

Community Garden

Target Risk Factor:

Healthy Eating

Target Population:

All age groups

Project Lead(s):

Janet Thomas Terrie Moar

Community:

Selkirk

RHA:

Interlake

Project Partners:

Growing Years Family Resource Centre

Project Details:

Multiple event or ongoing project

Description:

Everybody's Mom brings the Community Garden home by sharing ideas and recipes for foods grown in the garden, by bringing garden-related activities to children's groups in the community, and by acting as mentor for community gardeners.

Time:

June - October 2010

Objectives:

Encourage healthy eating through learning about gardening, cooking, and preserving. Encourage physical activity through gardening.

Planning Supports:

Talking with target audience Bibliography of local library resources

Results:

Four families are gardening at St. Margaret's church in Lockport, MB. Facilitator is also meeting with community gardeners from the Alliance Church in Selkirk. Children's activities (30 participants) are scheduled in July with the regional library's Summer Reading program. Full results will not be available until harvest season is completed in October.

What worked:

- Partnership with local library's youth programs.
- Partnership with other community gardeners.
- Participants work together to share knowledge and resources.
- As of this writing, the garden is growing but due to the seasonal nature of the project, results will not be available until autumn.

What didn't work and any changes made:

Project should start considerably earlier (first week of May suggested) in order to advertise the program and recruit more participants. It would also allow participants to play an active part in the planning process, in order to customize seed and plant orders to what the individual families prefer.

Unexpected Outcomes:

Heavy rains throughout May and June have hampered efforts to grow from seed. Crop loss due to rot is a serious issue - for example, salad greens and corn did not germinate successfully. Other crops have limited germination. Transplants are faring better.

Resources

Volunteers:

Rene Gauthier, St. Margaret's Church (Community Garden facilitator)

Facilities:

Growing Years Family Resource Centre, Selkirk St. Margaret's Church, Lockport Red River North Regional Library, Selkirk

Equipment:

TBA

Total Costs:

TBA

Contact Information:

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