



# INVESTORS' CIRCLE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **Investors' Circle closes innovative investment in Big City Farms**

Impact investing network backs urban farm developer

Members of [Investors' Circle](#), the world's largest impact investing network, have closed an investment in Big City Farms, Inc., with an innovative financing structure.

Launched in 2012 in Baltimore, MD, Big City Farms develops urban farm networks that create good jobs, revitalize urban landscapes by improving underutilized land, and meet the increasing demand for ultra-local, organically grown produce.

The funding round, led by Pi Investments and DC Community Ventures, will allow Big City Farms to increase its production area fivefold over the next six months. This expansion will create at least twelve new full-time, living-wage jobs with worker-ownership opportunities, and will more than quintuple the company's output of organically grown produce for sale to restaurants, institutions, grocers, and individuals in the Baltimore area.

The company and investors took an innovative approach to the investment. "We were excited to make the investment in Big City Farms work," said Karim Zia, Managing Partner at DC Community Ventures. "Since the company ultimately wants to be employee-owned we had to be more innovative in structuring a deal. We invested with a hybrid debt and revenue share structure that would allow the company to provide a return to investors, retain ownership of the company long-term and scale their social and environmental impacts associated with urban farming in Baltimore."

"Through Investors' Circle, we've connected with a group of knowledgeable investors who not only want to see our company succeed financially, but are also committed to helping Big City Farms achieve the positive social and environmental impact we envision for Baltimore and beyond. We look forward to learning from our investor team as we work together to put our plans into action," said Dave Bisson, CEO.

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### **About Big City Farms**

[Big City Farms](#), a Baltimore-based urban farming company, is building a network of urban farms that create good jobs for worker-owners, transform neighborhoods by improving vacant and blighted urban land, and produce ultra-local, organically grown, healthy food using sustainable, biological growing methods. The company grows, processes, and sells produce from its network of hoophouse farms to restaurants, institutions, grocers, and individual consumers.

### **About Investors' Circle**

[Investors' Circle](#) is the largest and most active early-stage impact investing network. Together with hundreds of angels, venture capitalists, foundations and family offices, IC has propelled \$185 million into 280+ enterprises dedicated to improving the environment, education, health and community.