## **Urban Farming Initiative and Walnut Hills Redevelopment Foundation Partner to Grow Neighborhood Gardens**

The Urban Farming Initiative (UFI) and the Walnut Hills Redevelopment Foundation are thrilled to announce a new partnership aimed at revitalizing and coordinating urban gardens in the Walnut Hills neighborhood.

Cincinnati, Ohio Jan 1, 2025 (<u>Issuewire.com</u>) - The Urban Farming Initiative (UFI) and the Walnut Hills Redevelopment Foundation are thrilled to announce a new partnership aimed at revitalizing and coordinating urban gardens in the Walnut Hills neighborhood. Through this collaboration, UFI will work closely with garden coordinators, volunteers, and community leaders to enhance the gardens' output, while also providing support for local events and programs.

As part of this initiative, Ben Booker, UFI's Executive Director, will lead the project. A University of Cincinnati graduate with an urban agriculture certificate, Booker brings extensive expertise in urban agriculture and community development. Under his guidance, UFI will develop a comprehensive platform to engage neighborhood residents, community leaders, and visitors, providing them with opportunities to:

- Enjoy the gardens and their surroundings
- Utilize compost bins to reduce waste and promote sustainability
- Participate in educational sessions and workshops
- Volunteer in the gardens and contribute to their growth
- Access fresh, locally grown produce

"We're proud to partner with the Walnut Hills Redevelopment Foundation to empower the community and bring fresh, healthy food to the residents of the neighborhood," said Kevin Mackey, Co-founder and Chairman of the Urban Farming Initiative. "This partnership takes the next step by building on the great work that's already been done by a lot of people and organizations in the Walnut Hills neighborhood. Our goal is to maximize the output of these urban gardens as a means of contributing to a local, circular food economy."

The partnership between UFI and the Walnut Hills Redevelopment Foundation marks a significant step forward in the neighborhood's revitalization efforts. By working together, the two organizations will foster a sense of community, promote environmental stewardship, and improve the overall quality of life for Walnut Hills residents.

"We're excited to collaborate with the Urban Farming Initiative to build on the previous eight years of food justice and community gardening efforts," said Samantha Miller, Executive Director of the Walnut Hills Redevelopment Foundation. "This partnership will bring new resources to neighborhood gardens and help us realize our vision of a thriving, sustainable community. We look forward to seeing the positive impact it will have on our residents and visitors alike."

The Urban Farming Initiative and the Walnut Hills Redevelopment Foundation invite community members to get involved and learn more about this exciting partnership. For more information, please visit https://urbanfarminginitiative.org.

About the Urban Farming Initiative:

The Urban Farming Initiative invigorates American communities by organizing and coordinating circular

food systems in our neighborhoods and cities. We combine growing expertise in raised bed gardening, hoop houses, greenhouses, and controlled environment agriculture (CEA) shipping container growing units, along with a digital platform, the Urban Farm Network, that connects producers, consumers, institutional buyers, community leaders, and neighborhood data in a user-friendly application.

About the Walnut Hills Redevelopment Foundation:

The Walnut Hills Redevelopment Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to revitalizing and improving the quality of life in the Walnut Hills neighborhood through community-based initiatives and partnerships.

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