



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Montclair History Center receives Landsberger Foundation Grant to Advance Meadows Project at Orange Road Site

Montclair, NJ – The Montclair History Center, an independent not-for-profit organization established in 1965 that is dedicated to preserving, sharing, and educating others about Montclair’s history, has received funding from the Landsberger Foundation to support the next phase of the **Meadows Project** on their 108-110 Orange Road site. In 2020, initial funding from the Landsberger Foundation allowed the Montclair History Center to begin the transformation of once underutilized space behind the Crane House and Historic YWCA into educational gardens and meadows. The initial work of the project began with the removal of invasive species and weed trees. With continued funding from the Landsberger Foundation in the last two years, the Montclair History Center is now completing cultivation of the space with new plantings that will create educational gardens for the public to enjoy.

The long-term goal of the **Meadows Project** is to develop a series of educational gardens such as a historic dyer’s garden, a native garden, historic cottage/Victorian garden, a pollinator garden, and a small modern-day cutting garden. The Montclair History Center is working with Horticulturalist Shelly Waldvogel who has completed the design plan for the space and is guiding the planting and cultivation phase as the plants take root.

Between volunteers, youth program participants, the Montclair History Center, and the Montclair Community Farms, a total of over 1,600 foundational plugs were planted in 2022 and 2023. The Montclair History Center has also forged a partnership with Jersey Cares to work with an engaged team of volunteers with an interest in gardening and

supporting nonprofits. In time, educational signage will be installed so that passive visitors to our grounds can engage and learn about the native planting, the pollinators each plant attracts, and historical information on plants and their use. This phase of the **Meadows Project** is critical in establishing plants so that they can flourish into educational spaces. This project would not be possible with the support of the Landsberger Foundation. To learn more about the project and its progress visit <https://www.montclairhistory.org/landsbergergardensandmeadow>.

About the Montclair History Center: The Montclair History Center, formerly the Montclair Historical Society, is an independent not-for-profit organization that has been dedicated to preserving, sharing, and educating others about Montclair's history since 1965. For additional information, please visit the website www.montclairhistory.org or contact the Montclair History Center at 973-744-1796 or mail@montclairhistory.org.

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Images



Volunteers with the Montclair History Center and Jersey Cares tending to the Meadows



In Bloom in the Meadows