

Ground Works

Growing Opportunities

ground works

Volume 1, Issue 1

Ground Works: It's All About the Children!

"My family moved around a lot when I was at Lowell (Elementary). This garden was my one safe place that I could come back to every time we moved. I have to give back to it." Young Carolinda's story is the reason that **Ground Works** exists.

More than a school teaching garden, **Ground Works** provides places of safety, learning, development, and understanding. The students and adults discover the principles of gardening, the need for more healthy food choices, responsibility and care for the earth and its environment, as well as the personal growth and development working as part of a team provides.

Ground Works looks toward a bright future with young men and women like Carolinda as leaders. She graduated from Lowell Elementary, MST and wants to come back and help other young people. **Ground Works** is committed to her leadership development. The excitement from the children is what drives kindergarten teacher, and garden manager, Tina Kucker, to stay involved.

With conversations and dreams beginning at Hayward Elementary in Sioux Falls, and at Lennox Elementary the vision to reach and impact more children, families, and communities grows stronger. For **Ground Works**, the question is not, "Can we?" The question has

always been **"What if?"** Out of that the stories and lives of children have been changed. With shared vision at Hayward and Lowell Elementaries in Sioux Falls and Lennox Elementary the hope that more than 1000 children gain

"I love sharing something that I did growing up with my students. It's why I keep teaching and working in the garden. Seeing the joy on the kids' faces is great!" Tina Kucker, teacher and garden manager.

access to a school teaching garden can be reached. We can then say with all the confidence in the world,

Ground Works exists for the Children.

www.groundwrks.wordpress.com



"A Growing Place" school teaching garden in the center of Sioux Falls, SD on the playground of Lowell Elementary, MST.



You are invited to celebrate spring and the launching of school teaching gardens that will impact more than 1,000 children in SE South Dakota. Join us for good food, great music, and remarkable stories from the garden.

Catered meal provided by Billy Mawhiney and Time at the Table

Music provided by Jeremy and Jonathon Hegg.

Proceeds will help plant seeds of learning with 1000+ students in the Sioux Empire!



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**Ground Works Board of
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Ground Works: exists to serve and partner with teams and other community organizations. Some of our partners include:

- A) City of Sioux Falls
- B) Sioux Falls School District
- C) SDSU Cooperative Extension
- D) Minnehaha (SD) Master Gardeners
- E) Sioux Falls Green Project
- F) Globe University
- G) Augustana College
- H) Cross Pointe Baptist Church
- I) Volunteers of America-Dakotas
- J) Pettigrew Heights Neighborhood Association
- K) AmeriCorp Vista
- L) DRA-Dakota Rural Action-Brookings
- M) Time at the Table-Mitchell



These partners understand and support The Mission of GROUND WORKS that INSPIRES students:

- 1) To excel academically
- 2) To explore the principles of scientific inquiry
- 3) To express self through the arts
- 4) To begin habits of personal and family wellness

GROUND WORKS' school teaching garden model exists to help students to become better students, to become good neighbors, and to bring opportunities to families and local neighborhoods.

Please consider one of the following sponsorship options:

Sponsor a portion of one of the 40 square foot growing beds at three current sites, Lowell MST Elementary and Hayward Elementary Schools, Sioux Falls, SD, and Lennox Elementary School, Lennox, SD. This sponsorship pays the costs of growing bed maintenance, garden seeds, plants and supplies, curriculum, school year and summer garden programs. Sponsors will be recognized at each school site.

Examples:

1/2 square foot	\$12.50
1 square foot	\$25.00
4 square feet	\$100.00
10 square feet	\$250.00
20 square feet (1/2 growing bed)	\$500.00
40 square feet (1 growing bed)	\$1,000.00

Sustaining supporters provide a monthly donation that helps pay ongoing administrative costs of **Ground Works**. For more information, please visit our website at: www.groundwrks.wordpress.com or email Tim Olsen, Executive Director: revtim@groundworks-midwest.com cell: 507-227-5919