

# Food Resilience Network Action Plan

20-10-2014

Vision: A patchwork of food growing at local hotspots, linked together like a ribbon and woven into the fabric of our communities.

## 1 Cultivate Relationships

*Foster partnerships, coordinate activities and provide governance on food resilience.*

- a) Create a supportive network for mentoring leaders, coordinating actions and advancing on the vision through the Food Resilience Network.
- b) Encourage organisations to sign the Edible Canterbury Charter and to make commitments on how they will advance food resilience in the region.
- c) Identify and map key stakeholders, potential supporters and sponsors of food resilience in Canterbury so approaches can be made to advance involvement and support.
- d) Develop sponsorship package based on mutual benefits to potential supporters and the Food Resilience Network activities.
- e) Use established crowd sourcing tools to build support for specific food resilience projects.
- f) Develop supportive information sharing networks across New Zealand and internationally.

## 2 Grow understanding, skills and celebrate local food

*Communicate, educate and inspire people to grow and enjoy local food.*

- a) Establish Edible Canterbury web-portal to create one stop shop for information about growing and enjoying local food.
- b) Develop resources that help individuals, communities and institutions to grow their own food, to find food in their area, and to find places to buy healthy, local food in Canterbury.
- c) Establish targeted events and communications at key planting and harvest times.
- d) Provide practical help and advice to gardeners at local markets and events such as soil PH testing and Pest Identification and through education courses run at community gardens.
- e) Work with local businesses and nurseries to offer DIY training education for the public on how to grow and cook healthy food.
- f) Foster local champions, patrons and community leaders able to inspire and lift the profile of edible Canterbury activities.

## 3 Propagate and Support Edible Gardens

*Support new and existing edible gardens in homes, schools, and communities.*

- a) Raise the profile and encourage volunteers and support for the existing edible gardens in Canterbury.
- b) Support Councils in identify land potentially suitable for edible gardens in Canterbury.
- c) Establish edible garden brokering and educational services to facilitate new community gardens and school gardens in Canterbury.
- d) Foster linkages able to support new and existing community and school gardens – such as: local businesses; plant and material suppliers; City Care; educators such as CPIT (Te Puna Oranga o Seven Oaks); and designers such as Lincoln University landscape faculty.
- e) Explore feasibility of establishing a “Fruit Trees For Canterbury” organisation to deliver low cost, disease resistant plants for public and community garden use.
- f) Support high-profile demonstration edible garden projects such as Agropolis in central Christchurch and explore organic waste processing from surrounding businesses.

## 4 Strengthen Our Local Food Economy

*Encourage more localised food production, distribution and access to healthy food.*

- a) Enable more local growers of food by supporting the Biological Husbandry Unit's Stepping Stone programme that incubates budding market gardeners.
- b) Support the establishment of food cooperatives surrounding our towns and cities that are able to supply local markets with fresh locally grown produce.
- c) Encourage new farmers markets, green grocers and boxed delivery services in the region.
- d) Develop demonstration sites able to promote innovative production and distribution methods such as urban agriculture/city farm linked to local food cooperatives and Kaputone Community Orchard in Marshlands.
- e) Establish heritage fruit and nut archive and nursery to improve the availability of disease resistant and nutritious plants well suited to Canterbury conditions.

## 5 Grow Supportive Policies

*Evidence based policy development and advocacy to advance food resilience.*

- a) Collaborate with the Christchurch City Council on the creation and implementation of its Food Resilience Policy.
- b) Encourage and support Selwyn and Waimakariri District Council actions that support community gardens and food resilience in the region.
- c) Advocate for the availability of healthy food in schools, local village shopping centers, and at Council facilities and events.
- d) Advocate for healthy food and gardening literacy within the school curriculum to support establishment and on-going operation of school gardens.
- e) Explore ways for community gardens to become more self-sustaining organisations and the creation of other social enterprises that advance food resilience.
- f) Explore incentives for businesses offering land for productive uses or volunteer time from staff.
- g) Examine existing policies, regulations or bylaws that act as barriers to the establishment of edible gardens and suggest ways to create an enabling food framework.
- h) Work with CERA and local Councils about opportunities for productive spaces in Residential Red Zone areas.

Key supporting organisations of the Food Resilience Network (in alphabetical order)

§ Avon Otakaro Network	§ Lincoln University – Biological Husbandry Unit
§ Canterbury Community Gardens Association	§ Project Lyttelton
§ Canterbury District Health Board	§ Rangiora Express
§ Canterbury University	§ Selwyn District Council
§ Christchurch City Council	§ Soil and Health Canterbury
§ Christchurch Food Forest Collective	§ Sow and Grow
§ Enviro-Schools – Environment Canterbury	§ Te Runanga O Ngai Tahu
§ Garden City 2.0	§ Tree Crops Association
§ Greening The Rubble	§ Waimakariri District Council
§ Kids Edible Gardens	
§ Lincoln Envirotown	