Community Gardening in Hamilton
February through May 2012

Board of Health
July 11, 2012
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Sara Collyer (Neighbour to Neighbour Centre)

Presentation Overview
Update on the Hamilton Community Garden Network (HCGN) for the period from February to May 2012 funded by the City of Hamilton Public Health and Public Works.

- HCGN overview
- Hamilton community garden statistics for 2012
- HCGN highlights for 2012
- Partner Spotlight: Neighbour to Neighbour
- Testimonials from participants
- Future plans
The Hamilton Community Garden Network

a collaboration of community garden organizers, members, and supporters helping to develop and maintain community gardens in Hamilton with outreach, networking, tools, and training.

Why?
- Create connections
- Promote new growth
- Enhance benefits
- Support sustainability

Hamilton Numbers – Spring 2012

15 new gardens +2 expansions  
16,000+ square feet new garden space  
16,000+ potential new pounds of food

Plus countless new community connections and still over 150 people on waiting lists!
HCGN 2012 Highlights: Jan-May

- 350 attendees at Seedy Saturday with over $1000 raised
- 11 gardens enriched through garden and social media workshops
- 900 people reached through exhibits
- 55 inquiries for garden space answered
- 7 consultations with new or current garden leaders
- Over 200 volunteer hours

In-Kind Support Summary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Volunteers/Coop students</td>
<td>3,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Website and Design specialists</td>
<td>1,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Space rental</td>
<td>1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Compost</td>
<td>10,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mulch</td>
<td>5,967.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soil</td>
<td>4,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seedlings</td>
<td>300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Event supplies for Seedy Saturday</td>
<td>957.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total In-Kind</strong></td>
<td><strong>27,524.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Over $25,000 worth of in-kind contributions secured including volunteer time, garden supplies, and specialist support.
Cash Support Summary

Cash Support Summary Table, February through May 2012

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HCGN Garden Support Funds</td>
<td>3,185.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funds secured by gardens</td>
<td>22,525.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oliver’s Garden Project</td>
<td>2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small Space Gardening Project</td>
<td>5,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depave Paradise</td>
<td>15,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Cash</strong></td>
<td><strong>47,710.75</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Almost $50,000 in cash
secured by HCGN and gardens it
works with directly

Neighbour to Neighbour Community
Food Programs

Community Gardens - 13
mixed gardens across our
service area

Benefits
• ↓ poverty
• ↑ food security
• Improve healthy eating
• Promote community

St Michaels Elementary Garden Build
Neighbour to Neighbour Community Gardens

- HCGN - links our community gardens to needed resources
- HCGN - builds capacity within Community Gardens
- Takes the lead to build gardens
- Provides education and workshops
- Links gardens to City's soil and compost
- Uses Train the Trainer model
- Future – seedlings

St Michaels Elementary Planting Day

Neighbour to Neighbour Community Gardens

Sherwood High school

Eastmount Elementary

Chalmers Church
Quotes from HCGN Participants

“We honestly could not have done this without the help from the HCGN coordinator (and) the support from the Network. We wanted...to let everyone know how thankful we are.”

–Chad McKay, garden coordinator at Powell Park’s Little Green Garden

“Thanks again, for your help in setting this up! You’ve been fantastic!”

–Ben, donor of $4,000 worth of soil

“...with your vision, encouragement and resources we have built a new Community Garden”

–Dave, community garden coordinator, new site for 2012

The Future

The HCGN will be supported through December 2012 through

- Oliver’s Garden Project
- Small Space Gardening with Volunteer Hamilton
- Depave Paradise

Working to secure funding to reach sustainability and continue special projects