



# Gardens for Learning

2008 Request for Funding

Applications must  
be postmarked by  
April 25, 2008

Food Works at Two Rivers Center is Central Vermont's hands-on food and agricultural education center working to strengthen local food systems and empower people to grow, prepare, eat and preserve their own foods. For over 20 years, Food Works has been at the forefront of addressing the root causes of hunger and cultivating food security through hands-on education.

## **What is Gardens for Learning?**

Gardens for Learning, created in 1994 by Food Works, is a unique summer program that teaches children, at risk of summertime hunger, how to grow, prepare and cook their own nutritious, fresh foods. Through growing gardens, young people develop the self-confidence of growing their own food; witness the simple glory of a plant maturing from seed to flower; learn firsthand skills and concepts in cooking, nutrition, history, language arts, science, and math; and experience the satisfaction of cooperatively working with others to build a foundation for a healthier, happier lifestyle and community.

The Gardens for Learning program incorporates the following standards: *Knowledge of the basic food groups; edible plant parts and their nutritional value; and preparation of nutritious, healthy meals using fresh ingredients.* The tools used to achieve these standards include: Children regularly work in the garden and harvest food; children prepare daily snacks or meals using whole foods; and children participate in activities / lessons to learn the standards.

The locations of Gardens for Learning programs include federally-funded free summer lunch program sites, subsidized housing communities, schools, town parks, family centers and summer camps. Some locations almost exclusively engage in gardening and cooking while others are part of a larger program offering a host of traditional summertime activities.

## **What assistance is available?**

As the issue of children's diet and health becomes more widespread, Food Works' continues to strive toward increasing the number of children who experience fresh, healthy, food through hands-on gardening, nutrition and cooking skills. The Gardens for Learning program provides funding for gardening and cooking supplies. Additionally, a limited number of stipends are available for sites to cover the cost of staffing the program during the summer months. Priority will be given to sites that demonstrate the highest need and show strong community and organizational support.

Food Works also provides technical support and networking assistance. We visit the sites and assist coordinators with documenting program impacts and delivering hands-on gardening, nutrition and cooking activities. We also offer a ½ day Gardens for Learning training on Saturday, May 10th in Orange, Vermont. Coordinators should plan on attending and will be reimbursed for their time.

Our goal is that Food Works will provide funding for an average of four years. During this time period, the contribution Food Works makes to the program will decrease. We expect sites to demonstrate an increase in local support and funding during the four year period.

## **What should I do if I am interested in coordinating this program or if I have additional questions?**

If you are 1) affiliated with an organization that runs a summer program for children 2) self-motivated and experienced in working with children 3) have an interest and some experience cooking and gardening - contact Michelle Wallace, Statewide Gardens for Learning Coordinator at [mwallace@vtlink.net](mailto:mwallace@vtlink.net) or hm office 802-454-1832.

**Food Works at Two Rivers Center**  
64 Main Street, Montpelier, Vermont 05602  
Phone: 802-223-1515 Fax: 802-223-8980  
[www.TwoRiversCenter.org](http://www.TwoRiversCenter.org)



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### ORGANIZATION

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Executive Director / Principal \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_ Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Is this organization a registered non-profit 501(c)3 (circle one)      yes      no

### CONTACT INFORMATION

#### **Coordinator 1**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Is email a good way to reach you?    yes    no

#### **Coordinator 2**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Street \_\_\_\_\_

Town \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Is email a good way to reach you?    yes    no

### PROJECT INFORMATION

#### **Part 1. Demographics**

1. Our summer gardening/nutrition education project begins on: \_\_\_\_\_ and ends on: \_\_\_\_\_

2. When will youth participate in gardening and cooking activities? (please circle) Mon    Tues    Wed    Thurs    Fri  
Start/End Time: \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_

3. How much time on a weekly basis will the coordinator(s) spend on gardening and cooking activities?  
(Suggestion, for every hour of activities, calculate a 1/2 hour for planning. (e.g. 3 hrs of activities, 1.5 hrs of planning)

#### **Coordinator 1**

Planning Activities \_\_\_\_\_ hours  
Delivering Activities \_\_\_\_\_ hours

#### **Coordinator 2**

Planning Activities \_\_\_\_\_ hours  
Delivering Activities \_\_\_\_\_ hours

4. Approximately how many youth will participate? \_\_\_\_\_

5. What percentage of participants are eligible for free/reduced cost lunch programs? \_\_\_\_\_

6. Is your site a federally subsidized free summer lunch site?    yes    no

**Part 2. Location**

- 7. Is your garden already established or are you just getting started    \_\_\_ Start-up Garden            \_\_\_ Established Garden
- 8. Describe your garden, where is it located, dimensions, raised beds, containers, tools, water source, items grown, etc. (Please attach or description along with a simple sketch or design of your garden)
- 9. What kind of kitchen facility do you have access to for cooking and preparing food? indoor kitchen    outdoor kitchen

**Part 3. Community Support**

- 10. List any support secured for your program including organizations and businesses that actively support your garden program. For example: paid staff, transportation, cash donations, grants, organizational support, donations, etc.

Total estimated value of all community support/ contributions: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- 11. Describe the role of volunteers in your garden program (e.g., leadership, work days, fundraising).

- 12. Provide information about you (the site coordinators) such as experience with current organization, working with children, gardening and cooking, why you chose to be involved, etc.

**Part 4. Need**

- 13. Will your summer gardening/cooking program happen this summer without funding for the following?

Program Materials (i.e. Cost of Gardening, Food, and Cooking Supplies)	yes	no
Coordinator Stipends (see explanation on page 3 - budget sheet)	yes	n

**BUDGET**

PROGRAM MATERIALS	DESCRIPTION / EXPLANATION	TOTAL REQUEST
<b>Groceries and Snacks</b>		
<b>Cooking equipment and Kitchen Supplies</b>		
<b>Garden Materials, Equipment, &amp;Supplies</b>		
<b>Art Supplies</b>		
<b>Other (digital camera, field trips, first aid kit, printing, advertising,etc)</b>		
<b>GRAND TOTAL MATERIALS</b>		

STIPENDS FOR COORDINATORS	EXPLANATION OF NEED	TOTAL REQUEST
<p>A limited number of stipends are available for sites to cover the cost of staffing the Gardens for Learning Program during the summer months. Priority will be given to sites that demonstrate the highest need and show strong community support.</p> <p>Stipends should be calculated at \$12/hr for time delivering and planning activities.</p> <p>Non-employee compensation stipends do not have taxes withheld. Each coordinator will receive a 1099 form to report their stipend as income. As contracted non-employees, Food Works does not carry any type of insurance for coordinators.</p>		

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature Executive Director                      Date  
 of Applicant Organization

\_\_\_\_\_  
 Signature of Coordinator(s)                      Date



# Gardens for Learning

## 2008 Timeline

- April 25, 2008: Postmark deadline for submitting applications for funding
- Send 3 copies to:** Michelle Wallace  
1168 Laird Pond Rd  
Plainfield, VT 05667  
[michelle@tworiverscenter.org](mailto:michelle@tworiverscenter.org)  
Home Phone: (802) 454-1832
- May 1, 2008: Recipients notified via email
- May 10, 2008: Gardens for Learning Spring Retreat / Training  
9:00 - 1:00 pm All Coordinators should plan on attending. Time and travel will be compensated.
- June 1, 2008 Checks mailed to recipients to cover program costs (i.e. to purchase supplies and materials)
- July 1, 2008 For Coordinators that receive stipends from Food Works - 50% of stipend will be distributed.
- Sept 1, 2008: Final deadline for submitting reports, photos and all receipts for program materials.  
For Coordinators that receive stipends from Food Works, the other half of the stipend will be distributed upon receiving reports.