

COMMUNITY GARDEN

My Notes

Community Organizing

- 1. Community gardens increase a sense of community ownership and stewardship.
- 2. Community gardens bring people together from a wide variety of backgrounds.
- 3. Community gardens build community leaders.
- 4. Community gardens offer a local point for community organizing and can lead to community-based efforts to deal with other social concerns.

Crime Prevention

- 1. Community gardens provide opportunities to meet neighbors.
- 2. Community gardens increase eyes on the street.
- 3. Community gardening is recognized by many police departments as an effective community crime prevention strategy.

Cultural Opportunities

- 1. Community gardens often set aside space for community get-togethers and facilitate meeting new people.
- 2. Community gardens allow people from diverse backgrounds to work side-by-side with common goals.
- 3. Community gardens strengthens the community bond and camaraderie.

Youth

- 1. Community gardens offer opportunities to teach youth about where food comes from, and the importance of community and stewardship.
- 2. Community gardens provide good healthy outdoor activity for youth as well as the entire family.

Other

- 1.** The community garden will allow us to engage younger people in the community and position our Fred Douglass organizations for **succession planning**, i.e. identify and develop new leaders who can replace old leaders when they resign, leave, retire or die.
- 2.** Once a building is constructed, the center will be able to offer community development activities to build a stronger and more resilient community. Activities may address needs such as financial literacy, economic development, homebuyer education/assistance, etc.
- 3.** Once a building is constructed, the center can be a hub to provide aspiring entrepreneurs or established business owners with the most relevant resources to start and grow a business including connecting businesses with subject-matter experts and support systems.