

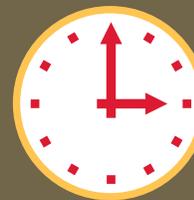
# Growing Together

## 2016 IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

*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)*

**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 2016, twenty-six Master Gardener volunteer teams worked with food pantries in their communities to provide them with fresh produce throughout the growing season.



**90 Master Gardener volunteers** committed **over 860 hours** of time to support healthy food access in their communities.



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



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



Master Gardener teams leveraged **more than \$14,500** in local community funding.



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



**328 Master Gardeners** learned strategies for effective donation gardening through continuing education opportunities.



Growing Together donated **more than 73,000 pounds** (201,000 servings or 33 tons) of produce to food pantries across Iowa.