



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.

Veterans GO! Green A St. Patrick Center Employment & Training Program

Veterans GO! Green, as part of the United States Department of Labor Veterans Workforce Investment Program (VWIP), provides job training to assist in reintegrating veterans into meaningful employment within the green industry. Services are provided through a case management approach that networks with federal, state and local resources for veteran support programs.

Green Industry Training & Job Placement assistance is provided and focuses (1) Sustainable Horticulture/Landscape Management and (2) Recycling/Waste Management. Two training programs addressing these industries with a history of success are available to qualifying veterans.

(1) Sustainable Horticulture/Landscape Management

St. Patrick Center partners with Gateway Greening, a division of the internationally recognized Missouri Botanical Garden, to provide sustainable agriculture and landscape training at City Seeds Urban Farm for clients pursuing a career in this green industry. Veterans GO! Green participants will receive 8 weeks (175 hours) of hands-on training and classroom training (75 hours) through this functional urban farm. Training topics include:

- Composting & soils
- Lawn care industry protocols & equipment
- Turf management
- Maintaining seasonal beds
- Irrigation systems
- Pesticides, herbicides & fertilizers
- Pruning & ornamental care
- Organic farming
- Harvesting
- Greenhouse propagation & cuttings
- Tree & Shrub planting & maintenance
- Hardscape construction
- Basic Plant Biology
- OSHA 10 certification

(2) Recycling/Waste Management

Replenishing the Earth, LLC, a local company located in the St. Patrick Center BEGIN New Venture Center small business incubator, provides consultation and products in the areas of waste management, deconstruction, recycling and composting. Replenishing the Earth currently provides a one-week, Solid Waste Association of North America (SWANA) "Training Collection Operating Personnel" training to St. Patrick Center clients interested in careers within the material recycling and reuse industry. Training topics include:

- Collection strategies
- Waste-management techniques.
- Recycling options, sorting techniques & strategies
- Preventative maintenance program
- Collection routing
- Contaminates & health & safety issues

In Fiscal Year 2011, 45 veterans were placed into green jobs and 18 into housing.

Other St. Patrick Center Employment & Training Programs: The BEGIN New Venture Center; The BEGIN Training & Education Center; Building Employment Skills for Tomorrow (BEST); General Employment; Homeless Employment Program (HEP); Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP); Job Experience Training (JET); McMurphy's Grill; Project HERO.

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