

Partners for Places Project Lessons Report

Project Name: *Cultivating a Regenerative Food Culture*

- **Year Complete:** 2024
- **Local Government:** City of Waco, TX
- **Local Foundation:** Cooper Foundation

Project Purpose

This project provided education and infrastructure for composting and gardening with goals for food waste recovery, food production, and methane reduction at the landfill.

Key Lessons Learned

Start slow to go far. It is important to be patient with the process. There is value in taking time to identify key stakeholders needed at the table to have important conversations, think through potential benefits and risks upfront, and plan for how to respond and mark those setbacks and gains.

Take the time to discuss roles, responsibilities, and expectations for each partner, breaking down assumptions and presumptions about each other.

Have a marketing campaign included from the beginning. The roll out takes time to share the work the partners are doing together.

Equity and power sharing means different things to different groups. The diversity of partners adds value and can create complementary work for a greater collective impact. Community Based Organizations value having the local government involved to consider community strengths and assets when identifying priorities and projects.

Additional Information and Resources

Additional information on the project can be found [here](#).