

Skills Training

How to build Community into a Garden: Greener Village (April 2012)

Greener Village enlisted volunteers and clients to build a composting demonstration site and a rain water collection system; important infrastructure required to support the development of community food gardens on site. These gardens supply fresh produce to food bank clients and serve as outdoor classrooms for teaching people how to grow their own food.



Money Smart Club: Chipman Care N' Share (Dec 2013)

Care N Share Family Resource Center offered a Smart Money Club: part social outing and part educational opportunity on financial literacy. Sixteen young mothers who use their services on a regular basis, participated in this eight week pilot training program.

Participants were invited in advance to suggest the topics that would comprise their discussions over the eight weeks. Topics selected ranged from basic family budgeting, strategies for saving money, teaching their children about good money management, couponing, and practical skills like how to make homemade cleaning products. Each session offered a balance between leader- led instruction and shared learning amongst participants. Three of the eight sessions were facilitated by the Credit Counselling Services of Atlantic Canada.



To promote accessibility, Care N Share facilitated transportation to the club meetings, provided child care support on site and offered a meal at the beginning of each class organized for the mothers and their children.

This program was launched as a pilot. Upon completion, it was evaluated to determine what factors contributed towards making it successful in teaching financial literacy skills to mothers, for the benefit of their whole families. The intention is to learn how best to deliver such training through Family Resource Centers in nearby communities.