

Resource Guide – Gardening Information

Plant an Extra Row – Spread the word to gardeners in your community. It's a perfect combination – they love to grow and everyone loves free, homegrown produce!

Brochure example from Minneapolis:

<http://www2.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@health/documents/webcontent/wcms1p-105774.pdf>

Giving Garden program from The Open Door Pantry

<https://theopendoorpantry.org/how-to-give/mission-gardens/>

Community Gardens – more and more communities are setting aside land or banding together to organize community gardens. If you are lucky enough to have a community garden connect with them and ask their growers to plant extra for your food shelf. See if they are open to suggestions of especially desired items.

Food Shelf Gardens – start your own garden! If you've got the space and interested volunteers, think about starting your own garden. Some food shelves get their clients involved working and learning how to grow. Enlist the help of Minnesota Extension master gardeners (<https://extension.umn.edu/master-gardener/outcomes-and-impacts>) or folks in your own community that want to share their knowledge, love of gardening and green thumbs. (Just think about the possibilities that could follow...healthy eating classes, food preservation classes, recipe sharing!).

Here is a story about at food shelf that started their own garden.

https://bcfsmn.org/urbanfarm_bcf/

Partnership Gardening – there may be people in your community that don't even know they want to help until you ask them. So ask! Contact garden clubs for help organizing produce drives, planting a row programs or to start a community garden. Ask area churches, businesses or individuals if they would be willing to provide land for a community garden. Approach your city or local school for partnership opportunities. There are many grants available to schools or gardening programs that benefit or teach kids. The bottom line is that more and more people are recognizing the need to eat healthier and locally. **These activities don't just benefit the food shelf – they are great for the whole community and will help you build stronger relationships with the people in your community!**

For an example of business-community partnership go to:

<http://www.wholefoodsmarket.com/blog/gardening-greater-good>

School Gardens – <https://extension.umn.edu/farm-school/school-gardens> and

<https://www.csistpaul.org/community-garden/> and

https://www.hometownsource.com/sun_focus/news/local/mounds-view-schools-gardens-will-benefit-local-food-shelf/article_0e915ae4-886b-5fe6-bc65-a90de87a0349.html