



## Donor Spotlight - Green Acres Garden Day 2014

It was a rainy afternoon on April 25, but that didn't stop a number of garden enthusiasts from stopping by Green Acres' 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Garden Day at Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services (SFBFS)' Demonstration Garden. The gloomy skies weren't affecting the enthusiastic, buzzing representatives of twelve local organizations whom had set up booths around SFBFS' parking lot. They chatted with visitors about the availability of gardening books at the public libraries, chicken coops in urban areas, how to prepare tasty kale salads and applying for CalFresh food stamps. Attendees made their way to each booth and undoubtedly relished a stop at SFBFS' Kitchen Table, where Debbi Kennedy at Ditch the Drive Thru was sautéing up some aromatic vegetable dishes. After visiting the booths of every organization, participants were invited to take some summer vegetable plants for their garden. Green Acres' booth was very popular as they generously distributed a beautiful tomato plant to every person! Many participants were previously unaware of Green Acres and were very excited to learn of the nurseries and the wide range of plants and garden supplies they offer.



In addition to the community booths, guests enjoyed the gardening demonstrations about vermicomposting and seed starting. A few individuals were also interested in container gardening, so garden staff hosted an impromptu mini-session on the possibilities of gardening in containers. People munched on the free Tofurky sandwich lunch and made new acquaintances, sharing stories of gardens gone wrong and favorite summer vegetables. In addition to their plants from Green Acres, each person left with an armload of garden goodies, including a bag of soil and small planter container.



Despite the inclement weather, about 80 people attended the event. Everyone was very thankful for the information gained from the attending organizations.

Hundreds of plants were given out and hopefully they will inspire many to begin or continue their gardening efforts. We thank Green Acres for their donation and their sponsorship of this great community event and for their friendly and helpful event staff. The day would not have been possible without their support.

