

Eastern District Funding for Innovative Programs

Application Form

Project Title: Summer Intern—Youth Garden Program (Priority One)

Project Timeline: May-September, 2005

The program will begin in March, 2005 with recruitment of youth garden participants and training of adult volunteers. Garden classes and planting will begin in May and garden work and classes will continue June-August. Final harvest will start in September and in October the garden will be prepared for winter.

Funding Requested: \$ 3876

Project Lead/Grant Applicant: Marma McIntee, Family Living Educator
UWEX-Washington County
333 E. Washington St., Suite 1200
P.O. Box 2003
West Bend, WI 53095-2003
Marma.mcintee@ces.uwex.edu

Project Collaborator(s) (if applicable):

Community Collaborators include:

Washington County 4-H
Boys and Girls Club of West Bend
Leadership Greater West Bend
Master Gardeners of Washington County
NOVA Services – Project Payback
Home School Association of Washington County
West Bend School District / West Bend area private schools

Situation Statement:

Currently, the *Summer Youth Garden Program* is the only community garden program in the West Bend area. The program is now starting its fourth year and relies on the expertise of volunteers and assistance from parents. Funding has been obtained from small grants and registration fees from participants.

As Washington County becomes more suburbanized, children do not have access to hands on experiences in growing plants (food and ornamental) in an outdoor garden setting. The program is directed to but is not exclusive to children in families with limited resources and provides a curriculum to include a hands-on outdoor garden experience. During 2004 the program enrolled 2nd-5th grade children from West Bend schools in a 14 week summer program. Enrollment is voluntary. Since its start in 2002 the garden program has grown from serving 15 children in 12 families to 45-50 children in 28 families. Approximately 35-50% of the families are considered low-income. In addition, youth in the Project Payback Program have the opportunity to learn about gardening responsibility as a part of their community service program.

For 2005 the program will be expanded to include home-schooled children/families from Washington County and children enrolled in the Boys & Girls Club of West Bend. The program is based on a successful curriculum "Buds & Spouts-Growing with Kids" from Milwaukee County that includes lessons in botany, nutrition, ecology and personal & social growth.

Goals and Outcomes:

The project has four major goals;

- Provides an outdoor garden educational experience.
- Allows for a team learning experience and civic responsibility for youth.
- Encourages the adult/child mentor relationship.
- Provides a summer internship for a college/VOTECH student.

Outcomes:

- 50-75 2nd-6th graders will participate in the 14 week summer garden program to learn basic principles of gardening—botany, nutrition, ecology and personal & social growth.
- Youth participants will learn team-building skills when working as a group.
- Youth will understand the importance of civic responsibility when giving to local food pantries.
- Youth will grow fresh produce to be used at home for family meals.
- Youth will become members of the “Buds & Sprouts” 4-H club and have the opportunity to exhibit their items at the Washington County Fair and share what skills they have learned with a judge.
- Food pantries will obtain fresh garden produce donated by the children.
- 20-25 teens in the Project Payback Program will learn basic principles of gardening and provide community service.
- Parents will become involved with their child(ren)s gardening project during special events and garden outings.
- 8-12 volunteers will become key mentors to children and will gain leadership skills in their roles as key garden leaders to each class.
- A corporate volunteer program will be developed with assistance of Leadership Greater West Bend to build business relationships for special projects in the garden program.
- One college/VOTECH student will gain experience as a summer garden intern and will gain new insight into the role of Extension in communities.

Evaluation:

Youth will participate in simple pre-post program evaluation.
 Youth will record “garden wisdom” in journals throughout the summer.
 Volunteers and parents will be surveyed to obtain program evaluation.
 Cooperating agencies will be surveyed to obtain program evaluation.
 Summer intern will provide program evaluation through exit interview.

Budget: Washington County has just joined the Eastern District and has not applied for district resource management funds in the past.

Expenses:

Garden Intern

May-October: 456 hours @8.50/hr.	\$3876
Mileage	250
Garden costs (seeds, fertilizer, equipment, Tilling-labor, gas, marsh hay, etc.)	1200
Educational materials, supplies, printing	400
Special events	<u>400</u>
Total expenses	\$6126

Income:

Request from Eastern District Resource Management funds (to cover hourly wage for garden intern)	\$3876
Other small grants	1500
Registration fees (50-75 youth @ \$15/ea.)	<u>750 (to \$1125)</u>
Total income	\$6126

Signature:



Grant Applicant/Lead

