

IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY  
Extension and Outreach

# 2017 HEALTHY FOOD ACCESS PROJECTS

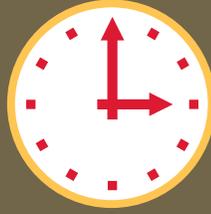
Iowa State University  
Extension and Outreach  
SNAP-Education



## 2017 IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

### PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Growing Together promotes healthy food access for families with low income through a partnership between ISU's SNAP-Ed program, Master Gardener volunteers, ISU Research Farms and Iowa food pantries. In 2017, fifteen Master Gardener volunteer teams worked with food pantries in their communities to provide them with fresh produce throughout the growing season.



**231 Master Gardener volunteers** committed time to support healthy food access in their communities.



**75 food pantries and meal sites** received donations through Growing Together.

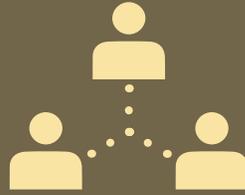


Master Gardener teams leveraged **more than \$18,400** in local community funding.



Table to Table keeps wholesome, edible food from going to waste by collecting it from donors and distributing it to those in need through agencies that serve lowans with low income. Through its partnership with SNAP-Ed, Table to Table has been able to rescue and distribute foods that are often in short supply at food pantries including fruits, vegetables and dairy products. Rescued items come from farms, donation plots, warehouses, retail grocery stores, orchards and farmers markets.

# Growing Together



Master Gardener  
volunteer teams engaged  
**over 457 partners**  
to enhance their work.



ISU Research Farms hosted  
**six model donation gardens**  
which were used for community  
education, awareness building  
and produce donation.



Growing Together donated  
**more than 74,841 pounds**  
(224,523 servings or 37 tons) of  
produce to food pantries  
across Iowa.

Fruits and vegetables are  
critical for a healthy diet.

According to a Feeding  
America survey (2014), the #1  
type of food desired by Iowa  
food pantry participants that is  
not widely available at pantries  
is fresh fruits and vegetables.  
Growing Together is working  
to change that.

*(Citation: Feeding America,  
Hunger in America, 2014)*

**INCREASED ACCESS**  
During 2017, Table to Table  
was able to increase distribution  
of fruits and vegetables by 58% and  
dairy products by 52%.

**POUNDS DISTRIBUTED**  
155,337 pounds of  
fruits and vegetables  
  
189,792 pounds of  
dairy products

**AGENCIES SERVED**  
Table to Table partnered with 15  
agencies to supply fruits, vegetables  
and dairy products to 19,670 people at  
food pantries and meal sites.





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## Extension and Outreach

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This program is funded by USDA's Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and Iowa State University Extension and Outreach. USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, known in Iowa as Food Assistance, provides nutrition assistance to people with low income. It can help you buy nutritious foods for a better diet. To find out more visit [www.yesfood.iowa.gov](http://www.yesfood.iowa.gov).

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