

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

**U.S. Department of Agriculture:** Community Compost and Food Waste Reduction (CCFWR) Project

City of New Haven Community Services Administration, Food System Policy Division

DATE: May 29, 2020

Funding request: up to \$90,000.00 for a period of one year

The Community Services Administration, Food System Policy Division is applying for funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture in partnership with Gather New Haven (formerly New Haven Land Trust/New Haven Farms) and Peels and Wheels Composting to test, verify, and demonstrate the feasibility of a community composting solution that could then be scaled to the whole city to reduce solid waste costs and meet the needs of a growing food movement involving urban farms, community gardens, park gardens, home farms and house gardens.

The goal of the project is to capture a percentage of the organic waste from the home waste stream to make high quality compost to support growing food, create jobs, save municipal funds, and reduce environmental pollution.

The planned activities include, but are not limited to:

- Researching national and international best practices for municipal composting and related activities
- Researching equitable municipal composting policy and developing related programming that prioritizes vulnerable and disinvested communities
- Identifying and/or creating pathways to education, jobs and resources related to composting in New Haven

Funds will be used to support partner organization activities to research, pilot, and scale-up composting services.