Published on *Kitchen Gardeners International* (http://kgi.org)

Growing Food and Building Bridges

Mon, 06/09/2014 - 16:34 -- mpetraitis

The Human Services Campus Community Garden draws volunteers from all walks of life that share one common interest. These individuals have a desire to reconnect with themselves and the community by helping to sustain the garden program, which aims to supply fresh produce for individuals experiencing homelessness in downtown Phoenix. One major benefit of this program is that the garden has allowed people with very different life paths and diverse backgrounds to come together and build understanding. The volunteer pictured above first came to the garden after spending a considerable amount of time in the criminal justice system. On his first day as a volunteer in the garden, he shared with me his desire to give back and to do good for those who need assistance. Throughout his journey as a volunteer with the garden, he has had the opportunity to build relationships with some of the client & community volunteers and to develop a deeper understanding of homelessness by getting to know some of these clients. Additionally, this volunteer has thoroughly immersed himself in learning the ins and outs of gardening, and has helped improve upon the program and techniques we use. The Human Services Campus Community Garden is incredibly grateful to have such wonderful, dedicated volunteers!

Image (optional):

[illegible] 2014 [illegible] building-bridges