



Communigrow Wish List 2024

Communigrow is a sustainable food education charity based in the heart of Kent. We teach people how to grow food in a sustainable way, using organic methods and without chemicals on our environmentally friendly site. Our charity promotes the mental and physical health benefits of growing fresh produce, being active outside and being part of a supportive and inclusive community group.

We also champion the benefits of eating healthy, fresh produce with a field to fork cookery element in many of our sessions.

We work with the whole community, but have a particular focus on vulnerable or disadvantaged groups such as children, young people and adults with SEND, people experiencing bereavement, older adults and those with long term health conditions.

Our charity relies on the generosity of organisations and individual donors. Can you help us by funding or providing any of the following items?

1) Sponsor a Plot

Individuals and businesses are able to sponsor a raised veg bed at Communigrow. Their donation will contribute to the planting and upkeep of the bed. Businesses can add a plaque to the plot they have sponsored for a small additional cost.

Recommended sponsorship £100-300

2) Yurt Flooring

Our fantastic yurt with wood burner keeps our beneficiaries cosy in the cooler months and allows us to run sessions for children and adults all year round. We need to fund a wooden floor for the yurt, which at the moment just has a ground sheet.

Approximate cost £2000

3) Printer - to be powered from our solar panels

An office essential to help us promote the charity to more people and support our existing beneficiaries.

Cost £350

4) Weekend Family Workshop Funding

These are sessions for local families with children, particularly those living on low incomes. They aim to get participants active outside, boosting mental and physical health, and fostering a love of nature, caring for the planet and gardening. Families learn cheap ways to grow their own food at home. They also partake in field-to-fork activities at Communigrow. This includes harvesting food from the field, preparing and tasting it to encourage children to try new vegetables and develop a love of healthy food.

Cost per session from £125

Cost to run 10 sessions from £1250

5) Event sponsorship

Communigrow Quiz Night

This is a fundraising and profile raising event taking place on 19th October in West Malling. We are looking for a business sponsor to cover the running cost of this event. Businesses sponsoring this event could have their logo on all print posters and digital promotional materials and have a stand at the event.

Cost to run the event £500

Communigrow Volunteer Celebrations

Volunteers are vital in all aspects of the work we do - they support our Field School Team, our Gardening Team, our Wellbeing Team, help with DIY and with administration.

Could you help us show our appreciation of their hard work and sponsor our volunteer celebration events?

Cost to run two events £400

6) Gardening/Field School Equipment - donations in kind

- Kneelers x 20
- Children's watering cans 2 litre x 10
- Children's gardening tools - trowels, forks, small hoes etc. x10
- Small bedding plants
- Children's gardening gloves (in a range of sizes) x 15
- Blood, fish and bone feed
- Good potting compost
- Multicell trays
- Short plant labels
- Plastic picnic plates/bowls for field to fork cookery sessions x30

7) Prizes for fundraising events - donations in kind

- Raffle prizes
- Tombola items (e.g. bottles)
- Items to go in gardening/food hampers
- Small prizes for games (e.g. seeds, sweets, chocolate, bulbs, small plants etc.)
- Gardening gift sets
- Vouchers

8) Printing and signage for 2024/25

We are looking for a print sponsor for 2024/25. This would include the business sponsor having their logo on our printed marketing materials and also the new educational signage for around the Communigrow site.

Approximate cost £4000

9) Electric power tools (powered from our solar panels) - Cost £300

10) Electric hedge trimmer (powered from our solar panels) - Cost £400

11) Solar Lighting and workbenches for our Communished

Our Communished is more than just a workshop, it's a place where volunteers, beneficiaries, staff can form friendships, find a sense of belonging and talk while completing practical tasks to support the charity.

Cost for solar lighting £500

Cost for workbenches £1500

12) Field to Fork Kitchen

Cooking produce grown at Communigrow is a hugely popular activity that really helps us to engage with children, families and individuals of all ages, abilities and income groups. It is something we all have in common – the need for food. With a growing need both for health and economic reasons we feel well placed to extend our 'Field to Fork' activities. Fostering a love and acceptance of growing and eating healthy food at a young age can build better health outcomes and psychological wellbeing for children.

Currently we use small induction hobs, with extension leads from our solar powered cabin, we can only run 2/3 hobs at a time which makes it hard to run group sessions and is unreliable due to competing power demands.

We would like to create a 'Field Kitchen' in our field shelter, ideally with its own solar power source.

We would also like to build a Brick Pizza Oven. We make our own dough and pizzas are a great way to engage children / young people in cooking fresh food - the toppings come from the food grown in our Pizza Beds and freshly harvested at Communigrow.

Estimated Costs:

Solar Panels and wiring/sockets (outdoor standard) £11 000 - £12 000

Pizza Oven £1500

Outdoor kitchen including units and work surfaces (outdoor stainless steel), cooking accessories and other equipment, perspex window for Field Shelter area £4000