

## UNTHSC Community Garden 2016 Annual Summary

**Mission:** To enhance university and community engagement, promote sustainable food production, and educate on health and nutrition, environmental stewardship, and organic gardening techniques.

### GENERAL SUMMARY:

The UNTHSC Community Garden completed its third full year in operation. In 2015 we built the remaining plots, so this was our first year with a total of 35 (12'x4') plots. This year we participated in many educational opportunities and met our 200 lb. donation goal in mid-year. Next year, we plan to beautify some of the common areas with native and/or drought tolerant plants as well as plant some fruit trees.

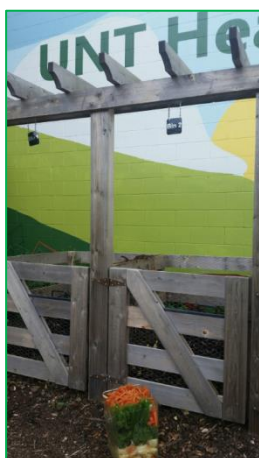


### FOOD BANK DONATIONS:

In 2014, the garden donated 75.25 lbs. of fresh produce to the Northside Intercommunity Agency (NICA) food pantry, and last year, we donated 121 lbs. of produce to NICA. This year, we donated 243.25 lbs. to NICA and another 71.5 lbs. to the UNTHSC Student Food Pantry on campus for a total of 314.75 lbs.! Next year our goal is to donate 400 lbs.!

### VOLUNTEER HOURS:

The UNTHSC Community Garden provided several opportunities throughout the year to volunteer whether through the Build Days (days where plots were added), Work Days (general garden maintenance), harvesting for the food bank, events, etc. In fact, 859.5 volunteer hours were accounted for in 2016!



### COMPOST BINS = WASTE DIVERSION

This year, we had 3 compost bins in operation and a fourth for finished compost. The bins and maintenance are overseen by a committee of volunteers, and we have continued collecting food waste from the neighboring restaurant, Saint-Emilion Restaurant. Total, 3,120 lbs. of food waste have been diverted from the landfill and added to our compost bins this year alone! This will produce rich, nourishing compost for our gardeners. A special thanks to community member, Jim Atteberry, for organizing the compost team volunteers!

## EDUCATIONAL OUTREACH

The UNTHSC Community Garden is committed to providing educational opportunities for our gardeners, campus, and larger community. The garden hosted a Planting Day in March where a speaker came from the Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Tarrant County, to speak with our gardeners about how best to maximize space, organic pest management, etc. Then in April, we participated in



FitFest, Sustainability U (Earth Day Event), a Lunch & Learn on organic gardening, and the Campus Picnic. During the summer, we hosted about 70 kindergarteners plus teachers and parents at the garden to teach them about growing food organically. Also, we were happy to collaborate with the Tarrant Area Food Bank to host the Dig Deep Conference, an educational conference for North Texas farmers, gardeners, etc. to learn from each other. The conference will be hosted at UNTHSC in 2017 as well. The garden is continually looking for ways to expand our educational outreach, and we have plans to do so in the future especially with an on-campus daycare center adjacent to the garden coming next year.



## THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

Thank you to the following for their generous donations to our garden. Your support has positively impacted our community and helped us to fulfill our university's mission to create solutions for healthier community! We especially want to thank Archie's Gardenland for discounting garden supplies as we've needed them.

- Archie's Gardenland
- Calloway's Nursery
- Four Star Café
- Freehling's Tree Service
- Marshall Grain Co.
- Silver Creek Materials
- Saint-Emilion Restaurant
- Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Tarrant County
- UNTHSC Facilities Management
- UNTHSC Sustainability Committee



## CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions? Please contact Sandy Bauman, UNTHSC's Sustainability Coordinator, at [sandy.bauman@unthsc.edu](mailto:sandy.bauman@unthsc.edu) or Betsy Friauf, our volunteer Garden Coordinator at [Elizabeth.friauf@unthsc.edu](mailto:Elizabeth.friauf@unthsc.edu).

Website: [unthsc.edu/communitygarden](http://unthsc.edu/communitygarden)

Garden Brochure: [https://www.unthsc.edu/operations/wp-content/uploads/sites/24/UNTHSC-Community-Garden\\_2016-share.pdf](https://www.unthsc.edu/operations/wp-content/uploads/sites/24/UNTHSC-Community-Garden_2016-share.pdf)