



ECONOMIC & COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL

2023 GRANTEE

## PROJECT

# Gardens of Vernon Township



## GRANTEE

Vernon Township



## INVESTMENT

\$1,000

## PROJECT OVERVIEW:

Vernon Township partnered with Mt Vernon Schools, the McCordsville Wellness Center, Vernon Township Library, Hancock County Master Gardeners, Fortville Farmers Market, FARM and Purdue Extension to develop The Gardens of Vernon Township. The Gardens have been developed south of Vitality Drive just off 67 at the western gateway to Fortville. The Gardens of Vernon Township includes community garden plots, children's nature area, pavilion and gathering space, a small orchard and a pollinator garden. The garden has hired a maintenance coordinator and volunteers from a local nonprofit are helping with programming and additional maintenance. During the installation of the garden, the township learned they would need to extend the existing drainage, which was more expensive than originally anticipated. Because of this cost, the township was searching for additional funding to cover the costs of the additional garden components. The MIBOR ECDC investment supported some of the additional components of the garden.

## IMPACT METRICS:

- Improves Quality of Life
- Improves Community Livability
- Creates Greenspace Improvements
- Advocates for Expanding Greenspaces and Beautification Efforts
- Fosters Community Engagement and Participation
- Fosters Distinctive, Attractive Communities with a Strong Sense of Place
- Encourages Approaches that are Community-Driven, Comprehensive and Collaborative
- Promotes Inclusive Activation and Programming
- Improves Standards of Health and Living
- Promotes Active Living
- Improves Access to Environmental Benefits

