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PLANT CHICAGO IS MATCHING ALL LINK PURCHASES OF LOCAL FOOD

CHICAGO, IL --- To address food insecurity in Back of the Yards and neighboring communities, this summer Plant Chicago is matching Link/EBT purchases through 2 outlets: our **weekly farmers market** and **Link produce box program**. This initiative is also meant to support local small growers and is possible thanks to the Chicago Region Food Systems Fund.

Now more than ever it's important to support our local farmers, processors, and small businesses. There are only 2 weekly independently-run farmers markets that accept and match Link located on the south and southwest sides of Chicago. With fewer markets, access to healthy, local produce is even more difficult for those living in communities with limited food access.

WEEKLY FARMERS MARKET - Plant Chicago is matching <u>all</u> food Link purchases at the market up to \$50. This means when patrons purchase fresh, local food with their Link card, they get a 50% discount! We also match select food items in our retail space, such as heirloom seeds. All vendors accept cash, credit/debit, and Link/EBT. Weekly vendors include: Cedillo's Fresh Produce, Avrom Farm, Bee-utiful Bees, Back of the Yards Coffee, Butterdough, and Pixie Dust Salts. We are currently accepting new vendor applications on <u>our website</u>.

<u>When:</u> Saturdays from 11am–3pm, June 6th through September 26th. <u>Location*</u>: 45th Street and Marshfield Avenue @ Davis Square Park *Note that Plant Chicago no longer runs a farmers market at "The Plant."

LINK PRODUCE BOX - Plant Chicago is partnering with The Urban Canopy to distribute their Local Unified Community Shared Agriculture (LUCSA) to our neighbors on the southwest side. These boxes contain \$40 worth of produce, fresh baked bread, and local eggs. Plant Chicago is offering these produce boxes for \$20 when patrons pay with their Link card. Todate, over 2,800 pounds of produce has been distributed. There are a limited number of boxes available each week, preference is given to 60609 residents. Individuals that would like to request a box should fill out the form on our website.

Pick up location: The Firehouse, 4459 S. Marshfield (the corner of 45th and Marshfield)