# MIDLAND PANTRY & COMMUNITY FOOD FOREST INITIATIVE

## Full Grant Proposal

**Version 1.0 · October 24 2025**  
*Pantry Planning Project*

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Midland Pantry & Community Food Forest initiative seeks to create an accessible, sustainable food-security and mutual-aid model for Midland Commons. Led by Rising Tide Ministries in partnership with community volunteers, this project combines raised-bed food production, habitat restoration, and mutual-aid pantry services to reduce food insecurity and increase ecological resilience in Southeast Portland.¹

Funding will support materials, volunteer training, and infrastructure for the first three development phases (2025 – 2026), including habitat certification, pantry facility upgrades, and education programs for local residents.

### PROJECT OVERVIEW

The Pantry Planning Project develops the Midland Pantry as a dual-purpose resource: a community food distribution hub and a living demonstration of urban agro-ecology.

**Core Objectives**  
1. Provide fresh produce free of charge to local residents through raised-bed gardening and mutual-aid distribution.  
2. Establish a certified food forest and wildlife habitat in consultation with Indigenous experts.  
3. Promote community health, accessibility, and environmental education.  
4. Document and publish all processes for replication in other Oregon communities.

### COORDINATION STRUCTURE

**Heather-Lynne Van Wilde** – Off-site Systems & Compliance Coordinator  
• Grant writing, data management, and legal compliance.

**Jaide Crow** – On-site Garden & Mutual-Aid Coordinator  
• Volunteer management, planting design, and habitat certification.

**Anna Dunlap** – Property Manager & Advisor  
• Liaison with Midland Commons administration and safety compliance.

Each coordinator contributes unique expertise to maintain the balance between community access and ecological stewardship.

### COMMUNITY IMPACT

* Increase access to fresh produce for low-income residents.
* Create educational opportunities through volunteer training and garden workshops.
* Improve local pollinator and bird habitat.
* Establish a replicable blueprint for urban micro-food forests.
* Foster inclusive spaces welcoming to individuals with disabilities and diverse backgrounds.

### BUDGET SUMMARY

| Category | Estimated Cost | Notes |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Raised-bed materials & soil | $ 2 , 400 | Cedar or steel frames and soil blend |
| Habitat plants & tools | $ 1 , 800 | Native species and adaptive tools |
| Pantry infrastructure (upgrades & accessibility) | $ 1 , 600 | Shelving and mobility improvements |
| Volunteer training & education | $ 900 | Safety materials and curricula |
| Documentation & community outreach | $ 600 | Printing, signage, and QR resources |
| **Total Estimated Request** | **$ 7 , 300** | Phase 1–3 implementation |

*Additional in-kind support is anticipated through volunteer labor and donated materials.*

### TIMELINE

| Phase | Period | Key Milestones |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 1 | Nov 2025 – Feb 2026 | Infrastructure setup, soil prep, volunteer orientation |
| 2 | Mar 2026 – Aug 2026 | Planting, habitat installation, pantry expansion |
| 3 | Sep 2026 – Dec 2026 | Certification submission and public workshops |

### SUSTAINABILITY PLAN

After initial funding, the Midland Pantry will sustain operations through ongoing volunteer programs, harvest donations, and small community partnership grants.  
Digital documentation and training materials ensure knowledge retention and project continuity beyond initial coordinator terms.

### EVALUATION & REPORTING

* Monthly progress reports to funders and partners.
* Volunteer and harvest data logged in the Pantry Planning archive.
* Final impact report with photos and community feedback upon Phase 3 completion.

### FOOTNOTE

¹ **Site layout pending:** Official property layout and utility plans have not yet been obtained. Current design elements reflect estimated placements based on observed site conditions. Final diagrams and measurements will be added upon receipt of verified site plans.

### REVISION NOTES – DOCUMENT HISTORY

| Date | Version | Description | Author |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2025-10-24 | 1.0 | Initial grant proposal for Midland Pantry Phases 1–3 | Pantry Planning Collective |

### PROJECT CONTACT INFORMATION

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