



THE VISION: To preserve and expand what has become a valuable community resource - the Bowmanville Gateway Garden. Since 2009 this garden has provided Bowmanville and nearby Chicago neighborhoods vital open space to grow food, build community, and learn key skills for a sustainable future.

The plan is to permanently acquire the land, and in doing so double the size of the existing garden. Within the expanded space, neighbors envision year-round food growing, ecological education for children and parents, accessible gardening for the elderly and persons with disabilities, and a quiet oasis in a hectic urban environment. Individual gardeners will enjoy expanded growing areas, and local organizations and businesses will have the chance to invest in and maintain dedicated growing space.



Situated at the intersection of Bowmanville, West Edgewater, West Andersonville, and the Ravenswood Industrial Corridor, the garden is a point of convergence for many diverse communities. This commonly maintained space nurtures gathering and collaboration that reaches across socio-economic, generational, and geographic lines.

The Bowmanville Community Organization (BCO) has formed a strategic partnership with non-profit NeighborSpace to acquire the land. NeighborSpace is the only non-profit urban land trust in Chicago that preserves and sustains gardens on behalf of dedicated community groups. With the additional space, the garden will cover one-third of an acre – the equivalent of four city lots. A permanent green space of this size on the dense north side of Chicago will be an unprecedented boon for the well-being of the surrounding communities.

THE GOAL: To make this vision a reality, the Bowmanville Community Organization is committed to raise \$50,000 by the end of summer 2017. These funds will be matched by contributions from the City of Chicago and environmentally focused not-for-profit organizations.

[**DONATE HERE**](#) to preserve and expand this valuable community resource.

[**PROGRESS**](#) including fundraising totals and a donor's list are updated regularly at www.bcochicago.org.

[**READ MORE**](#) about this opportunity, organizations supporting this effort, and the garden's history.

[**CONTACT**](mailto:planning@bcochicago.org) planning@bcochicago.org to help.



FUNDRAISING

Contributions from individuals, businesses, and not-for-profit organizations are needed. Contributions are tax deductible through the partnership with NeighborSpace, a registered 501(c)(3) organization.



Business and Foundation Giving

If your organization can offer support, or if you can connect us with prospective donors, please contact planning@bcochicago.org.

Many groups have already stepped forward in support of this effort. Supporters include:

- NeighborSpace
- Bowmanville Community Organization (BCO)
- Alderman Patrick O'Connor, City of Chicago Ward 40
- Driehaus Foundation
- U.S. Congressman Mike Quigley, IL District 05
- Greater Ravenswood Chamber of Commerce
- Andersonville Chamber of Commerce
- Rogers Park Montessori School
- Amundsen High School
- Holland & Knight LLP
- NorthEdgeGroup @properties
- Mobile Perspectives LLC

Individual Giving

Donations at any level are appreciated! A matching gift campaign is underway during May. Individual donations will be matched up to \$1000. **DONATE NOW.**

Donors can designate how they would like to be acknowledged for their donation, with an option to remain anonymous.

Thus far seventeen individual ambassadors have offered up their personal networks, creative ideas, and hospitality toward our fundraising effort. Each ambassador has committed to raising at least \$500. To lend your support as a fundraising ambassador contact planning@bcochicago.org.



MANY WAYS TO GIVE...

Please help spread the word about this exciting project and the fundraising needs. If you have an idea to add to the list of initiatives, or would like to sponsor or lend support to something, contact planning@bcochicago.org. Below are some of the many ways you can support this effort – with time, money, and fun!

May Match: Double Your Donation!

A generous West Andersonville neighbor has offered to match up to \$1000 donated in the month of May. Double the impact of your dollars. **DONATE NOW!**

Victory Garden Theater supports the Gateway Garden effort April 29 - June 2.

Bowmanville neighbor Arlene Malinowski, a talented playwright, actor, and storyteller, performs her one-woman play “A Little Bit Not Normal” at the Victory Gardens Theater April 29 - June 2. The theater will donate 25% of ticket sales purchased using the promo code **BOWMANVILLE** to support this effort. Tickets are a very reasonable \$20!

[Tickets for the show at Victory Gardens here.](#) If you are going on a certain date, post to the [BCO Facebook page](#) to invite neighbors to join you.

Bee Fit Festival - Discount rates that support the Gateway Garden May 21 9am-4pm

This one of a kind pop-up fitness festival at the Ravenswood Arts Center brings together the best studios and gyms from Chicago under one roof for one day.

Bowmanville neighbor and event planner Molly Fitzpatrick has generously offered Bowmanville residents a discounted rate of \$29 and a contribution to the Gateway Garden fund for every neighbor that attends. [Bee Fit Fest tickets here!](#) Promo Code is BOWMANVILLE.

Attendees can participate in pop-up classes, wander the showroom to learn about the latest

fitness trends, sample local organic foods, meet with massage therapists or nutritionists and finish it all off with a mimosa while shopping for discounted class packages or athletic apparel.

Midsommarfest – Help Staff the BCO Beer Tent on Friday June 9th

Every Midsommarfest, the Andersonville Chamber invites a select group of community organizations to help staff their beer tents to raise money for local causes. This year the BCO Gateway Garden Preservation & Expansion effort has been invited to staff the Catalpa Beer Tent, **which could earn over \$2,000 for our cause.** [Click here to help staff the BCO Catalpa beer tent on Friday June 9th.](#)

Block Party Challenge: Calling all Bowmanville blocks who hold block parties!

A pie throwing booth? Hot dog sales? A donation jar? We will spotlight your efforts on the BCO Facebook page and in the Bee. Let us know how we can help you make it happen. [Contact us here to talk details.](#)

House Parties – call for hosts!

Ideas we’ve seen work well: a chili cook-off, HamBingo at Hamburger Mary’s, a yard or garden party at a neighbors’, a birthday bash. There are so many fun ways to host these – do it on your own or pair up with a neighbor to host something. [Contact us to let us know you’re interested.](#)