Cultivating Community
building faith-led community gardens

The Rural Advancement Foundation International – USA
www.rafiusa.org

The Come to the Table Project
www.cometothetablenc.org
“A community garden is any piece of land gardened by a group of people.”

- Any size
- Any place
- Any membership structure
- Any distribution plan
Community gardens do good things.

- Improve access to healthy food
- Build new relationships
- Provide agricultural and nutrition education
- Teach life skills
- Beautify neighborhoods
- Connect food and values
Start with community.
Don’t assume a garden is right for everyone.
Communities need to have:

- Passion
- A need
- Resources
- Ownership
Be patient. Embrace the red tape.

- Rules
- Membership
- Distribution
- Community concerns
Now, add the garden.

- Land and safe soil
- Materials (tools, fencing, etc.)
- Seeds and plants
- Water
Start simple.

- Pick a visible site.
- Plan your garden.
- Involve the community in locating materials.
- Look for small successes, early and often.
Tend the community, as well as the garden.

● Eat together.
● Incorporate the garden into community life.
● Look for opportunities to grow and change.
● Share what you learn.
Every garden’s story is unique.
Learn, connect, and share.

- NC Community Partners
  nccommunitygarden.ncsu.edu
- American Community Gardening Association
  www.communitygarden.org
- Growing Small Farms
  www.growingsmallfarms.org
- Food Security Coalition
  www.foodsecurity.org
- Come to the Table
  www.cometothetablenc.org
Claire Hermann
Come to the Table Project Coordinator
RAFI-USA
claire@rafiusa.org
www.cometothetablenc.org
www.rafiusa.org