



St. Patrick Center
Building Permanent, Positive, Change.

OUR mission

St. Patrick Center provides opportunities for self-sufficiency and dignity to persons who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Individuals achieve permanent, positive changes in their lives through affordable housing, sound mental health, employment and financial stability.



CITY SEEDS URBAN FARM A St. Patrick Center Mental Health Program

City Seeds Urban Farm is an urban agriculture initiative providing job training and therapeutic horticulture to individuals who are homeless and underserved. A collaboration of several local organizations, City Seeds Urban Farm produces and distributes affordable, healthy, locally grown produce.

The 2.5 acre City Seeds Urban Farm is located near Union Station in downtown St. Louis. Mentored by Gateway Greening, St. Patrick Center clients take classes in horticulture while learning hands-on vegetable production and landscape maintenance. Since establishing City Seeds Urban Farm in 2006, more than 37,000 pounds of sustainably grown produce has been distributed.

City Seeds Urban Farm is located between Market and Pine Streets at 22nd Street. It features 48 raised vegetable beds, a native plant nursery, dwarf fruit tree orchard, ornamental shrub borders, drip irrigation, rainwater catch cistern, outdoor classroom, harvest station, tool sheds, composting bins, a greenhouse and three bee hives. Food grown at City Seeds Urban Farm is donated to nearby food pantries, sold at the Tower Grove Farmers Market and sold wholesale to Food Outreach, providing nutritional support for those living with HIV/AIDS and cancer.

City Seeds Urban Farm consists of two program tracks:

- **Therapeutic horticulture:** This is a 15-week program (twice a year) teaching clients how to grow food, improving the nutrition literacy of clients and building a strong connection to clients' recovery goals through the 12 Steps of Gardening, nature journaling, maintaining personal beds and working collectively at City Seeds Urban Farm. Therapeutic horticulture serves clients overcoming homelessness, mental illness, chronic addiction and/or prison release. Since 2006, more than 150 clients have participated.
- **Veterans GO! Green:** The Veterans GO! Green program is a 10-week intensive on-the-job training (3 times a year) in green horticulture. Veterans GO! Green is funded through St. Patrick Center by the U.S. Department of Labor as part of its Veterans Workforce Investment Program. Since August 2009, 43 of 58 GO! Green graduates have been placed in local St. Louis jobs in landscaping, nurseries, gardening retailers and other green-care jobs.

City Seeds Urban Farm is a collaboration of several local organizations: Gateway Greening, St. Patrick Center, St. Louis Master Gardeners, Operation Food Search, Missouri Department of Transportation and Horstmann Brothers Landscaping. Corporate and individual volunteers often help tend City Seeds Urban Farm, allowing clients to practice leadership skills as they teach the volunteers about horticulture and food production.

In FY11, 33 clients participated in this hands-on job training program led by Gateway Greening.

Other St. Patrick Center Mental Health Programs: Casserole Program; Assertive Community Treatment (ACT); Mobile Outreach; Shamrock Club Day Treatment Program; Shamrock Club Intensive Case Management (ICM); Women's Night Program.

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