

0:00:09.958,0:00:11.166  
Welcome everybody to the

0:00:11.166,0:00:14.000  
Ogden Way podcast, the place  
where we talk about Ogden City,

0:00:14.000,0:00:17.000  
the stories of our city  
through the stories of our people,

0:00:17.208,0:00:20.250  
mostly stories of people that are doing  
the work to invest in themselves

0:00:21.000,0:00:22.750  
while making sure that they're

0:00:22.750,0:00:25.750  
reaching out to others and letting others  
as they lift themselves.

0:00:26.166,0:00:29.166  
And so within that context,  
we're joined today by farmer Carl.

0:00:29.291,0:00:31.416  
Hello. Carl thanks for joining us.

0:00:31.416,0:00:32.666  
It's a pleasure, mayor.

0:00:32.666,0:00:33.541  
Yes. Yeah.

0:00:33.541,0:00:36.541  
So I, I got to know Farmer Carl.

0:00:38.125,0:00:39.125  
During the campaign.

0:00:39.125,0:00:42.958  
But I've gotten to know you a lot better  
since being Mayor, right? Yes.

0:00:42.958,0:00:44.500  
And thank you for that video.

0:00:44.500,0:00:47.500  
I think that was last April.

0:00:48.041,0:00:51.083  
You took some time to just do a pitch

0:00:51.083,0:00:55.833  
for Grow Ogden and what we do to relaunch  
lives through farming and,

0:00:55.833,0:01:01.083  
how that may be part of the solution  
for Ogden's homelessness situation.

0:01:01.166,0:01:01.958  
Right.

0:01:01.958,0:01:05.333  
And so it's a perfect example,  
which is why we invited you on the show.

0:01:05.333,0:01:09.166  
Is you're clearly a man of integrity,  
a man with a big heart.

0:01:09.625,0:01:11.375  
You care, you give,

0:01:11.375,0:01:14.791  
and you've had success in the

in the world of farming and growing.

0:01:15.166,0:01:16.000

Right.

0:01:16.000,0:01:18.458

And you want to make sure  
that you use that success to teach others

0:01:18.458,0:01:21.458

how to do the same, to grow food

0:01:21.666,0:01:24.666

while making sure to grow themselves. Yes.

0:01:25.291,0:01:25.666

Yeah.

0:01:25.666,0:01:28.666

And that's what  
that's the essence of Grow Ogden right?

0:01:28.708,0:01:29.416

It is.

0:01:29.416,0:01:32.458

Grow  
Ogden is really a job training program.

0:01:33.125,0:01:37.291

And it's condensed to just 16 weeks.

0:01:37.333,0:01:41.875

Because of our funding,  
we had to do a minimum viable product

0:01:41.875,0:01:46.916

to demonstrate the power of just 16 weeks  
growing food together.

0:01:47.500,0:01:51.958

And, for last year,  
our first year and launch of the program,

0:01:52.500,0:01:56.958

we we did it in 2.5 hours,  
five days a week,

0:01:57.166,0:02:00.541

so that, they could get the consistency

0:02:00.541,0:02:03.541

of showing up to work every day on time.

0:02:03.875,0:02:06.875

And really, that's what  
we're trying to teach them, work skills

0:02:06.958,0:02:09.875

that would help them get a stable job.

0:02:09.875,0:02:12.875

And we could recommend them  
to their employers

0:02:13.250,0:02:16.666

to say,  
hey, Joe shows up every day at work.

0:02:16.666,0:02:18.916

He's committed to change his life.

0:02:18.916,0:02:21.208

He's committed to be responsible.

0:02:21.208,0:02:25.625

We highly recommend Joe for his your,  
your workplace.

0:02:26.041,0:02:26.375

Perfect.

0:02:26.375,0:02:30.500

And so while they're doing the work, they're also learning

0:02:31.708,0:02:32.458

a new skill.

0:02:32.458,0:02:33.583

Yeah. Learning to grow.

0:02:33.583,0:02:36.000

May I describe the day and what that looks like?

0:02:36.000,0:02:37.250

Exactly what I was gonna ask.

0:02:37.250,0:02:39.041

Thank you for asking.

0:02:39.041,0:02:41.166

Yeah. So,

0:02:41.166,0:02:45.041

we believe that people going through trauma, whether it's people,

0:02:45.125,0:02:49.833

veterans coming back from the war, people coming out of current incarceration,

0:02:50.333,0:02:54.916

those and with domestic violence, experience,

0:02:55.625,0:03:00.125

they're in a state of trauma and those living on the streets, you know.

0:03:00.541,0:03:03.833

So the first thing we do in the farm day

0:03:03.875,0:03:06.875

is we get in touch with our breathing.

0:03:07.000,0:03:08.583

Breathing exercises.

0:03:08.583,0:03:12.041

I call it yoga, but whatever you call it, we're

0:03:12.041,0:03:16.958

grounding ourselves with the earth and very literally take off our shoes

0:03:17.500,0:03:22.166

where we either have a yoga mat or right in the soil and,

0:03:22.666,0:03:28.250

and we do about 10 to 15 minutes of just stretching exercises

0:03:28.250,0:03:32.583

just to say, let's get in touch with our bodies first and let's calm down.

0:03:32.583,0:03:37.958

Anything that was stressful or traumatic before you came to the farm, let's

0:03:37.958,0:03:43.333

leave it behind so that we can really come

together as a team and farm together.

0:03:43.833,0:03:46.833  
So when I hear you explain that  
I'm thinking about my childhood,

0:03:46.958,0:03:50.125  
take away the yoga mat  
and all the breathing exercises

0:03:50.125,0:03:53.125  
and all of the healthy parts about my.

0:03:53.291,0:03:57.583  
And you talk about being close  
to the earth, getting dirty.

0:03:57.958,0:04:00.625  
Yeah, that sounds like the  
feral childhood that I had.

0:04:03.041,0:04:04.208  
Plus yoga.

0:04:04.208,0:04:05.750  
Yeah, exactly.

0:04:05.750,0:04:09.791  
So, there is something very profound  
about,

0:04:09.875,0:04:14.916  
our connection with the Earth, and  
perhaps that's a symptom of our society.

0:04:14.916,0:04:15.333  
Right now.

0:04:15.333,0:04:20.458  
We're very disconnected from the earth,  
from living things, from growing things.

0:04:21.083,0:04:24.291  
So the second part of the day,  
if I can continue,

0:04:24.291,0:04:28.333  
is that we, go to the mission

0:04:28.333,0:04:31.750  
control board for the farm,  
and the plants are our boss.

0:04:32.333,0:04:35.291  
So the plants,  
we do a walk tour of the farm

0:04:35.291,0:04:38.416  
and we say, hey, that looks like  
it needs a little watering or,

0:04:38.791,0:04:42.041  
you know what we need a plant to fill  
this bed right here.

0:04:42.041,0:04:43.875  
So we're going to sow some seeds today.

0:04:43.875,0:04:47.375  
And we come up with a, a  
list of things that need to be done.

0:04:48.833,0:04:50.208  
And after we

0:04:50.208,0:04:54.333  
look at the task we divide the work  
and we go out and farm.

0:04:54.666,0:04:57.875  
And that goes for about an hour  
and a half, we come back

0:04:57.875,0:05:00.875  
together, we reflect how that went.

0:05:01.000,0:05:02.708  
We do a life skill training.

0:05:02.708,0:05:06.791  
So in the initial phases,  
in the initial weeks,

0:05:06.791,0:05:10.208  
the modules are about identifying  
your emotions,

0:05:10.750,0:05:14.000  
understanding how you feel and it's  
okay to feel that way,

0:05:14.416,0:05:19.416  
and just knowing how to recognize that  
and manage those emotions.

0:05:19.583,0:05:23.625  
And then we'll progress in  
into communication skills, teamwork,

0:05:24.083,0:05:27.166  
and eventually writing resumes and,

0:05:27.583,0:05:30.583  
and interview practice for that next job.

0:05:30.875,0:05:31.166  
Okay.

0:05:31.166,0:05:34.166  
You're not going to make me talk  
about my emotions, are you?

0:05:36.458,0:05:38.125  
Well, if they're positive, go right ahead.

0:05:38.125,0:05:39.750  
I'm feeling  
lots of things. No I???m kidding.

0:05:41.708,0:05:44.708  
So. So  
what I'm hearing is you're not just.

0:05:45.208,0:05:46.375  
I'm hearing a lot of things.

0:05:46.375,0:05:48.875  
When you said something about,  
we're feeling,

0:05:48.875,0:05:50.750  
we have a lot of disconnection  
in our world today.

0:05:50.750,0:05:53.916  
Yes. And I agree,  
we are disconnected from ourselves,

0:05:54.583,0:05:57.666  
from each other, from the earth,  
just from the world.

0:05:57.666,0:05:59.291  
Way too much.

0:05:59.291,0:06:00.625

Yeah, way too much.

0:06:00.625,0:06:03.416  
And and we talk about connectivity  
and being a connector

0:06:03.416,0:06:06.416  
in the Ogden Way a lot because,

0:06:06.750,0:06:10.791  
as a city, we have a lot of resources,  
programs, opportunities

0:06:11.041,0:06:15.291  
throughout the whole city, whether it's  
provided by Ogden City or by a partner or,

0:06:15.875,0:06:18.875  
or anybody in the, in the city.

0:06:19.208,0:06:22.666  
And we're missing that connectivity  
with those opportunities and the resources

0:06:22.666,0:06:24.041  
a lot of the time. Right.

0:06:24.041,0:06:28.083  
And so your program to me is,  
very much an opportunity and a resource.

0:06:29.583,0:06:32.666  
It's also it's  
available because you are a connector.

0:06:32.666,0:06:34.791  
And so you're going to find the people  
that are ready for this.

0:06:34.791,0:06:36.375  
Yes. And connect them  
with the opportunity.

0:06:36.375,0:06:37.708  
Right. Yeah.

0:06:37.708,0:06:42.000  
And when they do that, what kind of,  
what kind of luck and success

0:06:42.000,0:06:42.791  
are you having with people?

0:06:42.791,0:06:45.708  
Because you're also a mentor.

0:06:45.708,0:06:47.083  
You're not just. Exactly.

0:06:47.083,0:06:48.666  
You're not just an employer.

0:06:48.666,0:06:49.666  
I???m a friend.

0:06:49.666,0:06:52.625  
You're a friend, a mentor.

0:06:52.625,0:06:54.041  
Guidance and support.

0:06:54.041,0:06:54.916  
I'm a cheerleader.

0:06:54.916,0:06:57.375  
And you're definitely a champion. Right?

0:06:57.375,0:06:58.541

That's right.

0:06:58.541,0:07:02.500

So, you had multiple questions there in.

0:07:02.500,0:07:06.458

And I think one of them at least, was,  
you know,

0:07:06.458,0:07:10.625

what kind of people are we finding  
and what kind of a success are we having?

0:07:12.333,0:07:13.875

The, you know, our

0:07:13.875,0:07:16.875

first attempt to advertise this program,

0:07:17.083,0:07:21.875

we stuck fliers in coffee  
shops around the, around the city.

0:07:21.875,0:07:25.583

We went to Lantern House  
and Hope Rescue Mission.

0:07:25.583,0:07:28.583

And YCC Family Crisis.

0:07:28.625,0:07:30.583

And then we put it on Indeed.

0:07:31.625,0:07:36.208

And we got 65 applicants in ten days.

0:07:36.208,0:07:39.208

They said, I want

0:07:39.583,0:07:40.083

this. Okay.

0:07:40.083,0:07:42.500

And so we're like overwhelmed  
a little bit.

0:07:42.500,0:07:45.541

And we're saying, okay,  
how do we do this?

0:07:45.541,0:07:48.875

So we had to weed out the,

0:07:48.875,0:07:54.166

28 that were still in high school,  
or they had already gotten their college

0:07:54.166,0:07:58.416

degree and said, okay, that's not  
that's not the target population

0:07:58.416,0:07:59.833

we're looking for.

0:07:59.833,0:08:03.125

And we wanted it to be actually initially

0:08:03.500,0:08:06.125

for people above 25 years old,

0:08:06.125,0:08:09.666

just because we wanted them  
to have a chance at life.

0:08:10.208,0:08:11.291

Right?

0:08:11.291,0:08:13.958

And if they got stuck after that,

0:08:13.958,0:08:16.958  
that that would be a good age  
group to show up.

0:08:16.958,0:08:21.875  
So we said, okay, fill out the four page  
application.

0:08:21.875,0:08:25.083  
Our social worker will, meet with you.

0:08:25.083,0:08:28.250  
But really most important,  
show up at day one on the farm.

0:08:28.750,0:08:30.666  
We'll get to know you.

0:08:30.666,0:08:35.291  
And of the 28 that we said,  
hey, show up, 12 showed up.

0:08:35.708,0:08:36.208  
Okay.

0:08:36.208,0:08:39.458  
So we said,  
okay, now we going to get to three

0:08:40.750,0:08:42.583  
because that's all we could fund.

0:08:42.583,0:08:45.791  
Okay.  
We want to fund six this year per session.

0:08:45.875,0:08:48.541  
Spring session. In the fall  
session. Okay.

0:08:48.541,0:08:51.041  
So then

0:08:51.041,0:08:54.416  
we explained the program,  
we had an introduction.

0:08:54.666,0:08:58.458  
And once they understood the program,  
six came the next day.

0:08:59.750,0:09:01.333  
So they self-select.

0:09:01.333,0:09:02.708  
Okay. Right.

0:09:02.708,0:09:07.166  
And then we had to make some difficult  
decisions to get down to three.

0:09:08.000,0:09:12.250  
And one of those turns out  
had some emotional anger

0:09:12.250,0:09:16.541  
management type things from previous life  
and all the trauma.

0:09:16.541,0:09:17.750  
And I get that.

0:09:17.750,0:09:20.750  
But the two that stayed and worked

0:09:21.041,0:09:23.583

the whole 16 weeks

0:09:23.583,0:09:24.458  
amazing.

0:09:24.458,0:09:27.458  
One was a veteran,

0:09:27.583,0:09:30.041  
I think he was born in New York and,

0:09:30.041,0:09:34.333  
been all over the country,  
Served our country in the Middle East.

0:09:34.333,0:09:36.333  
And he was kind of stuck.

0:09:36.333,0:09:40.625  
And he's got two kids and,  
trying to figure it out.

0:09:40.666,0:09:43.541  
Single dad, he loves landscaping.

0:09:43.541,0:09:45.791  
He wanted to start  
his landscaping business.

0:09:45.791,0:09:48.250  
And so we coached him.

0:09:48.250,0:09:51.291  
How do you  
how do you put those pieces together

0:09:51.666,0:09:55.541  
and actually got a grant from the city  
to redo his front yard.

0:09:56.208,0:09:59.708  
There was  
there's a water conservation policy

0:10:00.833,0:10:01.291  
and, the.

0:10:01.291,0:10:03.666  
The Flip the Strip Yeah.

0:10:03.666,0:10:05.083  
Yeah, exactly.

0:10:05.083,0:10:08.083  
So we came to his house  
and helped him out,

0:10:09.125,0:10:12.125  
and now he's got a real estate license,

0:10:12.500,0:10:14.833  
he's got his real estate license  
and he said, I know

0:10:14.833,0:10:18.541  
I can't go into business right now,  
but I'm going to sell properties.

0:10:18.541,0:10:19.625  
I'm going to get into it.

0:10:19.625,0:10:22.333  
So this guy's relaunched.

0:10:22.333,0:10:22.958  
That's big time.

0:10:22.958,0:10:26.291

Being a dad for his two kids  
and trying to figure out

0:10:26.291,0:10:30.416  
how to get his previous relationships  
in order.

0:10:30.458,0:10:31.958  
Right? Right.

0:10:31.958,0:10:36.666  
The second, her name is Missy, and,

0:10:36.666,0:10:41.291  
she was kind of stuck  
mid 30s, just in a, dead end job.

0:10:42.000,0:10:44.166  
And she wanted to farm.

0:10:44.166,0:10:45.375  
She wanted to homestead.

0:10:45.375,0:10:48.416  
And she was she  
and her boyfriend wanted to

0:10:48.416,0:10:51.458  
start their lives, and so,

0:10:53.416,0:10:56.166  
she has a love for dogs.

0:10:56.166,0:10:59.166  
And as we worked through the 16 weeks,

0:10:59.166,0:11:02.625  
we realized that dog  
training would be her niche.

0:11:03.291,0:11:04.250  
And now she has.

0:11:04.250,0:11:06.583  
She's training two dogs at her house.

0:11:06.583,0:11:08.708  
She's not certified, but she.

0:11:08.708,0:11:13.250  
And she doesn't have the finances now  
to go to dog training school.

0:11:13.416,0:11:16.625  
But she's doing the work and she's

0:11:16.833,0:11:19.833  
much more excited about life.

0:11:19.875,0:11:22.791  
So the first gentleman, the veteran. Yes.

0:11:22.791,0:11:25.958  
And then we'll get to Missy. Isaiah.

0:11:26.291,0:11:29.291  
So Isaiah, it sounded like

0:11:30.125,0:11:32.875  
you you presented an opportunity.

0:11:32.875,0:11:36.666  
He took the initiative to show up  
and he continued to show up.

0:11:37.166,0:11:39.791  
And you continue to show up for him  
and with him.

0:11:39.791,0:11:40.416

Right?

0:11:40.416,0:11:45.000

So he's investing himself with ownership  
and determination of his own.

0:11:45.791,0:11:48.750

And you're, you're meeting him  
and matching him with that to help.

0:11:48.750,0:11:51.125

And this is his behavior set.

0:11:51.125,0:11:53.875

I mean he would come  
15 minutes early to work.

0:11:53.875,0:11:56.041

He said what can I do to help. Perfect.

0:11:57.208,0:11:59.666

I mean like can't get better than that.

0:11:59.666,0:12:03.500

And it's because he realized  
that this is his one chance to really,

0:12:03.875,0:12:07.875

you know, get out out of his  
whatever stuck in his life.

0:12:07.958,0:12:08.375

Yeah.

0:12:08.375,0:12:11.625

And that's that's the beauty  
is you give him an opportunity to do that.

0:12:11.625,0:12:12.666

He's doing that.

0:12:12.666,0:12:15.250

You did it with him.

You helped him along the way. Yes.

0:12:15.250,0:12:16.708

That's the Ogden Way.

0:12:16.708,0:12:18.625

Yeah.

That's the thing that sets us apart. Yes.

0:12:18.625,0:12:21.000

And just to clarify that you.

0:12:21.000,0:12:24.000

It's a staff of three people. Yeah.

0:12:24.041,0:12:26.500

We have the farm manager  
and we have the job

0:12:26.500,0:12:29.500

training supervisor,  
and we have a social worker.

0:12:29.833,0:12:34.208

Who's trained,  
certified to work one on one

0:12:34.208,0:12:39.166

to resolve any confidential issues,  
whether it's in expunging criminal records

0:12:39.708,0:12:43.041

or, just panic attacks

0:12:43.041,0:12:46.958  
or anxiety  
or not having dental checkups, linking

0:12:47.333,0:12:51.250  
those people to the resources  
that are already available in the city.

0:12:51.875,0:12:55.875  
This is a one stop shop,  
and the farm turns out to be the Nexus.

0:12:55.916,0:12:57.666  
It's a safe zone.

0:12:57.666,0:13:02.916  
It's a harbor of peace and beauty,  
and we're creating together.

0:13:02.916,0:13:04.333  
So there's no judgment.

0:13:04.333,0:13:07.041  
But that's the thing.  
That's why I asked you to come here.

0:13:07.041,0:13:10.375  
Because you you are creating something  
that is attracting people

0:13:10.541,0:13:11.916  
because it's an opportunity.

0:13:11.916,0:13:14.916  
But once they get there, they get a lot  
more than just learning how to farm.

0:13:15.333,0:13:17.041  
They're getting resource and support.

0:13:17.041,0:13:20.750  
They they get a network of love  
and kindness and support.

0:13:20.750,0:13:24.083  
You're teaching them how to get grounded  
in the earth or whatever, right?

0:13:24.125,0:13:25.500  
That is important for them.

0:13:25.500,0:13:27.291  
And it helps them through their journey.

0:13:27.291,0:13:28.916  
But just like with Isaiah,

0:13:30.000,0:13:31.000  
you connected him with a

0:13:31.000,0:13:34.000  
program that's at the city called Flip  
Your Strip that you knew about it.

0:13:34.000,0:13:35.375  
And he probably didn't.

0:13:35.375,0:13:36.666  
You saw a need.

0:13:36.666,0:13:38.750  
You connected somebody with that need.

0:13:38.750,0:13:42.250  
And so you didn't create another program  
in order to flip the strip.

0:13:42.250,0:13:44.833  
You just connected somebody  
with the one that already exists.

0:13:44.833,0:13:47.458  
And that's the thing in the Ogden Way  
that's missing a lot of times

0:13:47.458,0:13:50.083  
is we're not connecting each other  
with what already exists.

0:13:50.083,0:13:50.375  
Yeah.

0:13:50.375,0:13:55.416  
And I think it's a holistic approach  
sometimes, an example

0:13:55.416,0:13:59.875  
our medical system or a medical system,  
it's wonderful, it???'s advanced.

0:14:00.250,0:14:05.375  
But sometimes we just have a doctor  
who specializes in just this one area.

0:14:05.375,0:14:08.375  
And then there's another doctor  
that specializes in this.

0:14:08.833,0:14:12.333  
This Grow Ogden thing is a life,  
whole life

0:14:12.333,0:14:15.791  
approach,  
a humanistic approach, one that looks at

0:14:16.458,0:14:19.041  
what is all the factors spiritual, mental,

0:14:19.041,0:14:22.416  
physical and social well-being.

0:14:22.416,0:14:24.541  
And how do you tie that together?

0:14:24.541,0:14:29.291  
And for example, the end of the farm day,  
we had our famlily dinner.

0:14:30.041,0:14:31.833  
Food connects us.

0:14:31.833,0:14:37.083  
So they learned how to cook the food  
they were growing and we ate it together.

0:14:37.458,0:14:42.375  
We had some time right  
around the same table to chat about life

0:14:43.375,0:14:46.083  
and to me, food connects and

0:14:46.083,0:14:49.333  
food heals and the food  
that we're growing really heals.

0:14:49.583,0:14:54.500  
And there's a whole other discussion  
about the food in our country.

0:14:55.000,0:14:58.583  
But that's what then made us become.

0:14:58.583,0:14:59.791

And I'm wearing the shirt.

0:14:59.791,0:15:05.083  
Here ???we are farmily.???  
And this is about becoming a,

0:15:05.166,0:15:08.166  
a family, whether it's Ogden family

0:15:08.708,0:15:11.583  
or whether it's this farmily family.

0:15:11.583,0:15:15.250  
But,  
it's it's about caring for one another.

0:15:15.250,0:15:18.333  
And my, my idol is,

0:15:18.333,0:15:22.541  
or somebody I really admire  
is Mister Rogers because he was able

0:15:23.166,0:15:25.666  
to look at everybody, see that their

0:15:25.666,0:15:28.541  
their greatness and their being special.

0:15:28.541,0:15:29.708  
And that's what we want to do.

0:15:29.708,0:15:33.125  
We want to bring out the greatness  
of every individual we work with.

0:15:33.458,0:15:35.041  
Well, I want to help you do that.

0:15:35.041,0:15:37.833  
And I brought you here

0:15:37.833,0:15:40.541  
and asked for you to share the story,

0:15:40.541,0:15:44.583  
but also as an opportunity, I hope to help  
share your story because I think

0:15:44.583,0:15:47.666  
that you can share this and more  
and more people will take advantage of it.

0:15:48.125,0:15:48.583  
Right?

0:15:48.583,0:15:49.291  
Like when we

0:15:49.291,0:15:50.208  
when we first came in,

0:15:50.208,0:15:53.541  
like every nonprofit in town  
wants me to write them a check right.

0:15:53.541,0:15:54.458  
And there's just like

0:15:54.458,0:15:57.416  
there's there's limits to that,  
but there's more than checks.

0:15:57.416,0:16:02.291  
There's, to help, there's alignment,  
connectivity, visibility.

0:16:02.625,0:16:06.583

And may I add,  
the ecosystem analogy is beautiful.

0:16:07.125,0:16:11.000  
Farmers really understand ecosystems,  
or at least they should.

0:16:11.291,0:16:15.041  
I used to be,  
I used to be a biologist so I get it too.

0:16:15.041,0:16:16.750  
Okay. My wife too.

0:16:16.750,0:16:19.750  
Anyway, the ecosystem here is

0:16:20.166,0:16:24.250  
everybody can contribute  
in a, in a beautiful and wonderful way.

0:16:24.250,0:16:27.916  
And if we figure out  
where all the pieces are in the puzzle,

0:16:29.166,0:16:32.166  
Grow Ogden is an empowering mechanism.

0:16:32.291,0:16:35.875  
Doesn't mean that the Ogden  
Police Department can't help

0:16:35.875,0:16:39.708  
with the safety  
in the containment of homelessness.

0:16:39.708,0:16:44.708  
It is a dire and desperate situation  
and life and death.

0:16:44.916,0:16:47.291  
As you said in your video.

0:16:47.291,0:16:50.291  
But then there's this services provider,

0:16:50.500,0:16:54.458  
community of homelessness,  
services, providers.

0:16:54.458,0:16:55.750  
Where are you going to sleep?

0:16:55.750,0:16:57.625  
How do we get you fed?

0:16:57.625,0:16:59.208  
What about medical care?

0:16:59.208,0:17:02.666  
But what we're putting on top of  
that is an empowering

0:17:02.666,0:17:05.666  
a way out of poverty,  
a pathway out of poverty.

0:17:06.000,0:17:07.333  
That's what Grow Ogden is.

0:17:07.333,0:17:11.833  
And it may be just for that  
5% of the population that's ready for it.

0:17:12.375,0:17:16.666  
But it's a necessary component  
for Ogden's solution, right?

0:17:17.041,0:17:20.041  
Because of the solution that for Ogden  
is about helping people.

0:17:20.416,0:17:24.208  
It's lifting people  
is what literally is going to lift Ogden.

0:17:24.833,0:17:28.000  
And if we're doing the work  
of bringing opportunities and creating

0:17:28.458,0:17:30.291  
an environment for people to succeed in,

0:17:30.291,0:17:33.875  
what good is that if we are not helping  
people connect with and elevate

0:17:33.875,0:17:35.833  
through those opportunities  
and in that environment?

0:17:35.833,0:17:39.666  
And sometimes it's a revolving door,  
the recidivism rate goes

0:17:40.000,0:17:44.166  
way down when there's nobody  
at the other end to receive them.

0:17:44.333,0:17:44.750  
Right.

0:17:44.750,0:17:47.791  
And so we're the family  
to receive that person.

0:17:48.125,0:17:50.625  
Connect them even after they graduate.

0:17:50.625,0:17:55.166  
We're meeting with them for a family  
reunion dinner every two months.

0:17:55.333,0:17:58.333  
Perfect to say,  
hey, you're still part of our family.

0:17:58.333,0:17:59.375  
We haven't forgotten you.

0:17:59.375,0:17:59.916  
Absolutely.

0:17:59.916,0:18:06.291  
In fact, you can help the new trainees  
integrate because you know some of how

0:18:06.291,0:18:09.875  
that how you managed through  
this whole homeless situation, right?

0:18:10.125,0:18:12.583  
So what I've learned  
from this discussion is that.

0:18:14.833,0:18:17.833  
You're looking for people  
that are a good fit for the program.

0:18:18.000,0:18:20.583  
I thought starting out, it's a  
you're a fit.

0:18:20.583,0:18:23.375  
If this is the thing  
that you want to take on and do for your

0:18:23.375,0:18:24.875  
for the rest of your life or what  
you want to.

0:18:24.875,0:18:26.291  
Yeah.

0:18:26.291,0:18:27.833  
And for some it might be,

0:18:27.833,0:18:30.000  
but it doesn't mean  
that this has to be the thing that you do.

0:18:30.000,0:18:31.666  
It's just come do this.

0:18:31.666,0:18:34.375  
It's healthy, it's  
constructive and productive.

0:18:34.375,0:18:36.291  
And while you're here,  
you're going to be in an environment

0:18:36.291,0:18:39.291  
with people who care deeply  
for your success.

0:18:39.333,0:18:42.333  
Yes, right. We're all in it for you.

0:18:42.375,0:18:45.333  
You're like a microcosm of what Ogden

0:18:45.333,0:18:48.333  
is and needs  
to be more of for each other.

0:18:48.458,0:18:49.625  
And I love that.

0:18:49.625,0:18:51.583  
I love the stories with Isaiah and--  
Marissa.

0:18:51.583,0:18:54.791  
And and Marissa?

0:18:54.833,0:18:56.500  
Missy. Missy. Okay.

0:18:56.500,0:18:58.958  
And for Missy,  
because you you guys are close now,

0:19:00.375,0:19:01.833  
Isaiah and Missy

0:19:01.833,0:19:05.375  
look to you and lean on you and trust  
you and believe in you, I'm sure. Yes.

0:19:05.708,0:19:08.000  
And so they they open up to you.

0:19:08.000,0:19:10.083  
That's  
what's so fulfilling about this work.

0:19:10.083,0:19:13.875  
My life is transforming  
through my work on the farm.

0:19:13.875,0:19:15.875  
It's not just for them.

0:19:15.875,0:19:20.875  
No this is exciting,  
and I know a whole staff of people,

0:19:20.875,0:19:25.875  
and I know 300 volunteers  
who've offered 600 hours of service.

0:19:25.916,0:19:26.666  
Amazing.

0:19:26.666,0:19:29.750  
And I and I moved here to Utah, Ogden,

0:19:29.750,0:19:33.375  
two years ago, two and a half years ago,  
I knew nobody.

0:19:34.000,0:19:36.291  
I had no relatives, nobody.

0:19:36.291,0:19:37.250  
I'm from Pennsylvania.

0:19:37.250,0:19:40.166  
And now I know thousands.

0:19:40.166,0:19:43.166  
Isn't it amazing  
how fast you can plug in in Ogden?

0:19:43.208,0:19:45.000  
How fast you can get involved?

0:19:45.000,0:19:45.333  
Yeah.

0:19:45.333,0:19:46.541  
Start lifting and doing.

0:19:46.541,0:19:49.500  
And I did the research on Ogden. Okay.

0:19:49.500,0:19:53.291  
I looked at every city in Utah,  
and I said, where are we going

0:19:53.291,0:19:57.583  
to establish a farm with a social mission  
after Salt Lake?

0:19:57.583,0:19:58.833  
Because that's where I came from.

0:19:58.833,0:20:03.041  
I worked at the Green Phoenix  
Farm, Wasatch Community Garden???s version

0:20:03.458,0:20:07.666  
of seven women at a time,  
relaunching their lives

0:20:07.708,0:20:10.708  
and so I did the study

0:20:10.833,0:20:15.541  
and we have Weber State University,  
we have Catholic Community

0:20:15.541,0:20:19.750  
Services, we have two rivers,  
the Weber River and the Ogden River.

0:20:19.750,0:20:22.625  
We have all these nonprofits.

0:20:22.625,0:20:23.708  
When I went to Provo,

0:20:24.708,0:20:26.083  
they said, homelessness?

0:20:26.083,0:20:28.416  
We don't have a problem with homeless.

0:20:28.416,0:20:32.166  
When I came here, they said, yes, we're  
struggling with this.

0:20:32.166,0:20:33.416  
We're working on this.

0:20:33.416,0:20:35.500  
The local homeless council

0:20:35.500,0:20:38.875  
commissioner, Bolos, and before that,  
Commissioner Scott Jenkins.

0:20:39.333,0:20:42.791  
People were rolling up their sleeves  
and doing whatever they can.

0:20:42.791,0:20:44.916  
And it's a complex problem. Big time.

0:20:44.916,0:20:47.916  
So because Ogden recognizes

0:20:48.000,0:20:51.708  
the challenge  
and they have the resources and the heart,

0:20:52.291,0:20:55.208  
that's  
what makes Ogden such a beautiful city.

0:20:55.208,0:20:56.583  
I totally agree.

0:20:56.583,0:21:00.333  
And and we talk about our  
our secret sauce a lot.

0:21:00.333,0:21:05.875  
It's it's a difficult thing to explain,  
but the the size of our city is important.

0:21:05.916,0:21:09.250  
Yes. We're  
big enough to to have resources.

0:21:10.333,0:21:13.625  
We're big enough  
to have a big voice at the state level.

0:21:13.833,0:21:18.583  
We're big enough to have, like a  
collective will and you know what I mean?

0:21:18.750,0:21:20.708  
Yes. And expertise and things like that.

0:21:20.708,0:21:23.541  
But we're small enough to  
to be personable.

0:21:23.541,0:21:25.625  
I can talk to you, right? Yeah. Right.

0:21:25.625,0:21:29.583  
Now I will say it was tough  
in the former administration.

0:21:29.583,0:21:31.208  
The break through there, I just.

0:21:31.208,0:21:35.750  
Well, I had a wall, you know, I just  
we were looking at property

0:21:35.750,0:21:38.875  
next to the Lantern House  
and it just didn't work.

0:21:38.875,0:21:42.708  
But I just with that grit and tenacity  
and determination,

0:21:42.708,0:21:44.375  
I said, I'm not giving up.

0:21:44.375,0:21:45.791  
These are lives at stake.

0:21:45.791,0:21:50.000  
And there's hundreds of them to come  
that we can touch and relaunch.

0:21:50.000,0:21:52.541  
And so I keep on going.

0:21:52.541,0:21:53.166  
There ya go.

0:21:53.166,0:21:56.708  
Well and and when you and I  
interact a lot, I see you

0:21:56.958,0:21:59.958  
all the time in events  
and different, different things.

0:22:01.000,0:22:01.625  
But but

0:22:01.625,0:22:03.125  
the point was you were asking for help,

0:22:03.125,0:22:05.375  
and I said the kind of help  
you're asking for,

0:22:05.375,0:22:06.708  
actually  
is going to be really hard for me.

0:22:06.708,0:22:10.208  
But that doesn't mean I can't help  
in this way, that way or the other way.

0:22:10.250,0:22:10.750  
Right?

0:22:10.750,0:22:14.833  
That's why we film the the video  
to help encourage.

0:22:14.833,0:22:15.333  
Yeah.

0:22:15.333,0:22:16.250  
Contributions.

0:22:16.250,0:22:19.458  
Well,  
you know, this social media, it's okay.

0:22:19.666,0:22:22.250  
We get the right video. Yeah.

0:22:22.250,0:22:25.250  
Out there and the call to action.

0:22:25.750,0:22:28.583

There's a lot of people  
that want to know how to connect.

0:22:28.583,0:22:30.375

They just don't know how.

0:22:30.375,0:22:33.375

And they're they're despairing  
because they watch the news.

0:22:33.708,0:22:35.583

But it's about local, right.

0:22:35.583,0:22:37.333

It's about relationships.

0:22:37.333,0:22:39.291

It's about one on one.

0:22:39.291,0:22:42.833

And I have enjoyed the people from Ogden,

0:22:42.833,0:22:45.916

the great people that we've enjoyed,  
you too in the.

0:22:46.583,0:22:49.000

You are literally living and leading

0:22:49.000,0:22:52.000

and loving totally  
within the spirit of the Ogden Way.

0:22:52.416,0:22:54.375

And you've only been here for two years,

0:22:54.375,0:22:57.375

but you chose Ogden  
because you recognized that about us.

0:22:57.458,0:23:00.500

You saw the Ogden Way in our community  
before, from the outside.

0:23:01.083,0:23:01.416

Yeah.

0:23:01.416,0:23:03.083

You came  
in, you got connected, immediately

0:23:03.083,0:23:05.791

got to work, you're,  
now you're looking for others.

0:23:05.791,0:23:08.250

You've got people all around you,  
the whole ecosystem.

0:23:08.250,0:23:10.875

Tell us where you're farming at  
as an example.

0:23:10.875,0:23:12.250

Okay.

0:23:12.250,0:23:14.583

We, Grow Ogden is located

0:23:14.583,0:23:17.708

on the property  
of First Presbyterian Church

0:23:18.125,0:23:22.000

in an unused playground  
that was active in the 1960s.

0:23:22.000,0:23:26.083  
So this lot has sat unused and build up

0:23:26.583,0:23:29.666  
silt and trees were growing.

0:23:29.666,0:23:33.458  
And, bees  
and wasps that, they're good, but

0:23:34.458,0:23:36.166  
managed in the right place.

0:23:36.166,0:23:39.375  
So anyway, we transformed that lot.

0:23:39.833,0:23:43.250  
And what surprised me,  
this is 28th and Quincy,

0:23:43.833,0:23:46.833  
that when we announced

0:23:47.208,0:23:50.000  
20, on the 24th of June,

0:23:50.000,0:23:54.125  
2023,  
we had a dinner and a lunch at our home,

0:23:54.791,0:23:59.458  
and we invited everybody who wanted  
to start Grow Ogden to our lunch.

0:23:59.458,0:24:02.458  
And we had 24 people show up.

0:24:02.750,0:24:06.166  
And after that  
we did a little bit of talking

0:24:06.166,0:24:11.833  
what would be the areas, work streams  
of required to make this a success?

0:24:12.708,0:24:15.750  
There were people that said, okay, I'm  
jumping in the truck, let's

0:24:15.750,0:24:19.541  
go over there and look at the plot of land  
today, you know?

0:24:19.541,0:24:21.916  
And they assessed it, and it turned out

0:24:21.916,0:24:25.791  
half of it was macadam or asphalt,  
as they say in Utah.

0:24:25.791,0:24:30.208  
So it's like, there's no way  
this is all gravel and asphalt.

0:24:30.208,0:24:32.958  
How are we going to grow anything there?

0:24:32.958,0:24:36.375  
And I let the team say, you answer  
that, let's do it.

0:24:36.791,0:24:41.333  
And so we figured out  
raised beds on the half that was asphalt

0:24:41.833,0:24:45.750  
and the rest we dug in  
and we use permaculture

0:24:45.750,0:24:50.333  
principles and,  
help from Josh Jones from the city,

0:24:50.333,0:24:55.916  
who did a 3D graphic  
of what the farm design would look like.

0:24:55.916,0:24:57.708  
And we put that  
in front of people and said,

0:24:58.666,0:25:00.333  
you want to help create this?

0:25:00.333,0:25:02.791  
They came 30 at a time.

0:25:02.791,0:25:06.125  
We had these events almost every week  
or every other week.

0:25:06.125,0:25:09.291  
And these mid single, all ages,

0:25:09.291,0:25:12.958  
you know, from anywhere  
from 18 to 35 years old,

0:25:13.666,0:25:16.666  
they came  
I don't know if it was post-Covid or what,

0:25:16.708,0:25:19.333  
but they wanted to be a part  
of the community.

0:25:19.333,0:25:22.333  
They wanted to grow and do something  
meaningful.

0:25:22.458,0:25:24.541  
So you just mentioned an employee,  
Josh Jones.

0:25:24.541,0:25:28.166  
He's our director of GIS,  
Geographic Information Systems.

0:25:29.458,0:25:32.708  
That's a  
that's a geospatial mapping product.

0:25:32.916,0:25:34.541  
He's a lot of fun. Really important.

0:25:34.541,0:25:37.500  
Yeah, it's a powerful  
it's a powerful program, but we need it in

0:25:37.500,0:25:40.500  
every almost every element of the work  
we do as a city.

0:25:40.833,0:25:45.333  
And, and I and I'm, I'm betting he did  
that work outside of city hours.

0:25:45.625,0:25:47.875  
Yeah, he did it because he cares.

0:25:47.875,0:25:50.583  
Yeah. He was in on the, the beginning.

0:25:50.583,0:25:53.416  
He said, Carl, I love your vision.

0:25:53.416,0:25:55.333  
Good luck. Good luck.

0:25:55.333,0:25:57.750  
But that's his contribution  
to help, right?

0:25:57.750,0:26:00.458  
He's like, you got to keep going

0:26:00.458,0:26:03.916  
because there's the  
there's a lot of people that may say no.

0:26:04.250,0:26:06.666  
Yeah. And but we've demonstrated it now.

0:26:06.666,0:26:07.833  
We know it works.

0:26:07.833,0:26:10.416  
Yeah it's all about  
getting the yes, right. Yes.

0:26:10.416,0:26:13.875  
And so I'd love to hear the stories  
about the success

0:26:13.875,0:26:15.708  
that especially about the individuals.

0:26:15.708,0:26:18.750  
But as you  
you're still new and early on you're

0:26:18.750,0:26:21.750  
looking to scale up  
by impacting more lives.

0:26:22.083,0:26:25.625  
But you've maintained a huge network  
of support around you. Yes.

0:26:25.625,0:26:28.166  
You know John Draskovic is the pastor  
-- Draskovich.

0:26:28.166,0:26:28.666  
Draskovich is the

0:26:30.916,0:26:32.500  
pastor at the church.

0:26:32.500,0:26:35.208  
He's he's in an awesome guy,  
as is amazing.

0:26:35.208,0:26:36.125  
He's a faith leader.

0:26:36.125,0:26:39.125  
And that's an important thing  
because that's who people look to.

0:26:39.500,0:26:43.750  
And I love their church  
mission is really community outreach.

0:26:44.166,0:26:46.833  
And they actually have a committee  
for this, right?

0:26:46.833,0:26:50.958  
They read my article in the newspaper,  
a farmer in search of farm, you know.

0:26:50.958,0:26:51.416  
Yeah.

0:26:51.416,0:26:54.375  
And and they came, they answered the call.

0:26:54.375,0:26:55.541  
They even have a basketball gym

0:26:55.541,0:26:58.833  
inside the church that sometimes city  
kids are in there playing basketball.

0:26:59.291,0:26:59.791  
Yeah.

0:26:59.791,0:27:03.250  
You know, they???re a community church,  
one of many, many

0:27:03.833,0:27:06.833  
really rich and diverse denominations  
in our downtown alone.

0:27:07.125,0:27:08.208  
Yeah. Right.

0:27:08.208,0:27:11.625  
And and that's in that, Central East

0:27:11.625,0:27:14.916  
neighborhood  
that, that really needs that uplift.

0:27:14.916,0:27:16.791  
And so they're doing a marvelous job.

0:27:16.791,0:27:17.208  
They are.

0:27:17.208,0:27:17.708  
And it's

0:27:17.708,0:27:22.000  
and he's a member of the faith council  
that we engage with too, because we,

0:27:22.000,0:27:25.666  
we see those faith leaders as important  
connectors and influencers and mentors.

0:27:26.291,0:27:27.625  
And so when we're talking  
about the Ogden way

0:27:27.625,0:27:30.916  
connecting, you are absolutely a connector  
and a mentor, right?

0:27:31.333,0:27:31.958  
I hope so.

0:27:31.958,0:27:35.458  
But you were relying on other connectors  
and mentors around you.

0:27:35.458,0:27:36.208  
Absolutely.

0:27:36.208,0:27:39.041  
There's a network of support  
systems, right?

0:27:39.041,0:27:40.666  
Your family is the first one.

0:27:40.666,0:27:42.625  
But what if that's not there? Right.

0:27:42.625,0:27:46.250

And then your neighbors and your community  
and your church,

0:27:46.333,0:27:47.625  
what if that's not there?

0:27:47.625,0:27:52.958  
And so we're kind of this safety net  
to try to reconnect them back.

0:27:52.958,0:27:57.291  
And, and if we connect them  
to a stable job then they have a farm,

0:27:57.916,0:28:01.000  
I'm sorry, an employment team or a company

0:28:01.541,0:28:04.208  
culture  
that they can at least talk to people.

0:28:04.208,0:28:04.583  
Right.

0:28:04.583,0:28:07.791  
And that the  
the power of that network too, is that

0:28:08.375,0:28:11.375  
no matter what, they need  
someone that someone in that church

0:28:11.750,0:28:15.791  
or connected with that church  
or knows somebody if it's not themselves,

0:28:16.416,0:28:19.125  
that can help in that in that time.

0:28:19.125,0:28:22.500  
Exactly. And that is so powerful. Like,

0:28:23.833,0:28:26.208  
like government  
has a role in a lot of things.

0:28:26.208,0:28:29.041  
Arguably in too many things.

0:28:29.041,0:28:30.791  
Right, right.

0:28:30.791,0:28:33.916  
And so the first, the first place  
we should look for solutions

0:28:34.541,0:28:36.416  
is not necessarily government. Right.

0:28:36.416,0:28:40.666  
And you spoke to that at the Martin  
Luther King Celebration breakfast.

0:28:40.833,0:28:41.583  
Right.

0:28:41.583,0:28:44.250  
You talked about you know

0:28:44.250,0:28:47.958  
this is about lifting ourselves first  
and being the people

0:28:47.958,0:28:52.208  
that we want to see  
the change in the world to be right.

0:28:52.208,0:28:53.208

Right.

0:28:53.208,0:28:55.333  
We all own our own role in all of this.

0:28:55.333,0:28:57.041  
Right, exactly.

0:28:57.041,0:29:00.583  
And I'm trying to be the best farmer Carl  
I can be.

0:29:01.000,0:29:04.000  
Best farmer Carl I know.

0:29:04.291,0:29:06.416  
So share a little bit about what  
what you're growing.

0:29:06.416,0:29:06.791  
Yeah.

0:29:06.791,0:29:11.208  
So, you know, just to make sure  
I knew how to grow in Ogden,

0:29:11.791,0:29:15.291  
this is, harvested Wednesday.

0:29:15.291,0:29:18.291  
This is our, winter salad mix,

0:29:18.750,0:29:23.458  
and we harvested 36  
bags of greens like this in February.

0:29:23.625,0:29:27.375  
Okay, this is one week's  
worth of growth, and

0:29:27.583,0:29:32.625  
and a lot of people  
don't realize that Ogden can farm.

0:29:32.791,0:29:35.416  
Ogden can grow food.

0:29:35.416,0:29:38.708  
In 1960, 40%

0:29:38.958,0:29:41.875  
of the food consumed in Utah was

0:29:42.916,0:29:44.541  
grown in Utah.

0:29:44.541,0:29:45.916  
Okay.

0:29:45.916,0:29:48.625  
Now it's 2%. Wow.

0:29:48.625,0:29:51.125  
So talk about the economy okay.

0:29:51.125,0:29:54.791  
You're in charge of let's get more taxes  
out of people right?

0:29:54.791,0:29:56.875  
No just kidding.

0:29:56.875,0:29:58.875  
But what if

0:29:58.875,0:30:04.083  
we put \$7 million of local food production  
back into Ogden.

0:30:04.083,0:30:07.208  
You take 85,000 residents

0:30:07.875,0:30:11.625  
times \$200 a month and your grocery bill

0:30:11.625,0:30:15.583  
for grains and per person adult,  
you multiply that out.

0:30:15.583,0:30:17.958  
That's close to \$7 million.

0:30:17.958,0:30:21.416  
That and that's 40%, 40% of that, that

0:30:22.083,0:30:26.291  
in this economy, if we had small farmers  
serving this community,

0:30:26.833,0:30:29.333  
that would be local funds

0:30:29.333,0:30:32.416  
that are building Ogden  
and helping us be healthy.

0:30:32.416,0:30:34.291  
Right? Right.

0:30:34.291,0:30:34.750  
So there's.

0:30:34.750,0:30:38.166  
Not just building Ogden you're  
growing, nurturing, feeding, healing.

0:30:38.708,0:30:41.458  
Ogden. Yes, right. Food is medicine.

0:30:41.458,0:30:43.125  
And don't forget. Especially with  
the micronutrients in stuff like that.

0:30:44.666,0:30:45.333  
And this is for

0:30:45.333,0:30:48.333  
you, by the way, I appreciate that

0:30:48.458,0:30:50.708  
this is a gift of a non pecuniary value.

0:30:50.708,0:30:53.583  
For the record.

0:30:53.583,0:30:55.125  
Not a bribe just a nice gesture.

0:30:55.125,0:30:56.166  
Thank you. Yes.

0:30:56.166,0:30:59.166  
And I will eat this tonight. Yes.

0:30:59.250,0:31:02.250  
And because I actually do eat like this.

0:31:03.333,0:31:03.666  
Good, like a rabbit.

0:31:03.666,0:31:05.875  
Yeah, I like, I don't grow like this.

0:31:05.875,0:31:10.666  
I have, I actually have had raised gardens  
and done this kind of work myself, but,

0:31:10.708,0:31:12.666  
I've kind of fallen away from it  
personally.

0:31:12.666,0:31:14.625  
Hey got to balance everything.

0:31:14.625,0:31:17.291  
I will get back.  
We'll get back to it right.

0:31:17.291,0:31:19.750  
So before before we wrap up,  
we got a little bit of time left.

0:31:19.750,0:31:21.791  
But tell us more about where  
people can find

0:31:21.791,0:31:23.708  
more information about your program. Yes.

0:31:23.708,0:31:28.833  
So Eden Streets  
is the name of the company,

0:31:28.833,0:31:31.833  
the nonprofit, official,

0:31:31.875,0:31:35.833  
legally recognized organization,  
Grow Ogden,

0:31:36.250,0:31:41.000  
is a project of Eden Streets,  
which will be a project until

0:31:41.958,0:31:44.958  
Ogden can own Grow Ogden.

0:31:45.333,0:31:48.041  
Then it can become its own nonprofit.

0:31:48.041,0:31:50.625  
And what we see Eden is not the

0:31:50.625,0:31:53.625  
not Eden up the Valley,  
but Eden as in the Garden of Eden.

0:31:53.833,0:31:56.291  
We foresee

0:31:56.291,0:31:59.416  
farms of social missions  
in every city around the world.

0:32:00.291,0:32:02.625  
You look at,

0:32:02.625,0:32:05.708  
Portland, Oregon, Los Angeles,

0:32:06.166,0:32:09.166  
Seattle, Washington, Denver, Colorado.

0:32:09.583,0:32:11.000  
I???m just naming the West,

0:32:11.000,0:32:14.791  
Western side of the United States,  
huge challenges with homelessness.

0:32:15.375,0:32:18.208  
And we have a solution  
that has a recidivism rate

0:32:18.208,0:32:21.208

that's like 5%.

0:32:21.458,0:32:23.666

And the Homeless Garden Project  
in Santa Cruz,

0:32:23.666,0:32:27.166

California,  
has been practicing this for 30 years.

0:32:27.750,0:32:32.875

They take 17 people on a year  
and their recidivism rate is 5%.

0:32:32.916,0:32:38.625

In other words, 95%  
go on to a stable job and stable housing.

0:32:38.958,0:32:42.791

And you talk to any social worker  
that's like

0:32:43.333,0:32:48.083

45 to 60% better than what  
we're normally doing

0:32:48.583,0:32:52.416

about these people that are homeless,  
that come back into the system.

0:32:52.500,0:32:54.666

Those are impressive numbers. Yes.

0:32:54.666,0:32:56.416

So you got the website?

0:32:56.416,0:33:01.083

Yes. edenstreets.org and, under program

0:33:01.500,0:33:04.333

since Grow Ogden is our first pilot farm.

0:33:04.333,0:33:09.916

Just like under program, you'll see  
program, team and, program events

0:33:10.291,0:33:14.041

and all the people that are serving  
volunteer wise

0:33:14.375,0:33:17.750

or other are listed  
in that on their website.

0:33:17.916,0:33:18.458

Okay.

0:33:18.458,0:33:21.250

And we have an Instagram and Facebook

0:33:21.250,0:33:24.750

social media channel, Grow Ogden  
I love this symbol.

0:33:24.750,0:33:27.750

We tried to integrate in the logo, the

0:33:27.750,0:33:32.416

the colors of Weber State University  
and the Arch of Ogden and

0:33:33.666,0:33:35.583

a plant in it in the middle.

0:33:35.583,0:33:38.083

Right. Doing it all. Yeah, yeah,  
all the marks. Yep.

0:33:38.083,0:33:39.458  
We got the creative artist.

0:33:39.458,0:33:40.958  
Everybody behind this.

0:33:40.958,0:33:45.000  
And and so it's a thrill and honor  
to be here in Ogden

0:33:45.375,0:33:50.291  
and especially with your leadership,  
I believe that we can transform lives

0:33:50.291,0:33:54.833  
and and make this city, a gem

0:33:54.833,0:33:58.958  
that, all across Utah, that look and say,  
man, what's Ogden doing?

0:33:59.125,0:34:01.041  
What's Ogden doing right.

0:34:01.041,0:34:03.250  
Well, it's an honor to have you in Ogden,  
honestly

0:34:03.250,0:34:06.333  
and and a blessing  
to get to be the mayor of the city.

0:34:06.333,0:34:07.166  
Like this.

0:34:07.166,0:34:10.166  
Thank you. Can I include a call to action?

0:34:10.416,0:34:13.000  
Yes, you can, but first,

0:34:13.000,0:34:15.666  
you also have composting efforts  
as well. Yes.

0:34:15.666,0:34:18.083  
Well, this is part of my call to action.

0:34:18.083,0:34:21.125  
This is what I call a compost pail.

0:34:21.666,0:34:23.875  
And, you know, we look,

0:34:24.875,0:34:26.291  
every day we're throwing

0:34:26.291,0:34:30.833  
thousands of pounds of food  
that's food scraps away.

0:34:31.416,0:34:33.458  
And, this is an effort.

0:34:33.458,0:34:36.458  
If you take a look at this, it says

0:34:36.583,0:34:39.375  
help lift people and build community.

0:34:39.375,0:34:41.250  
One pail at a time, Grow Ogden.

0:34:41.250,0:34:43.291  
And and that's what we're doing.

0:34:43.291,0:34:46.416

We're really lifting people,  
like you said in

0:34:46.416,0:34:49.416  
your, the Ogden way.

0:34:49.416,0:34:51.958  
We're lifting people one at a time through

0:34:51.958,0:34:55.958  
a very little farm program,  
and we can create the soil

0:34:56.250,0:34:59.708  
that will grow amazing produce  
like what you just received.

0:35:00.416,0:35:03.791  
Actually, when we say  
you're lifting people one at a time. Yes.

0:35:04.791,0:35:07.500  
What we often forget is how much lifting  
we're doing for each other

0:35:07.500,0:35:10.041  
and for ourselves.  
When we lift others. Right.

0:35:10.041,0:35:12.958  
It makes me feel good.  
And that's why I want to do this.

0:35:12.958,0:35:15.958  
I'm going to be 95 before this stops.

0:35:16.166,0:35:17.791  
You're starting with one.

0:35:17.791,0:35:20.041  
And then you had a cohort of two, right?

0:35:20.041,0:35:22.666  
Yeah, it was a cohort.  
Yeah. That's my wife, by the way.

0:35:24.958,0:35:26.250  
But you're starting small and

0:35:26.250,0:35:29.291  
you're building up,  
but you're lifting your own spirit.

0:35:29.291,0:35:32.666  
And there's a lot of people whose spirits  
are lifted as a result of lifting others.

0:35:32.958,0:35:35.958  
Yeah,  
and nobody would know I'm 75 years old.

0:35:37.416,0:35:38.375  
Right.

0:35:38.375,0:35:41.583  
Wait you are a new grandfather though  
right?

0:35:41.708,0:35:42.958  
Yes. Congratulations.

0:35:42.958,0:35:45.541  
Number five. Yeah, yeah. So no one would.

0:35:45.541,0:35:46.833  
No one would have guessed  
your grandfather.

0:35:46.833,0:35:48.833  
The farm life is good for you.

0:35:48.833,0:35:50.750  
It's a good life. It???'s  
also the wheat bread.

0:35:50.750,0:35:53.541  
So here we go.

0:35:53.541,0:35:56.500  
So, so that I think that you

0:35:56.500,0:35:59.625  
you make the the ending for our episode  
perfectly because,

0:36:00.333,0:36:04.500  
there are so many calls to action  
that you've already taken, right?

0:36:04.708,0:36:06.708  
Because we always end our episode  
and we'll do the same.

0:36:06.708,0:36:09.208  
Today  
we end our episode with a call to action.

0:36:09.208,0:36:14.291  
You know, first to, like, share,  
subscribe to the Ogden Way.

0:36:14.291,0:36:17.291  
Go to our social media,  
go to our website, theogdenway.com,

0:36:17.500,0:36:20.375  
get plugged  
in, listen to more podcast episodes,

0:36:20.375,0:36:23.375  
find out more ways that you can get  
involved in our community right.

0:36:23.791,0:36:27.416  
And so for your call to action  
today is to go to your website. Yes.

0:36:27.583,0:36:27.875  
Right.

0:36:27.875,0:36:31.875  
And do what you can to contribute,  
not just in terms of composting,

0:36:31.875,0:36:34.500  
but yeah, pull out your wallet.  
There's another thing.

0:36:34.500,0:36:36.541  
How many of you shop at Smith???'s?

0:36:36.541,0:36:37.083  
Okay.

0:36:37.083,0:36:40.083  
They have Smith inspiring donations.

0:36:40.416,0:36:44.250  
What you buy in Smith, 0.25%

0:36:45.166,0:36:48.583  
can go to fund Grow Ogden, this program.

0:36:49.166,0:36:51.666  
There you go.  
That's an amazing cooperation.

0:36:51.666,0:36:55.125  
So Smith inspiring donations.

0:36:55.125,0:36:58.500  
And that's the way that we can solve  
this challenge

0:36:58.500,0:37:01.833  
of homelessness and actually provide  
a pathway out of poverty.

0:37:01.958,0:37:02.500  
Awesome.

0:37:02.500,0:37:05.916  
And and if anybody has the ability

0:37:05.916,0:37:09.541  
to in the capacity within yourself  
to volunteer, to volunteer.

0:37:09.791,0:37:10.041  
Yeah.

0:37:10.041,0:37:13.083  
Financially right, farmer  
Carl and team are always looking for help.

0:37:13.083,0:37:17.000  
I???m there  
and it's edenstreet.org/donate to

0:37:17.000,0:37:20.000  
contribute to our sow  
a seed today campaign.

0:37:20.041,0:37:22.083  
There you go. There's our call to action.

0:37:22.083,0:37:23.041  
Great. Right.

0:37:23.041,0:37:27.416  
Eden streets--  
edenstreets.org/donate slash donate.

0:37:27.416,0:37:29.583  
And that???'s edenstreets.org.

0:37:29.583,0:37:31.833  
Yeah. Just in case that website.

0:37:32.916,0:37:34.625  
Pull out your wallet if you can.

0:37:34.625,0:37:36.916  
If you can't, you know, give of yourself.

0:37:36.916,0:37:38.833  
Give of your heart. Yeah. Of your time  
and of your service.

0:37:38.833,0:37:43.000  
And I appreciate you saying we got to get  
business sponsors on here too.

0:37:43.041,0:37:43.666  
Right?

0:37:43.666,0:37:44.166  
I know.

0:37:44.166,0:37:46.791  
I'm creating the new labor force. Right.

0:37:46.791,0:37:48.916  
They're going to get hired

in your businesses.

0:37:48.916,0:37:49.708

Right?

0:37:49.708,0:37:55.625

So this is a time to put your banner  
on the farm, Grow Ogden's farm

0:37:55.625,0:38:01.750

fence and say, you know, Parker-Hannifin  
proud supporter of Grow Ogden.

0:38:01.750,0:38:06.750

And we actually ran a campaign  
Field of Dreams in the summer.

0:38:07.375,0:38:09.541

And you've seen the movie, right?

0:38:09.541,0:38:10.375

Okay.

0:38:10.375,0:38:14.375

We have a Field of Dreams  
right here in Ogden.

0:38:14.375,0:38:19.291

And that field of dreams can be rented  
or purchased.

0:38:19.291,0:38:23.458

Leased out  
so that your company can have your sign

0:38:24.000,0:38:27.625

on this plot  
or this high tunnel or whatever,

0:38:27.625,0:38:31.958

so that they sense that they're owning  
the challenges

0:38:31.958,0:38:35.166

Ogden has and they're helping  
relaunch lives through farming.

0:38:35.250,0:38:35.791

There you go.

0:38:35.791,0:38:38.791

Or even if you know somebody  
that you think would be really interested

0:38:38.791,0:38:42.375

in either  
participating in Carl's program. Yes.

0:38:42.583,0:38:46.250

Or helping to, support those  
that are participating in this program,

0:38:47.291,0:38:48.083

that's another call.

0:38:48.083,0:38:48.958

Raise your hand.

0:38:48.958,0:38:50.208

Connect

0:38:50.208,0:38:51.916

yourself or those around you

0:38:51.916,0:38:54.625

with the opportunities  
and the needs within our community

0:38:54.625,0:38:58.458  
in order to lift others right,  
as we do the work to address those.

0:38:58.625,0:39:01.000  
Exactly. That is the Ogden Way.

0:39:01.000,0:39:03.166  
And farmer Carl,  
thanks for being with us today.

0:39:03.166,0:39:04.958  
Thank you. It's been my pleasure.

0:39:04.958,0:39:06.458  
No, mine mine as well.

0:39:06.458,0:39:10.875  
And I hope that this episode gets shared,  
liked, subscribed and that it leads

0:39:10.875,0:39:14.000  
to many, many more blessings for for you  
and for your program.

0:39:14.208,0:39:17.541  
Yes, it's  
been an exciting adventure here in Ogden.

0:39:17.541,0:39:19.000  
Thank you. You're welcome.

0:39:19.000,0:39:21.708  
Okay, until next time,  
we are the Ogden Way podcast.