

Northeast District Funding for Innovative Programs

Project Title: Maintaining the Community Garden Program in Brown County

Project Lead and Collaborators:

- **Judy Knudsen**, Family Living Educator/Department Head, Brown County UW-Extension, (920) 391-4651 (Lead)
- **Bill Wright**, Community Garden Coordinator, Brown County UW-Extension, (920) 391-4658
- **Karen Early**, WNEP Coordinator, Brown County UW-Extension, (920) 391-4614

Situation Statement:

At present there are 11 community gardens in Brown County covering approximately 34 acres. Community gardens provide an opportunity for low-income families to raise culturally appropriate food. In 2003, 80% of gardeners were Southeast Asian, 18% Caucasian, and 2% Hispanic. A formula developed by the USDA for determining the volume of crops produced in the community gardens calculated \$463,920 of food was produced in 2003. The operation of the community gardens is funded by a combination of user fees; donated land; service provided by the Green Bay Parks, Recreation, and Forestry Department; and grant money from UW-Extension and USDA.

Project Goal(s):

- Maintain the Brown County UW-Extension Community Garden program.
- Provide low-income, culturally-diverse gardeners the opportunity to raise nutritious, culturally-appropriate produce.

Outcomes:

1. Brown County community gardens will continue.
2. Provide sufficient garden plots will be available for Brown County gardeners.
3. Increase number of Hispanic gardeners renting community garden plots.

Timeline:

March-April 2004	Recruit gardeners
May 2004	Prepare soil and assign garden plots
June-September 2004	Oversee gardens Conduct educational classes
October 2004	Prepare gardens for winter

Evaluation Plan:

- Utilize USDA formula to determine value of produce raised.
- Survey gardeners to determine how produce is being used.

(continued)

Proposed Budget and Funding Request:

A request of \$3,500 is being made for this project.

Salaries:	Bill Wright, Community Garden Coordinator (187.25 hrs. x \$14.42/hr.)	\$2,700
	Supplies and expenses for educational programs	500
	Travel	200
	Transportation and printing of Hispanic gardening materials	100

Outside Funding:

Funding from the USDA Food Security Grant for Community Gardens will end September 30, 2004. Urban Initiative funds will no longer be available.

Past Resource Management Funds:

- Increasing the Self Sufficiency of the Community Garden Program.