



HOSTING SPECIAL POPULATIONS IN COMMUNITY GARDENS



WHO?

SPECIAL POPULATIONS IN COMMUNITY GARDENS



SPECIAL POPULATIONS OF GARDENERS

**What is a special population?
People with needs that require special consideration
and attention.**

~ Perkins, 2006



SPECIAL POPULATIONS OF GARDENERS

kids, people with disabilities, limited English proficiency, refugees, veterans, homeless, re-entry, seniors, low-income, anyone with barriers to success

WHY GARDENS?

IMPACT OF COMMUNITY GARDENS ON GARDENERS

GARDEN IMPACTS

- Cultural heritage
- Cultural exchange
- Emotional healing
- Individual expression
- Social connections
- Physical health
- Mental health



For the large number of people in our society – children and adults – who live with challenges, gardening and community food growing can be especially beneficial.

~ Professor Tim Lang



GARDEN IMPACTS

- Sense of identity
- Belonging
- Life skills
- Job skills
- Outdoor access
- Fresh food access
- Empowerment

It may be too easy to underestimate the power of a garden. A garden is a solution that leads to other solutions. It is part of the limitless pattern of good health and good sense.

~ Wendell Berry

HOW TO HOST?

THE ROLE OF COMMUNITY GARDEN LEADERS



Garden leaders are change agents!

(Remember: the network is here for support)





WHAT'S IN YOUR GARDEN?

PHYSICAL ELEMENTS AND SOCIAL DESIGN



Social design:

- people part
- programming
- often invisible

Physical design:

- infrastructure
- built, tangible
- visible

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Garden beds (raised, vertical, in-ground, sizes)

Pathways and circulation

Location within garden: sense of safety, sense of place

- Quiet v. loud
- Calm v. active
- Visible v. hidden
- Wayfinding (landmarks, etc.)

Seating, shade, signage

Other...

PHYSICAL DESIGN







jardín comunitario - community garden

Hammersley

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supported by Community GroundWorks and the Gardens Network: danegardens.net





SOCIAL DESIGN



Be welcoming

- Be open
- Be creative
- Ask others to assist

Think outside the box

- ID assets
- Combine talents
- Collaborate ~ buddy system!

Dovetail

- Build on strengths
- Work with network



FROM THE FIELD

BEST PRACTICES AND LOCAL EXAMPLES

Local community garden examples

- Supportive spaces

Brittingham, Sheboygan, Troy, Crowley Station, Truax, Raywood, Lindbergh, Hammersley, etc.

- Specific programs

Vegetables for Veterans (V4V)

Gardening for Good & Gardening for Good – Vets

MMHI

Journey Mental Health

Bayview Foundation

Badger Fountain of Life





CULTIVE SU JARDIN
PARA
CULTIVAR SU COMUNIDAD
CULTIVATE YOUR GARDEN
TO
CULTIVATE YOUR COMMUNITY

ADOPT
Plant

J
P
C

Love
the
earth

weeding
CREATE
LEARN-APRENDER







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