

Food Gardens Network

Convening #1, Feb 8th 2024



Food Garden Hui



Agenda

- Welcome circle and brief introduction of members ~10 min
- Introduction to Hui Mala 'Ai, and the origin of the statewide Food Garden Network Calls ~15 min
- Present and receive feedback on our shared goals and purpose ~15 min
- Breakouts: get to know one another ~15 min
- Closing & Survey ~5 min

Welcome circle

- Change zoom name, org, pronouns
- In chat:
 - What is your favorite plant to grow?
 - What's something you wish you could grow?





Hui Mala 'Ai

Promoting better food and nutrition access for families, schools and communities – through food gardens.

HIPHI - Who we are:

Hawai'i Public Health Institute (HIPHI) has led improvement in health outcomes in Hawai'i through policy, advocacy, community partnerships and action on a number of fronts, since 1996. It is a "hub for health" - bringing together multiple stakeholders to work together toward improved health outcomes, particularly for the most vulnerable.



Hui Mala 'Ai



We hosted food harvests and distributed food with Honolulu Reality at Princess Ruth Ke'elikōlani Middle School (fka Central Middle School).

Technical support: We helped Mohala Mai Women's Center with technical support for a raised garden bed.



**Keahumoa Community Garden,
Kapolei, O'ahu
3/8/22**

CNHA Community Garden Kapolei, O'ahu 4/22/22



**Consulate General of the Philippines
Community Garden
Pali Highway, O'ahu
10/26/23**





**Consulate General of the Philippines
Community Garden
Pali Highway, O'ahu
Photos from TODAY**



Next Installation

February 23, 2024



Questions:

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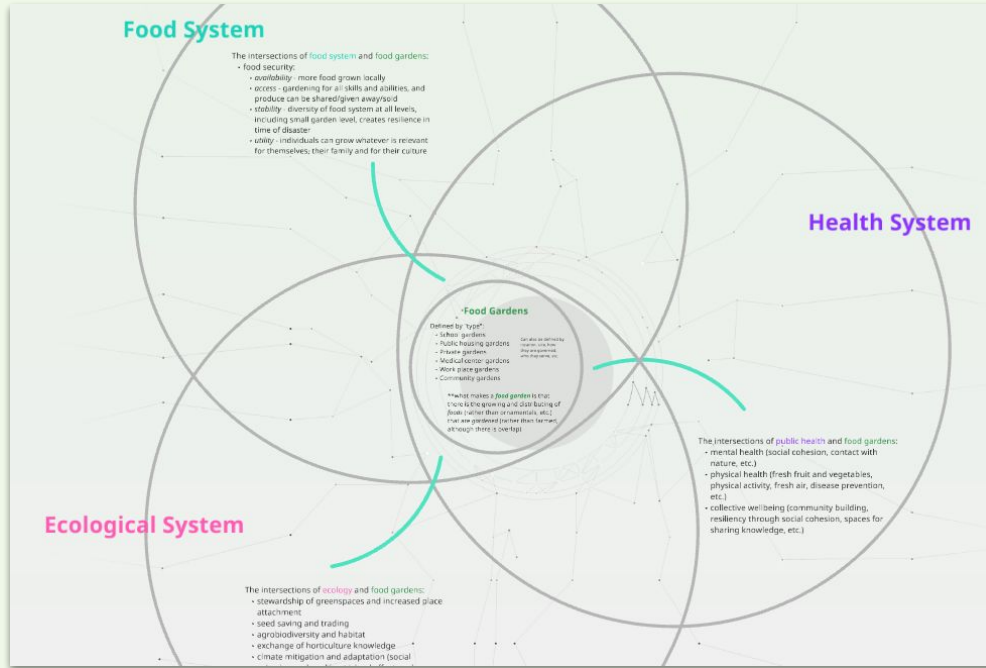
Telephone: 808-457-6358



Food Garden Hui

Statewide Food Gardens Network

Why food gardens?



<https://prezi.com/view/JKYpQL2uKaCVx4uKcM68/>

Food Garden Network

Purpose & Proposed Structure

Values of impact networks

- ❖ “They coordinate work among different actors and across organizations and silos without being controlling or directive;
- ❖ They are resilient to disruption, given their decentralized structures;
- ❖ They respond to urgent opportunities at a moment’s notice;
- ❖ And they integrate diverse perspectives to create new possibilities.”*

*from the book titled *Impact Networks* (2021 by David Ehrlichman)

Hawai'i Food Garden Network

Monthly Convenings

Purpose & Proposed Structure [Working Doc]

The Goal

To improve public health by increasing access to gardening opportunities for people in Hawai'i, and to support food gardens that play a critical role in promoting health equity and addressing food insecurity.

The challenge

A myriad of organizations, government agencies, businesses, schools, community groups, etc. are in some way creating, managing, sponsoring or promoting food gardens in the Hawaiian Islands. A lot of the conversations are happening separately and disjointed, which can mean that effort, traction, learning, and resources can get lost when there is institutional turnover. Redundant efforts may arise instead of strategic and cumulative ones, as there is a lack of communication and coordination. And most importantly, we know that establishing food gardens doesn't inherently increase healthy equity without intentional design and management. Everyone should be able to access gardening regardless of their socio-economic status. |

Establishing new food gardens that fulfill the goal of promoting public health is not a simple task. Multiple conditions need to align, such as land availability, funding, and effective management in order to bring about a food garden and ensure its longevity. Collective effort not only helps align conditions but also increases the longevity and impact that food gardens have on public health.

How a monthly food garden call can help

By fostering collaboration and collective action, we can overcome these challenges and maximize the impact. Hui Māla 'Ai is a coalition composed of non-profit organizations, government and private partners, community members, and other stakeholders that is already harnessing the power of collective impact to address these above challenges. Collective impact is "a network of community members, organizations, and institutions who advance equity by learning together, aligning, and integrating their actions to achieve population and systems level change"¹².

Providing a regular networking space to share projects, ideas, challenges, and learnings can help matchmake funders with implementers, landowners with farmers and gardeners, researchers with policymakers, community members with decision-makers, etc. Furthermore, it can be a space for Hui Māla 'Ai to share progress updates on their business plan, receive input, and garner support.

Why food gardens?

From the Hui Māla 'Ai [website](#): "Food access is a huge public health issue. So we have to think creatively about how we are going to address that problem, and while backyard gardening is not the solution to everything, it's a solution that can be done immediately."

Food gardens are an accessible solution that is not only in high demand, but meets a variety of human needs, including physical and mental health, access to fresh foods, community cohesion, and sustainable urbanism. They

¹²What is Collective Impact?

<https://collectiveimpactforum.org/what-is-collective-impact/#~:text=Collective%20Impact%20is%20a%20network%20goal%20and%20systems%20level%20change>

¹³Collective Impact https://asir.org/articles/entry/collective_impact

Breakout



Closing & Survey

<https://forms.gle/KHE1TLUzGwRcusDp7>



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