

Abundance Community Homestead Report 2013

Located at Bayview Mission in San Francisco, Abundance Community Homestead (ACH) is a community garden that contains 15 raised beds, three beehives, and six chickens. ACH is a sister project of Bayview Mission, joining their efforts to enhance food supply and community to Bayview. Planting Justice built the garden in December of 2011. An estimated \$1,300 needed to support the garden was provided by personal donations from the community, and Bayview Mission provided approximately \$800 for plant starters and garden materials this year.

We hosted an intern from the Diocesan Internship Program earlier in the year at the shared cost of \$3,500. The intern helped us create a vision for the garden and ran the Kids in the Kitchen program. We hosted work parties from various churches in the diocese, as well as the Americorp Volunteers from St. Dorothy's.

ACH's Kids in the Kitchen program sent four volunteers to the Joseph Lee Recreation Center in the Bayview District of San Francisco to cook with the kids (32 kids served). Some produce harvested from the garden was incorporated into all of the recipes. In 2013 Bayview Mission donated \$1,200 to start the kids cooking program.

On August 28, with the help of Quesada Gardens (QG) and the Northridge Community Garden (NCG), over 20 of our neighbors will take part in designing a food co-op. This co-op will be self-sustaining and ACH will no longer need financial assistance from Bayview Mission. The co-op members will eat together at the Joseph Lee Recreation Center every month. Local residents with their own gardens will bring food from the gardens to "swap" produce with gardeners from QG, ACH and NCG. The three gardens will share resources and provide financial support on a sliding scale. In the near future, we will start a buyer's co-op, buying food at wholesale and distributing to neighbors at cost.

Many thanks to the Rev. Nina Pickerrell for your hard work and dedication. Thank you Caitlin Hubel (DioCal Intern) for your support. Thank you Francesca Pera for creating our diocal page and blog!

We want to continue to share our stories of simplicity and abundance with you on our DioBlog site (Abundance Growing in Bayview) via the Voices link on diocal.org/pcn.