

## **Grant Proposal for Sustainable CU: Environmental Improvement Initiative**

### **Description of Project**

Due to construction on east campus by/for the Research Center, the current location of the community garden plots used by Family Housing residents in Smiley Court must be moved. We have worked with Richelle Reilly, Campus Landscape Architect, Planning, Design & Construction, to come up with the new location and design.

This project is the relocation of the garden plots (38 each) from their current location to the new one. It will entail the moving/installation of fencing, running a new water line, as well as moving the soil from the current location to the new one and relocating the composter.

Housing Maintenance and Housing Grounds will work closely with us to insure the successful completion of this project. The gardeners (residents/students) will also participate in preparing their gardens for moving and moving them once the new site is prepared.

### **Student Involvement**

The community gardens are grown/tended by Family Housing residents. While we do house faculty, staff, and visiting scholars, the majority of our residents are graduate students. The Family Housing Office collects the garden fees and assigns plots, but the gardens themselves are maintained by students. There is a student/resident who acts as a liaison with the gardeners.

The garden liaison educates gardeners regarding policies as well as teaches them organic gardening practices. The liaison is also responsible for managing the compost bin provided to gardeners. The gardeners/students will be responsible for moving their personal garden plot to the new location.

### **Budget**

These numbers are subject to change as the project is in the early planning stages at this time.

New water lines - \$7,000

Labor (fence) – 40 hrs at \$40/hr = \$1600

Materials - \$700

Administrative Costs - \$230

Total Budget - \$9,530

## **Funding**

Much of the labor will be provided by the students/gardeners. This is the extent of the in-kind funding.

## **Feasibility**

The community gardens have been in existence in Smiley Court for six years. Each season every plot is rented out – there have not been any spaces left over at the end of the rental period. Our residents use the garden plots to extend their family food budget and to ensure quality produce on their tables.

## **Timeline**

This project will begin on Monday, October 11, 2010 and be completed on Friday, October 15, 2010.

Monday/Tuesday – trenching and installation of water line

Wednesday – fence removal and reinstallation

Thursday – gardeners prepare plot materials for moving and place brick/outlines in the new area

Friday – gardeners complete brick installation and install plot/soil materials

## **Scope**

We are requesting \$7,530 for this project. There will be 38 gardeners, including the liaison, as well as personnel from Housing Grounds and Maintenance. Family Housing Office staff may participate on a volunteer basis.

**Feasibility** - covered earlier in this proposal

## **Environmental Impact**

Family Housing community gardens use organic practices only. No chemical pesticides are allowed. In addition, there is a compost bin managed by the garden liaison that allows/encourages gardeners to compost items from their garden plots.

**Student Involvement** – covered earlier

## **Social /Environmental Justice**

The community gardens in family housing provide an opportunity for those new to gardening to learn organic gardening practices, thereby encouraging the use of these practices even after the gardener no longer lives in Family Housing.

**Budget** – see attached spreadsheet

## **Longevity**

The intention is to maintain garden plots in Smiley Court for the duration of the existence of Smiley Court as a family housing area. Gardens have been successful in this area for the past 6 years. The continuation of the gardens is not dependent on either the current residents in Smiley Court or the current staff in the Family Housing Office. Procedures and policies are in place that are not dependent on one particular group of people.