

Kitchen Garden School Fundraising

I have no budget. I think I need all these things! What do I do? How do I get funding??

When it comes to setting up your own kitchen garden program it's easy to get caught up thinking you need much more to get started than is actually required. However, pleasurable food education is most successful when schools:

- 🍅 Start small.
- 🍅 Use what's at hand.
- 🍅 Think outside the box.
- 🍅 Focus on maximising results with minimum effort.
- 🍅 Form a small committee to concentrate on fundraising.

Here are schools' top suggestions for getting started with kitchen garden fundraising.

GET CLEAR ON WHAT YOU NEED

- 🍅 Have a planning session and work out what specifically your school needs. Is it funds to become a Member, kitchen equipment, garden tools, funds for services?
- 🍅 What is the exact \$ amount? How many saucepans, plates, cups do you need?

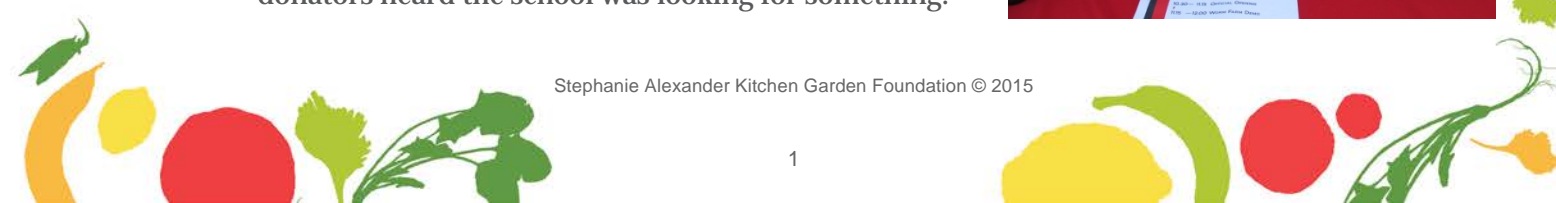
PLAN

- 🍅 Now that you know exactly what need, start a plan to move forward.
- 🍅 Come up with two or three ways of achieving your goal – public awareness is key. For example, if you want to source kitchen equipment you might put a wish list in your newsletter, contact the local paper, approach local businesses with letters from your students or even create a video and promote it online. Use the tools you have, and remember people respond to enthusiasm and honesty, especially from the children.
- 🍅 List who needs to do what, when. Who will design the flyer? Who will write the grant application? When do these things need to be done?



COMMUNICATE

- 🍅 Tell everyone in your school and community what you're planning – you'll be surprised what comes out of the woodwork once people understand what you're trying to do.
- 🍅 Quite often there plenty of help and resources available, but people don't know exactly what the school needs. Many times schools have been gifted garden beds, soil, manure, kitchen equipment etc. purely because the donators heard the school was looking for something.



ACT

- 🍅 Now that you know what you want, who is doing what, when, and who you need to communicate to it's time to get the ball rolling.
- 🍅 Allocate tasks to the team.
- 🍅 Organise to check back in regularly.
- 🍅 Celebrate *all* the wins!

TOP IDEAS

- 🍅 Approach local businesses.
- 🍅 Create a wish list and design a call-out to the school community, or hold a community meeting.
- 🍅 Have a stall at the office and sell kitchen garden items like extra harvest, preserves and artwork.
- 🍅 Approach your local council (often they want to achieve similar outcomes).
- 🍅 Approach local hardware stores and nurseries about a working bee or donations.
- 🍅 Apply for grants, large and small, from government, philanthropics and corporates – check what's on offer at your local council.
- 🍅 Put a wish list in your school newsletter, or local paper.
- 🍅 Hold cooking or gardening classes for a small fee (use the facilities you have!)
- 🍅 Hold a community workshop, where the community brings the products and labour (build some wicking beds, get your pizza oven in ...)
- 🍅 Offer catering services to community organisations.
- 🍅 Host a long lunch.
- 🍅 Sell lunches to staff on kitchen day – this has proven very popular and even been known to help schools run a \$0 kitchen class.

