

# PROSPERITY GARDENS



## Who are we?

Founded in October of 2011, Prosperity Gardens has made a positive impact in the Champaign community. It has collaborated with the R.E.A.D.Y program, an alternative middle and high school, to teach students the benefits of urban agricultural farming, and how it can improve the quality of their lives.

Childhood obesity is a reality in today's nation. It is an issue that we want to confront head on by educating youth on where their food comes from and encouraging healthy eating habits.

Champaign-Urbana has the 3rd highest poverty rate in the state of Illinois. We want to help eliminate this statistic by providing employment opportunities at Prosperity Gardens. Through community involvement we aim to help the local economy.

We currently have 14 raised beds, but still do not have a place that we can truly call home. Our mission is to raise enough money to buy and renovate a building that can be used as a commercial teaching kitchen, indoor science space, and a classroom space.

## Our Mission

**Through neighborhood farming, Prosperity Gardens is dedicated to cultivating a healthy community through education, collaboration and employment opportunities. Our gardens are located along N. First St. in Champaign, Illinois.**

To learn more about Prosperity Gardens and how you can give back to the community check us out at [www.prosperitygardens.org](http://www.prosperitygardens.org)



302 N. First Street  
Champaign, IL  
[prosperitygardenson1@gmail.com](mailto:prosperitygardenson1@gmail.com)



# NICOLE BRIDGES

Executive Director of Prosperity Gardens Inc.

Since 2011, Nicole has served as the executive director of Prosperity Gardens Inc., a local non-profit organization that aims to help the Champaign community through education and employment opportunities. Education in agriculture helps youth make a connection to what they are eating, and addresses issues of childhood obesity, hypertension, and diabetes through the tools of farming.

Bridges started Prosperity Gardens because she wants to "reinvest in the community that invested in me." She has a BA in Agricultural Communications from the University of Illinois. Bridges spent time in Africa doing food security and soil technology. She has big plans for Prosperity Gardens, by connecting agriculture and community in order to eliminate Champaign's poverty status and encourage a more healthy life style.



**“CONNECTING AGRICULTURE TO COMMUNITY.”**

**“HARNESSING THE RESOURCES THAT YOU HAVE IN AN URBAN ENVIRONMENT TO PRODUCE A MORE ROBUST COMMUNITY AROUND GROWING FOOD TOGETHER.”**

**“AN INTRICATE PROGRAM THAT INCORPORATES DIFFERENT ASPECTS AROUND GARDENING TO OFFER A LITTLE BIT OF SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE.”**

To learn more about Prosperity Gardens and how you can give back to the community check us out at [www.prosperitygardens.org](http://www.prosperitygardens.org)



302 N. First Street  
Champaign, IL  
[prosperitygardenson1@gmail.com](mailto:prosperitygardenson1@gmail.com)



# R.E.A.D.Y Program

Regional Educational Alternative for Developing Youth



Prosperity Garden works in collaboration with the R.E.A.D.Y program, an alternative middle and high school for students who have been continuously suspended or on the verge of being expelled. At our garden, students are taught the benefits of urban agricultural farming, and how it can improve the quality of their lives.

Childhood obesity is an issue that has become quite prevalent in our nation. We aim to encourage a healthier life style amongst children and young adults so that they may continue making healthy choices in the future.

Through their participation at Prosperity Gardens, we are able to show students that they can have a positive impact, and help the community that live in.

**“HERE IS WHERE A QUOTE FROM A BOARD MEMBER GOES”**

**“HERE IS WHERE A QUOTE FROM A BOARD MEMBER GOES”**

**“HERE IS WHERE A QUOTE FROM A BOARD MEMBER GOES”**

To learn more about Prosperity Gardens and how you can give back to the community check us out at [www.prosperitygardens.org](http://www.prosperitygardens.org)



302 N. First Street  
Champaign, IL  
[prosperitygardenson1@gmail.com](mailto:prosperitygardenson1@gmail.com)

