



GROWING GARDENS

Cultivating Community



Cultiva! Youth Project
Community Gardens
Horticultural Therapy Program
Children's Peace Garden
Neighborhood Compost Project
Boulder Community Food Project



Mission

Growing Gardens is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to cultivating community through gardening.

About Our Organization

Growing Gardens is a human services and youth development organization based in Boulder, Colorado. Since 1998, Growing Gardens has worked to empower youth, the elderly, people with disabilities, and low-income families and individuals in our community. Our main garden site, located in North Boulder, has been in agricultural use for the past 100 years.



We envision individuals, the community and nature living through an understanding and respect of interdependency of

land, water, and species. We see impassioned individuals actively invested in, contributing to and replenishing their social and ecological environment.

“Gardens and flowers have a way of bringing people together, drawing them from their homes.”

Clare Ansberry

Cultiva! Youth Project

The Cultiva! program empowers a diverse mix of at-risk youth (ages 11-18 years) to become leaders.



Through the program, participants create positive change for the community, for the environment and for themselves by teaching sustainable agriculture, leadership, entrepreneurial and life skills.

Cultiva! participants work daily to cultivate a one-acre organic garden with the produce donated weekly to those in need. Cultiva! youth also sell a portion of their produce at the Boulder Farmer's Market to learn business skills. The Cultiva! curriculum includes:

- Youth leadership opportunities that teach skills in public relations, administration, garden design, fund raising and teaching elementary aged children.
- Youth design, coordination and participation in community service projects.
- Cooking and nutrition classes and a beekeeping workshop.



Community Programs



*“He who cultivates a garden, cultivates himself,
and fruits cultivates and advances himself.”*

Ezra 3:10



Children’s Peace Garden

Through summer classes, children 5-10 years of age learn about the life processes of plants, the interdependency of species, where their food comes from, how to grow food, and respect for themselves, each other and the environment.

The Community Garden Program

Growing Gardens manages garden plots in six different Boulder County neighborhoods. We provide plots for families to grow food and have a positive community experience.

The Neighborhood Compost Project

Designed to help Boulder reach its goal of 50 percent waste reduction, this program coordinates businesses, gardeners and individuals to compost their kitchen,



and brings to perfection flowers
at the same time his own nature.”

Weston



lawn and garden waste. Tours and workshops educate more than 1,400 people annually.

Boulder Community Food Project

This community program builds partnerships with low-income families in Boulder County. Growing Gardens provides seeds, plants, garden plots and educational classes to help individuals and families become self-sufficient in meeting their food needs.

Horticultural Therapy Program

Partnering with several local agencies serving seniors and people with disabilities, the Horticultural Therapy Program's curriculum includes weekly gardening classes and activities as well as classes utilizing plant material in cooking, displays and crafts.

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*“Gardens are not created or made,
they unfold, spiraling open like the petals
of an evening primrose flower to reveal the
ground plot of the mind and heart
of the gardener and the good earth.”*

Wendy Johnson



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