

# City of Lakewood

# SUSTAINABILITY AWARDS

2016

COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY AWARD

## Jovial Gardens

Jovial Concepts



Jovial Concepts has brought together 14 Lakewood homeowners and more than 200 Lakewood volunteers to address hunger, health, and education through the Jovial Gardens Project. Volunteers transform their neighbors' yards into productive, organic gardens to feed themselves and others in need.

Using the gardens as classrooms, participants learn principles of sustainable agriculture, environmental awareness, nutrition and food systems. The project focuses on low-income neighborhoods, increasing access to nutritious food, combating chronic diseases and empowering the community. All of the food collected goes to the nearest area of need, reducing the environmental impact of transportation and building our local food system and self-reliance. In 2015, more than 2,500 lbs. in donations went to Lakewood food banks.

Jovial Gardens is a living example of how innovation and cooperation helps our community thrive, become more equitable and more sustainable by serving and growing together.



### Achievement Areas

- Preservation of Ecology & Biodiversity
- Waste Reduction & Recycling
- Community Health & Engagement
- Economic Sustainability

