STRENGTHEN OUR COMMUNITIES BY REESTABLISHING CONNECTION TO HUMANITY AND NATURE.

United by this mission under a 501(c)(3), we are a team of artists, engineers, builders, and social activists dedicated to actualize our greatest collective potential by enabling Home-ownership, developing Safe & Diverse Communal Space, and sharing Marketable Skills.
**VALUES**

- Preserve heritage, ethics, and integrity by giving residents a platform to shape development in their own communities
- Create educational platforms in skilled-trade, urban agriculture, STEM, & building for viable living
- Cultivate unilateral leadership and practice open-source knowledge sharing
- Promote philosophy of experimentation: Learn new skills and uncover new passions

**GOALS**

- Develop strong ties with COMMUNITY members & organizations, as well as best-practices to deeply understand their unique needs
- ENGINEER beautiful, affordable, net-zero building solutions and the supporting supply-chains
- Integrate more GREEN into our urban environments through accessible gardens and inspirational outdoor gathering space

**ENTENDRE**

- Graft – verb revitalizing life through connection
- Graphed – verb analyzed & characterized quantitatively
- Craft – noun dedication to quality & skill
MICRO-ECOSYSTEM
in a Detroit infill lot

PURPOSE

Everyone, inner-city youth included, deserve access to Nature & Beauty.

We are pioneering how to rebuild our cities by understanding community priorities and our environmental duties. This infill lot will integrate permaculture principles, alternative and affordable construction innovations, as well as open-access to healing communal greenspace.

To ensure longevity, we are developing income streams via the greenhouse’s crop yield & rental space of the community center, using revenue to ultimately return the space to community ownership.

GOALS

Triple Bottom-line: Economically, Environmentally, and Socially Sustainable

Designed and built hand-in-hand with the neighbors

Build real equity via Community Co-operative hand-off program

ELEMENTS

UNITY HOUSE • Community Center
PASSIVE SOLAR GREENHOUSE • 4-Season Production
FOOD FOREST • Permaculture Landscape
EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PROGRAM • Open Space
COMMUNITY COMPOST • Revival of Earth

(Early concept sketches)
PURPOSE
• Create viability for home-ownership across income-levels.

SHORT-TERM GOALS
• Develop building as a model-home & open-access space for community.
• Achieve Triple Bottom-line objectives: Economically, Environmentally, and Socially Sustainable.

LONG-TERM GOALS
• Develop modular design and lean-manufacturing process.
• Create a solution to span income-ranges and geographic markets.

CORE FEATURES
• High-efficiency Passive Design
• Solar System
• Green Roof
• Rain Harvester
• SIPs & Cross-Laminated Timber
• Minimal Site Disruption Foundation
• Composting Toilet
• Greywater System
• Energy Recovery Ventilation

PARTNERS
D’Anna Associates Architecture Engineering
PURPOSE

- Graft low-tech and high-tech building principles to achieve passive, high-efficiency, year-round yield.

COMPLETED SHORT-TERM GOALS

- Social: Involve local businesses and community members in the build process.
- Environmental: Construct with 90% waste streams in the local area, operate with off-grid water/energy systems.
- Economic: Build for under $3000. Sell produce to local catering business.

LONG-TERM GOALS

- Develop neighborhood Co-operative worker-owner model.
- Partner with City of Detroit and trade unions to develop infill lots throughout the city.

CORE FEATURES

- Sacred Geometry Design
- Solar Panels
- Geothermal
- Adobe North Wall
- Aquaponics

PARTNERS

- Diseños
- Welding Concepts Training, Inc.
- SOL EcoKitchen
Passive Solar Greenhouse

1. Diseños Ornamental Ironwork volunteering their crew
2. Local welding student getting trained while constructing pre-fab arches
3. Yield inside the greenhouse
4. Exterior view of greenhouse
5. Community volunteer day
6. Building with strawbales and geothermal tubes
7. Fish in the aquaponic system
FOOD FOREST

PURPOSE

• Inspire hope with urban access to the beauty and healing power of Nature.

SHORT-TERM GOALS

• Social: Design + Develop with community leaders and volunteers, mindful of cultural heritage.
• Environmental: Reintroduce native plant species that provide value in the form of nutrition, shade, healing, and beauty. Refill this lot with diverse array of edible plants, nitrogen fixers, herbal medicines, and pollinator-friends.
• Economic: Partner with local farmers and greenspace projects to mitigate material and operational costs.

LONG-TERM GOALS

• Develop Execution & Pattern Models to replicate Food Forests in any urban city.

CORE FEATURES

• Spiral Flow of Resources
• Permaculture Design
• Biodiversity of Native Plants
• Raised Garden Beds
• Children’s Play Area
• Rainwater Harvester

PARTNERS

RESILIENT SPIRALS
Sacred PLACES
BBLA

DR. CHARLIE BRENNAN
LANDSCAPE ARCHITECT
1. Picnic with surrounding community
2. Bike-repair day
3. Neighbors picking from the mulberry tree
4. Raspberry harvesting
5. Kung-fu 101: Healthy Bodies, Minds, Spirits
6. Healthy-cooking workshop in the garden
7. Neighborhood kids planting and adopting
8. Dia de los Muertos Altar
**EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING**

(ONGOING)

**PURPOSE**

- Create powerful & lasting learning experiences

**GOALS**

- Tackle real-world challenges with relevant hands-on projects
- Weave in STEAM-based problem-solving into curriculum
- Cultivate spiritual growth by incorporating Mindfulness, Breathwork, & Self-Reflection in ALL classes

**CORE FEATURES**

- Classes held in our Chavez Community Garden (online temporarily)
- K-12 Target Audience
- Peer Mentors for mixed age classes

**PARTNERS**

(Urban Neighborhood Initiative)

(7-week summer curriculum for elementary group)
1. Recycling and Waste Workshop
2. Henna and Face-painting
3. Rain Harvesting: Engineering 101
4. Bike Repair Day and Maintenance 101
5. Sample content from 7-week Summer Curriculum
6. Screenshot from Aquaponics Week
THE GRAFT TEAM

ORGANIZATIONAL PHILOSOPHY

We are a small but well-represented team leading execution and strategic decisions. Our diverse set of expertise, from social justice to manufacturing, align to Graft’s holistic goals of rebuilding our communities.

Our team is structured such that each member’s Passion & Skill lead their contributions, while Roles/Titles follow to ensure organizational discipline.

CONTACT

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(Org Spiral: The spiral is a fluid, open, non-hierarchical design. Individual involvement is more strategic toward the center and more contractual toward flowing outward.)