FOOD JUSTICE FOR ALL

Julie Curti, Assistant to the Director
USDA Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships
Overview

- USDA Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships Introduction
- *Let’s Move Faith and Communities* Overview
- Resources for Community Gardens
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[www.whitehouse.gov/partnerships](http://www.whitehouse.gov/partnerships)
USDA Center for Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships

- **USDA Center Priorities**
  - End childhood hunger
  - Increase participation in federally-funded nutrition assistance programs
  - Outreach to underserved communities
  - Strengthen rural communities
  - Increase access to healthy, affordable food
Let’s Move Faith and Communities

In November 2010, First Lady Michelle Obama launched Let’s Move Faith and Communities

www.letsmove.gov

Four Challenges:

1. Start or expand 10,000 community gardens, farmers markets, or other fresh food access points at congregations and community organizations

2. Host 1,000 new Summer Food Service Program sites at congregations and neighborhood organizations

3. Complete 500,000 Presidential Active Lifestyle Awards (PALAs) or establish new exercise programs at congregations and community organizations

4. Collectively walk three million miles
Why start a garden?

- Increase access to fresh, healthy food in your community
- Improve soil and water quality
- Place to teach about nutrition, agriculture, and ecology
- Safe place for children and adults to play, relax, and get low-impact exercise
- Give people a sense of dignity and accomplishment
- And many more!
How to get started:

- “How-to” guide from the University of California Cooperative Extension: 

- EMO’s Food Sovereignty for All handbook: 
  http://www.emoregon.org/pdfs/IFFP/Food_Sovereignty_for_All_handbook.pdf

- American Community Gardening Association: 
  http://www.communitygarden.org/learn/starting-a-community-garden.php
Technical Assistance:

- **Master Gardeners:**
  [www.extension.org/mastergardener](http://www.extension.org/mastergardener)

- **USDA Cooperative Extension:**

- **USDA National Agricultural Library:**

- **Urban Gardens and Agriculture:**
Education:

- Junior Master Gardner Program: www.jmgkids.us/
- Grow It, Try It, Like It! www.fns.usda.gov/tn/Resources/growit.html
Funding:

- Be creative and resourceful! Local sources of funding from your congregation and community will help build a sustainable garden.

- *Let’s Move Faith and Communities Toolkit:*
  www.hhs.gov/partnerships/letsmove

- *American Community Gardening Association:*
  http://www.communitygarden.org/learn/resources/funding-opportunities.php

- *USDA’s Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food:*
  www.usda.gov/knowyourfarmer
Let us know about your garden!

- Criteria to be a People’s Garden:
  Collaborative Effort
  Incorporates Sustainable Practices
  Benefits the Community

- Please register here: [www.pubinfo.usda.gov/garden](http://www.pubinfo.usda.gov/garden)

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www.usda.gov/partnerships

www.hhs.gov/partnerships/letsmove

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