**Make Health Happen ESTL Garden Coordinator Club Meeting Minutes**

**February 6, 2023**

**Present:** Rima Abusaid, Tiffany Davis, Seth Hamilton, Dr. Jennifer Zuercher, Sarah Ruth, Olivia Middendorf

**Check-in with Garden Sites**

1. **Updates, challenges, success and plans for this year :**

* **SIUE Charter School Garden:** Dr. Z shared that their team is meeting weekly to discuss plans for this years growing season. They plan on partnering with the mobvile unit produce supply at the We Care Clinic. She shared the grant opportunities below:
  + **Gus Schumacher Nutrition Incentive Program:** [**https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/programs/hunger-food-security-programs/gus-schumacher-nutrition-incentive-program**](https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/programs/hunger-food-security-programs/gus-schumacher-nutrition-incentive-program)
  + **Gus Schumacher Produce Prescription Program:** [**https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/programs/hunger-food-security-programs/gus-schumacher-nutrition-incentive-program**](https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/programs/hunger-food-security-programs/gus-schumacher-nutrition-incentive-program)
  + **Children, youth, and Families at Risk (CYFAR) Sustainable Community Projects:**

**https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/funding-opportunities/children-youth-families-risk-cyfar-sustainable-community-projects?utm\_content=&utm\_medium=email&utm\_name=&utm\_source=govdelivery&utm\_term=**

* **CAC Garden:** Seth Shared that they are hosting a seedling event this Saturday at one o’clock for anyone interested in joining. It will be in the garden across East St. Louis Christian Activity Center. Seth also shared that he knows a person who is interested in becoming a master gardener to help with the garden projects for the summer. Her name is Ariel Bean, and she is theirorganization's Program Director, and she will be working with East Side's teachers to start and maintain a garden across from the school library, and she will be working some with me at the CAC garden this summer as well.
* **East Side Health District Garden:** Olivia shared information about their Arbor Day gardening Expo event that will be happening on April 29th.they have about 45 vendors who will be there. They are also hosting monthly garden workshops that will start March 25th. During Arbor Day, East Side Health District will also be giving away Garden Kits. (please see flyers attached). **Grant applications are due by March 31st. within two weeks of that deadline, selected gardens will receive the grant amount awarded to them (April 15th)**
* **Lalumier Garden:** Rima Shared that plans are underway for Lalumier Garden. She applied for the garden grant provided by East Side Health District. If awarded, they plan to utilize the funds to install a garden shed as well as a faucet on site. Healthier together is also open to support the garden with additional funding if need be. There will be a garden open house on May 6th and anyone is welcome to attend. If you would like to be a vendor or would like to volunteer, please reach out to Olivia Middendorf <OMiddendorf@eshd.org>

1. **Master Gardener Updates:**

* Sarah shared that they will be accepting applications starting in April. The deadline would be May 12th. There would be another opportunity in the fall.

Bhagya shared that a fruit tree planting foundation provides grants to provide fruit trees for low-income areas. You can use this link to apply [https://www.ftpf.org/apply](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/www.ftpf.org/apply__;!!DZ3fjg!8cy_trpdZtCFLV6UKEJAEwowFqsQNMiNneDWC9_CDmAWwCl3c_foB6XoAL7rINFJE-B1JuXwdqslRez3$)

ESTL Garden Coordinator Club meetings will be on the first Monday of each month at 1:30 PM