

“La Huerta Guadalupe” Summer Garden Program

About Us

This summer, Casa Guadalupe is teaming up with Central Minnesota Sustainability Project (CMSP) to offer an opportunity for Latino youth to participate in the cultivation of a market garden in Cold Spring. This summer program, combined with several outdoor weekend retreats (weather permitting), offers youth opportunities to develop life skills, engage with their community and become leaders for positive social change.

What is a market garden?

A market garden is a garden that is cultivated with the intent to sell most of the produce to local businesses, restaurants and farmers markets. Participants will be involved in all of the processes from preparation and planting, to harvesting and production of goods. Money generated will go to sustain the project as well as an award to those who complete the program as a “Garden Apprentice”.

***All participants can expect to take home some food from the garden. ***

Program Timeframe

- Mid-April to Mid-May (2-3 Pre-season training sessions for Apprentices only, final dates to be announced)
- Mid-May to Mid-October: Growing season

Ages

- General Participants: 12-18 years old
- Garden Apprentices: 14-18 years old

Garden Apprentices

We are also offering participants an opportunity to apply for one of our 4- 6 garden apprentice positions. Those selected will:

- Have an overall higher level of responsibility and involvement in the program
- Take on leadership roles; guiding volunteers, building relationships with retailers and customers and having a direct hand in decision making on the farm
- Help out at the garden Monday, Wednesdays and Fridays 8am- 12pm
- Attend two to three CMSP sponsored training sessions prior to program start date

Outdoor Retreats

All participants will also be encouraged to join us on several day/weekend excursions including but not limited to: camping, hiking, swimming, canoeing and visiting local farms. These will be to have fun/explore the outdoors and develop life skills as well as building a stronger sense of respect for each other and the earth. ****RETREAT DATES TO BE DETERMINED****