

Urban Gardens in Philadelphia, PA & Camden, NJ

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CLPN-528-401

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Research Question

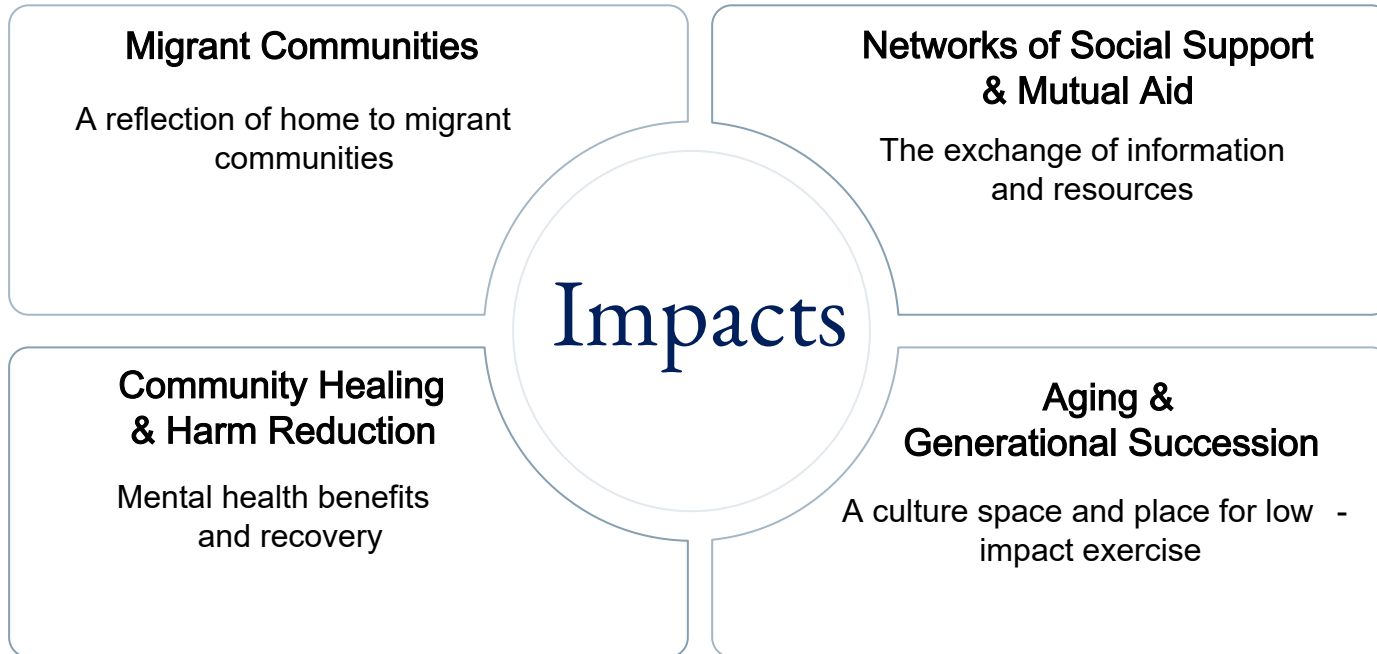
What are the social impacts of community gardens in Philadelphia, PA and in Camden, NJ?

Past Research

- Nairn and Vitiello's 2008/2009 observations in Philadelphia, PA, Camden, NJ and Trenton, NJ
 - Site Surveys
 - Weighing of Harvest
 - On-site Interviews



Literature
Review





Methods

Garden Observations - Site Survey

- What are the physical structures facilitating the social environment?
- An on-the-ground analysis of the built environment
 - Area
 - Size and number of plots
 - Level of use
 - Water source
 - Posted Rules
 - Indications of social support
 - Types of crops



Garden Observations - Interviews



Vitiello, Domenic, photographer. "Las Parcelas & Grupo Motivos Philadelphia." Photograph. Philadelphia, PA. 2000. From presentation, *Social and Community Impacts of Urban Agriculture*. (Accessed March 21, 2022).

- What are the social impacts of community gardens, as recalled by those utilizing them?
- Five part survey:
 1. Garden Tour
 2. Garden & Neighborhood History
 3. Gardeners
 4. Harvest & Community Food Systems
 5. Interviewee's Gardening & Personal History



Data Analysis

2014 Interview: 64th and Market Garden

Ms. Park's Story

"Sometimes I feel like it's very tiresome work because of going all the way [to Home Depot] and back on the bus, but then I see my garden and I feel very proud of myself for growing all of these vegetables for my diet."

Cultural Preservation

“If someone goes to Korea they get seeds and sell them to the rest of the gardeners. We can use those seeds for 3 -4 years. We also get seeds from Blue Farm in New Jersey, which has Korean seeds... we are planting cabbage now for next Spring to make kimchi.”

A Space for Older Individuals

“Most people who garden here live at the 40th and Market senior housing center. But they don’t socialize there - they socialize here at the garden instead.”

Funding and Relationship with the City

“I don’t need anything except for water.”

Arising Issues of Generational Succession

"I never buy vegetables from the market. I eat everything from here except in the winter. I also supply vegetables for my children, but they aren't interested in the garden. My granddaughter graduated from Washington State University and she studied agriculture. Now she works at a 'planting school' and she teaches people how to farm, but she doesn't come to help out her grandma."

Thank you

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