

## Why NNC? The Need is Great

"Poverty Rates Surge in the Suburbs"
PBS NewsHour January 11, 2014

"Tualatin has a poverty problem"-Portland Tribune June 6, 2013

### <u>"Cheap Apartments in Tualatin - Low Income</u> <u>Apartments in ...</u>

Discover a wide variety of cheap apartments in *Tualatin*. ApartmentGuide.com shows off thousands of *low income* apartments in *Tualatin* OR."

-Ad found in Google

"Poverty in the suburbs: Hidden and growing" Moneywatch July 23, 2013



### More recently:

- COVID SNAP benefits have ended
- Eviction moratorium expired
- INFLATION! (Food and housing)

# Neighbors Nourishing Communities

- Mission- To provide fresh, nutritious, locally-grown produce to residents in our community, particularly those that lack access due to their economic circumstances
- Methods:
- Home gardeners- we provide plants, seeds, instruction (gardening, cooking, preserving)
   for 20% or more of the produce they grow
- 2. Low-income residents- we provide free garden space, plants, seeds, tools, and instruction they keep 100% of their produce
- Our program formula is simple and unique- We incentivize participation to make it sustainable and every partner in the program contributes what they can, as appropriate:

Resident gardeners (garden space, water, labor, expertise)

- + Businesses (soil, materials, merchant incentives, financial support, garden space)
- + Neighbors Nourishing Communities (organization, labor, plants, seeds, education)
- + City of Tualatin (grant support) ♥
- = Food security, Nutrition, Community-building, Fellowship in Tualatin



### What We've Accomplished with your Support

- Donated over **30,000 lbs** of fresh organic produce since 2014.
- Donated produce to Tualatin Schoolhouse Pantry, Packed with Pride, Meals on Wheels, and people that have reached out to us.
- Every resident of Tualatin is offered a chance to garden with free plants, seeds, and education. 30-45 gardeners
- Supported low-income gardeners with free garden plots and tools.
- Gardening classes at the library, area schools, and the Winona Grange.
- Cooking classes at the Winona Grange.

### **Comments I didn't Expect to Hear**

"We feel like we have more of a sense of purpose outside of our own day to day challenges, and I can't overstate how much I appreciate that."

"It is hard to encapsulate in few words just how happy and hopeful we are about the coming months"

"Can I share my garden space with others in my situation?"

"I also want to give 20% of my produce to the Pantry because they've helped me."

"My family and I are very grateful for the opportunity to have a garden. We simply wouldn't be able to do this without the help of NNC."

"Due to a series of unfortunate events, my family and I have dealt with a lot of loss. We barely eek by. It can be very expensive to be poor. The garden is going to help so much! We are very excited about getting started and watching our plants grow, and we look forward to connecting in the community with our fellow gardeners, and sharing the bounty with others in need."

"This organization is not only helping to improve the health of the environment and forge community relationships, it is empowering its volunteers to provide supplemental food for their families as well as others in need."

# We sincerely thank the Tualatin City Council for all

the support you have given!