## **Deserts to Gardens**





In memory of





# **Back ground information**



\$2,800 grant from the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control (SC DHEC) Region 1. Funds were awarded through the Division of Cancer Prevention and Control for the development of fruit and vegetable gardens

- Grendel Mill Village Community Garden Pelzer Street (between 502 and 520 Pelzer St.) Started the whole community garden initiative
- Ninety Six Mill Village Community Garden Draper Street, Ninety Six,
   SC
- College Heights/Booker T Washington- Booker Street, Greenwood SC (between 202 and 204 Booker St.)
- Little River Multicultural Center Community Garden 415 Riley Rd. N. Hodges, SC
  - Wisewood 227 Wisewood Circle

#### 2010

 National recognition from the US Department of Agriculture for the Greenwood Community Gardens

Awarded \$5,000.00 from Keep America Beautiful and the Pennsylvania Horticulture Society for the Greenwood Community Gardening program

- El Jardin Maravilloso (aka Seaboard Garden) 504 Seaboard Ave. (Corner of Hackett and Chipley)
- Mathews Park Community Garden 800 Wright Ave, Greenwood, SC
- Eaton Corporation 2210 Hwy 72/221 E
- Westside Community Garden 342 Mineral Ave.
- Community Initiatives 647-649 Grier St.
  - 10 Gardens 6,955 pounds of produce 3,414 volunteer hours
  - \$500.00 from SCDHEC to the Ninety Six Mill Village Neighborhood Assoc. Community Garden.
  - National recognition from the US Department of Agriculture for the Greenwood Community Gardens - People's Garden

#### SCDHEC Grant - Eat Smart Move More South Carolina Grant - Palmetto Pride Grant

- Genesis (Education Center) Academy 400 Glenwood St
- Fox Hollow Condominiums 303 Haltiwanger Road, Greenwood
- Hunters Glenn 113 Camp Branch Run Rd. Hodges, SC
- Brown Drive (Cokesbury) 113 Brown Dr.(Cokesbury) Hodges, SC
- Promised Land 122 Zion Rd. (Mr. Zion AME Church)



- \$2,499.00 Grant from SCDHEC
- 8 Community Gardens featured in the South Carolina Festival of Flowers Garden Tour.
- 15 Community Gardens 8,000 pounds of produce donated 7,191 hours of volunteer service

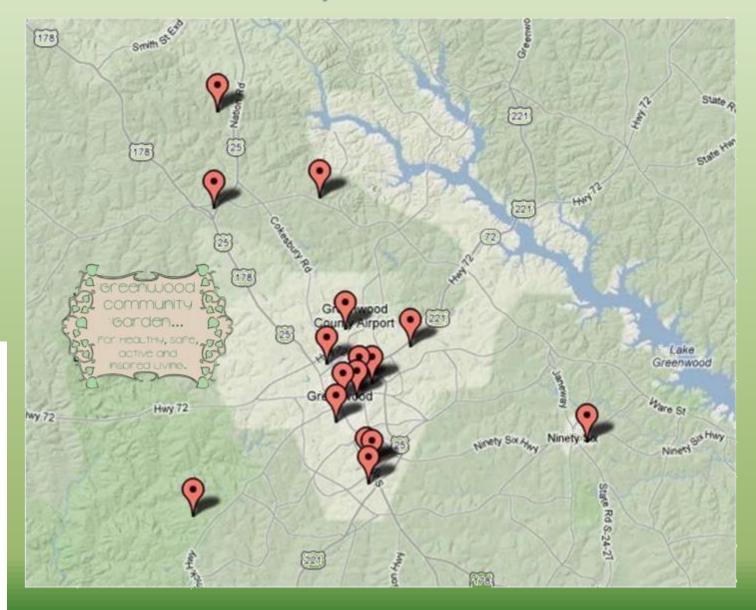
## **Additional 2012 Gardens**

**Keep America Beautiful – Lowes Community Improvement Grant** 

- Ninety Six Primary School 121 S. Cambridge Street Ninety Six, SC
- Ware Shoals High School 56 S. Greenwood Ave Ware Shoals, SC
- Veterans Affairs Healing Garden 106 Main St N Greenwood, SC YMCA America National Winner



#### **18 Community Produce Gardens**





SC Cancer Alliance Grant for the formation of 6 new gardens located in census tract 9705 – Greenwood County USDA defined Food Desert





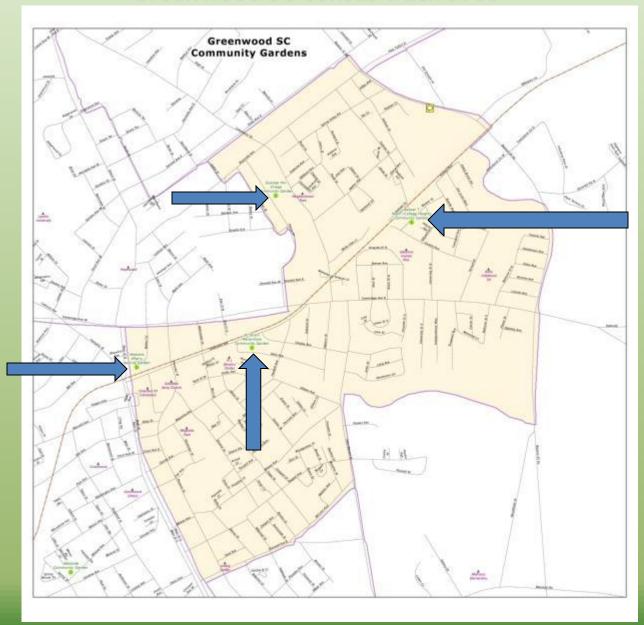
#### Why the Food Desert?

- 67.9% of Adults in Greenwood County are over-weight or obese\*
- 86.8% of the population located in the Greenwood County Food
   Desert, Census tract 9705, is minority and of that number, 28.5 % are
   0-18 years of age. \*\*\*
- 37.7% of households within the food desert have household incomes less than \$15,000 and the median income for the entire area is \$19,548.
- The food desert in Greenwood County currently has 4 community gardens and is being expanded to 10.
  - 2012 (3) gardens currently existing in the food desert contributed 1,771 pounds of fresh produce to emergency food service organizations.

\*DHEC's 2011 SC Obesity Burden Report

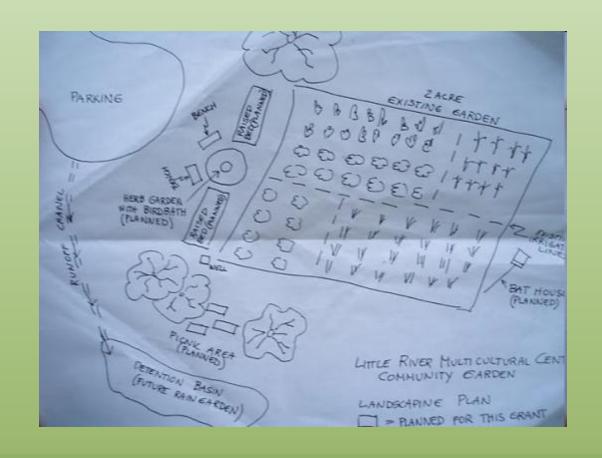
\*\* SC Community Profile – State Budget and Control Board

#### **Greenwood SC Census track 9705**





## Why Community Gardening?





## **Health Impact?**

- The disproportionately high burden of cancer, diabetes and other chronic diseases affected by poor diet and physical inactivity on the minority population is well documented.
- Data from the 2012 Eat Smart Move More Greenwood survey revealed that of the 283 Greenwood County residents surveyed, they consumed vegetables, (not counting potatoes) an average of 7.978 times per week as compared the recommended allowance of 35 (5 per day) per week.
- Emergency food agency demand increased 76% over the past three years.



## Why Community Gardening?

Community gardens are collaborative projects on shared open spaces where participants share in the maintenance and products of the garden, including healthful and affordable fresh fruits and vegetables.

- Gardens may offer physical and mental health benefits by providing opportunities to Eat healthy fresh fruits and vegetables.
- Engage in physical activity, skill building, and creating green space.
- Beautify vacant lots.
- Revitalize communities in industrial areas.
- Revive and beautify public parks.
- Create green rooftops.
- Decrease violence in some neighborhoods, and improve social well-being through strengthening social connections.

http://www.cdc.gov/healthyplaces/healthtopics/healthyfood/community.htm



# Sustainability & Volunteers





# Opportunities for Economic Development

- Re-direct local \$
- Develop job skills
- Generate food-related businesses

Create links to nearby restaurants and soup

kitchens





## **Creating Connections**

- Serving
- Receiving
- Learning
- Working and having fun together
  - Connecting!





## **Fostering Fellowship**





## **Fostering Fellowship - Learning**

- Garden Tenders class
- Canning classes
- Composting class
- Irrigation systems class
- Master Gardener class opportunities
  - 5 Community gardens have completed the program











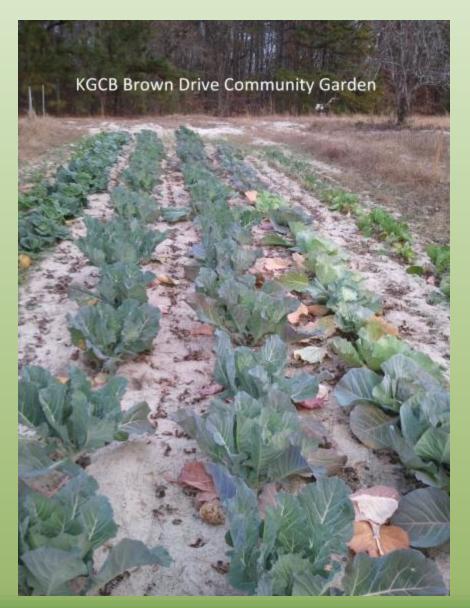




























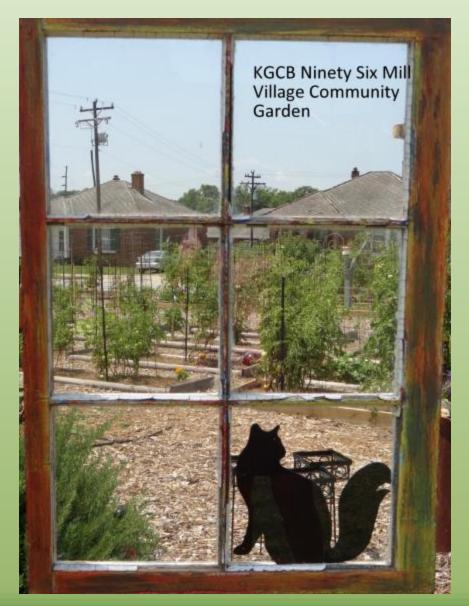


































#### Greenwood County, SC Veteran's Affairs Healing Garden

Patio vegetable garden and revamp a courtyard into a serene garden with benches, herbs, flowers and flowering shrubs to create a place for meditation, conversation or reading.

















#### Greenwood Community Gardening Project is proudly supported by -

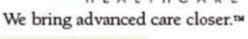


























For additional information, please call 864-941-3370 - 110 Phoenix St. Greenwood, SC 29646



# Questions??





#### **Contact**

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