



Neighborhood Nutrition Network (NNN)
1810 NW 6th St, Gainesville, FL 32609
Ph/Fx: 352-377-6345/352-377-8363
Email: foodfog@aol.com
Website: www.foginfo.org

Sabin + Hd @
Citizen Convent.

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At A Glance

Neighborhood Nutrition Network is a community food security program of Florida Organic Growers, a non-profit organization that works to bring consumers and growers together to support sustainable agriculture. We are a network of community members, agriculture educators, farmers, health professionals, teachers, and business owners.



Our mission is to bring about a more just food system by increasing the consumption of fresh food among at-risk members of the community and supporting local farms.



Our activities include teaching folks to grow their own food in school and community gardens, providing workshops and recipes for cooking locally-grown produce, gleaning and fresh food distribution, and working with youth on a youth operated small farm: The "Farm and Food Preservation Project."

Everyone benefits from being involved in the local food system.

Residents become more self-sufficient in gaining the resources (fresh food) they need to live healthy lives, and participants also gain skills (agricultural and leadership) to contribute to their families and community.

You can get involved in a number of ways; no experience necessary.

Funding

City, county, state and federal support along with private donations from foundations, individuals and corporations fund NNN activities.





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Youth Entrepreneurial Farm and Food Preservation Project (FFPP)

What is FFPP?

FFPP employs and empowers young adults (14-17yrs) to learn life skills and independence through their work in growing, processing, and marketing fresh local foods. Youth learn community development, public speaking, planning, and leadership skills; service; business management; and professional ethics.



Accomplishments

- Six youth are now part of the program, which will grow to include twelve in Fall of 2002.
- 600 pound of fresh produce in first quarter of production and preserved \$1600 value added product since October 2001.
- Feeding 500 hungry and homeless people freshly cooked meal
- National Partnerships: August 16-18, 2002, the FFPP will host a national conference entitled "Rooted in Community", where 120 to 150 young rural and urban leaders will discuss the future of food, agriculture, and community.

FFPP Partners

City of Gainesville-Community Development

Eastside Institute of Culinary Arts

Gainesville Organic Blueberry Farm

Heifer Project International

Santa Fe Youth Employment Start



Long Term Vision and Impact

Multiple youth farms producing healthy food for the community.

"FFPP has been a big inspiration for me as a team member. For example, after our first harvest, I felt satisfied knowing that the vegetables had come from us working together as a team. I look forward to what FFPP can accomplish in the future." *Clyde McEady, crew member*

Gardening has been found (San Antonio, TX) to be the most effective solution to youth problems. It is much more effective than sports. Records show that after students are involved in gardening that their school attendance, morale and grades improve. Gang activity decreases sharply in neighborhoods where the youth are engaged in gardening.