

ANNOUNCEMENT

December 17, 2009

The Partnership for Healthy Living



Healthier Living Through Better Communication



Good Afternoon Partnership for Healthy Living,

The Eat Smart Healthy Starts program is a partnership between the Chattanooga Hamilton County Health Department's Step ONE program and the Junior League of Chattanooga. Its mission is to use nutrition education to address the issue of child obesity. The program focuses on three areas: elementary schools, restaurants, and homes/families to encourage children and their families to make healthier food choices.

Last year, as a part of the home/family focus, the Eat Smart Healthy Starts program sponsored nine teaching gardens throughout Hamilton County. **Each site was awarded \$1000 and a scholarship for one representative to attend the University of Tennessee Extension's 15-week Master Gardener course.** Our vision for these gardens is to create involvement and awareness to the connection between quality of diet and quality of health for children and their families. In addition, teaching gardens offer many opportunities for people to learn valuable skills such as communication, responsibility, teamwork, and leadership.

We are excited to announce that the Eat Smart Healthy Starts program will be sponsoring up to ten more teaching gardens in Hamilton County this year. These teaching gardens are meant to be used by schools, churches, neighborhoods, clubs, community organizations, etc. We invite you to take advantage of this unique opportunity and apply for a teaching garden to be a part of your organization. Attached is the application for you to complete.

Applications (attached to this email) must be received by December 28, 2009 and can be mailed or e-mailed (Jbilderback@hamiltontn.gov).

Please be as thorough as possible. If you have any questions, please contact us at any time.

We are very excited about the continuation of this project and look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

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