

#FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE#

Urban Triage, Inc.

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URBAN TRIAGE DEVELOPS FARM BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE

MADISON, WI (May 5, 2022)— Urban Triage, Inc. is pleased to announce our Farm Business Development initiative, an expansion of our Supporting Healthy Black Agriculture (SHBA) program. It is our goal at Urban Triage to support our Black Wisconsin Farmers as they strive to build financially stable wealth-building farm businesses with resources, programming, and support. We hope to lower the barrier to entry for Black Farmers to be successful in agriculture and acquire land.

The Farm Business Development initiative is in addition to our Supporting Healthy Black Agriculture (SHBA) family workgroup, which provides Black families with the skills, tools, and support to succeed in agriculture-related ventures to increase food access while providing the space and opportunity for family bonding, trauma recovery, and healing.

Black Farmers once made up 14% of all farmers, today just 1.3% make up farmers of color, particularly Black Farmers have experienced a long history of discrimination. Losing 80% of their farmland over a century. Here in Wisconsin, only .07% of farmers are Black, making up 73 farmers across the state. We understand this did not happen by accident, much of this is a result of documented discrimination by the government dating back to before the 1920's. With our efforts, we hope to pave the way for the next generation of Black Farmers. Below are some of the ways we plan to assist and support Black Farmers:

- Preparation for a business license
- Support Black Farmers throughout State or Federally run programs to encourage completion
- We provide support for programs covering:
 - Business Management
 - Business Development
 - Value-added and Marketing
 - Grant Writing
- Assist Black Farmers in sourcing land
- Provide an up-to-date list of resources for farmers

“For more than 150 years, from the rural South to northern cities, Black people have used farming to build self-determined communities and resist oppressive structures that tear them down. Today, it still serves an important role in the lives of Black people, which is why we started our Supporting Healthy Black Agriculture Initiative and Farmers Resources. We're on a mission to support Black Farmers and entrepreneurs in cultivating food and land sovereignty while regaining agency and ownership over our food system. At Urban Triage, we understand that growing food is a tool for dismantling systemic oppression, and we are on a mission to do just that.” says Brandi Grayson, CEO & Founder of Urban Triage.

If you are a Black Farmer or entrepreneur in Wisconsin looking to improve your Farm Business, please sign up below.

Farm Business Program Application: <https://form-usa.keela.co/farm-business-development-program-application>

To help support Black Farmers or to get involved and volunteer your talents and services, please visit the following webpage: <https://urbantriage.org/our-work/supporting-healthy-black-families/farm-business-development>

For questions, don't hesitate to contact us at info@urbantriage.org.

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About Urban Triage, Inc.

Urban Triage, Inc. is a non-profit organization that has served more than 12K people, Black families, Black entrepreneurs, and Black businesses. Urban Triage's vision is to empower and inspire breakthroughs and transformation by way of education and leadership in Black children, Black women, Black men, Black entrepreneurs, and Black communities. Our mission is to foster, develop, and strengthen Black entrepreneurs and Black families' self-sufficiency, community leadership, advocacy, and family success through psychoeducation, community engagement, trauma response, healing, and cultural heritage. For additional information about Urban Triage and our programs and services, please visit: www.urbantriage.org.