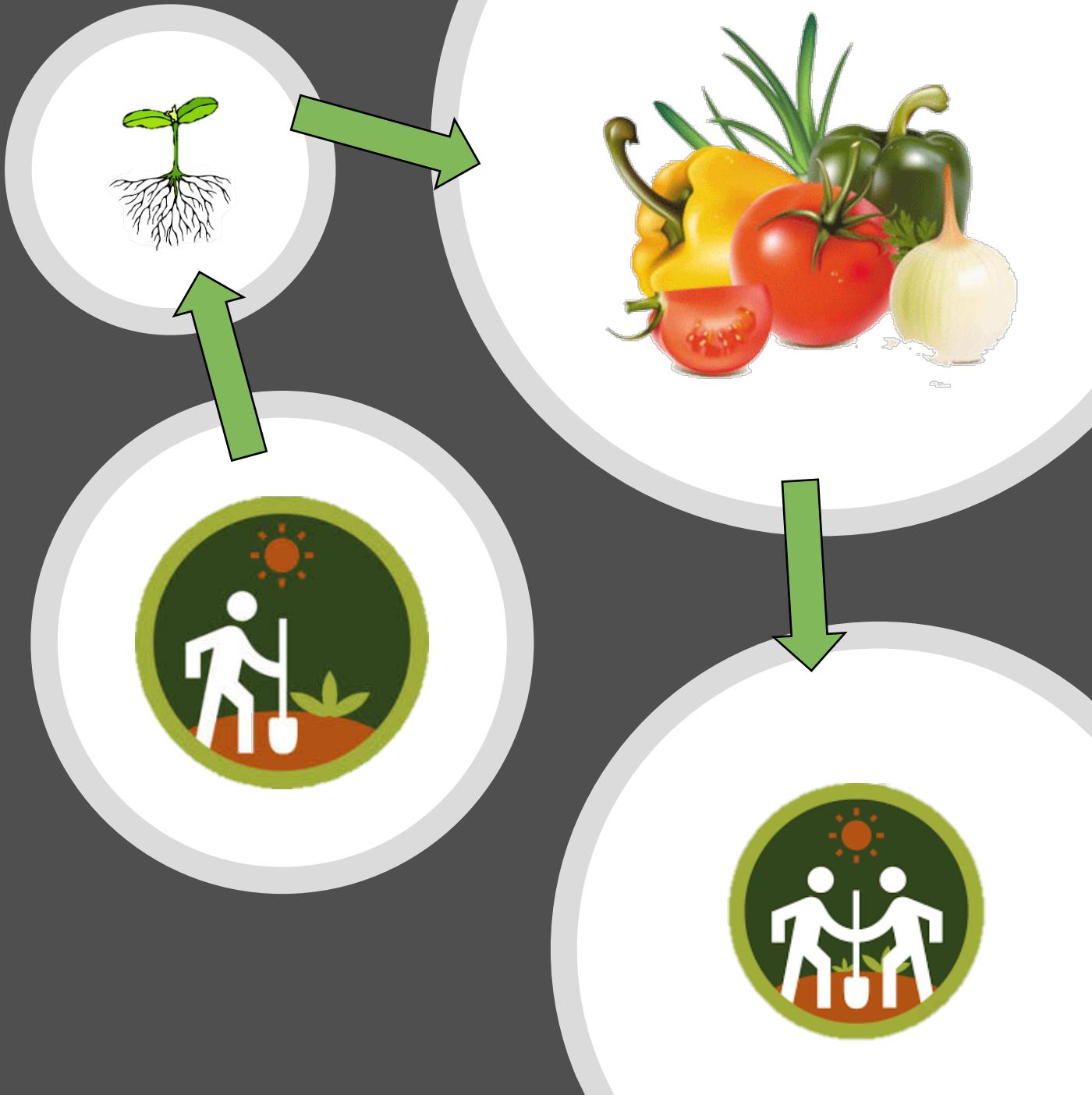


DINNER  
AND  
AUCTION

Fundraising

# Benefits

- Awareness of health food options
- Access to health foods
- Cooking classes
- Community involvement
- Educational tours for schools



# References

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- U.S. Census Bureau (2010). *Community facts*. Retrieved from [https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community\\_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk](https://factfinder.census.gov/faces/nav/jsf/pages/community_facts.xhtml?src=bkmk)