

# Enhancing Community Involvement

## Hastings Community Centre Learning Garden Engagement



**Who are they:** Community garden established by Hastings Community Association (found in 1935)  
**Mission:** Enhance **involvement, capacity and connection** of Hastings-Sunrise community through **food & garden programming**  
**What they do:** Provide cooking and nutrition workshops, luncheons for seniors and hands-on opportunities to grow & harvest food and plants<sup>[5]</sup>  
**Why:** Provide space and opportunity for community interactions that **strengthen food & garden skills**

### THE ISSUE

- Increase **intercultural & intergenerational DIVERSITY** in community involvement
- Raise **AWARENESS** of community garden among community members of Hastings-Sunrise Area <sup>[1]</sup>
- Improve **COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY**  
"Community Food Security is when all members of a community have ability to **safe, culturally acceptable, nutritionally adequate** food through a sustainable food system that optimizes **community self reliance and social justice**"<sup>[6]</sup>

### WHY IT MATTERS

Provides an educational space that encourages **diversity, cultural integration, social interaction, & community resilience.** <sup>[4,7]</sup>

### OBJECTIVE

**ENGAGE** and **DISCUSS** with local community stakeholders to understand what they envision for the community garden and how the garden can facilitate inclusivity

### APPROACH



**Develop & Distribute Flyers**  
Raise awareness of the community garden



**Collect Ideas from Idea Tree**  
Understand what community members want to gain from the community garden



**Host Community Gathering**  
Converse in person with community members about how to better facilitate garden inclusivity

**32**

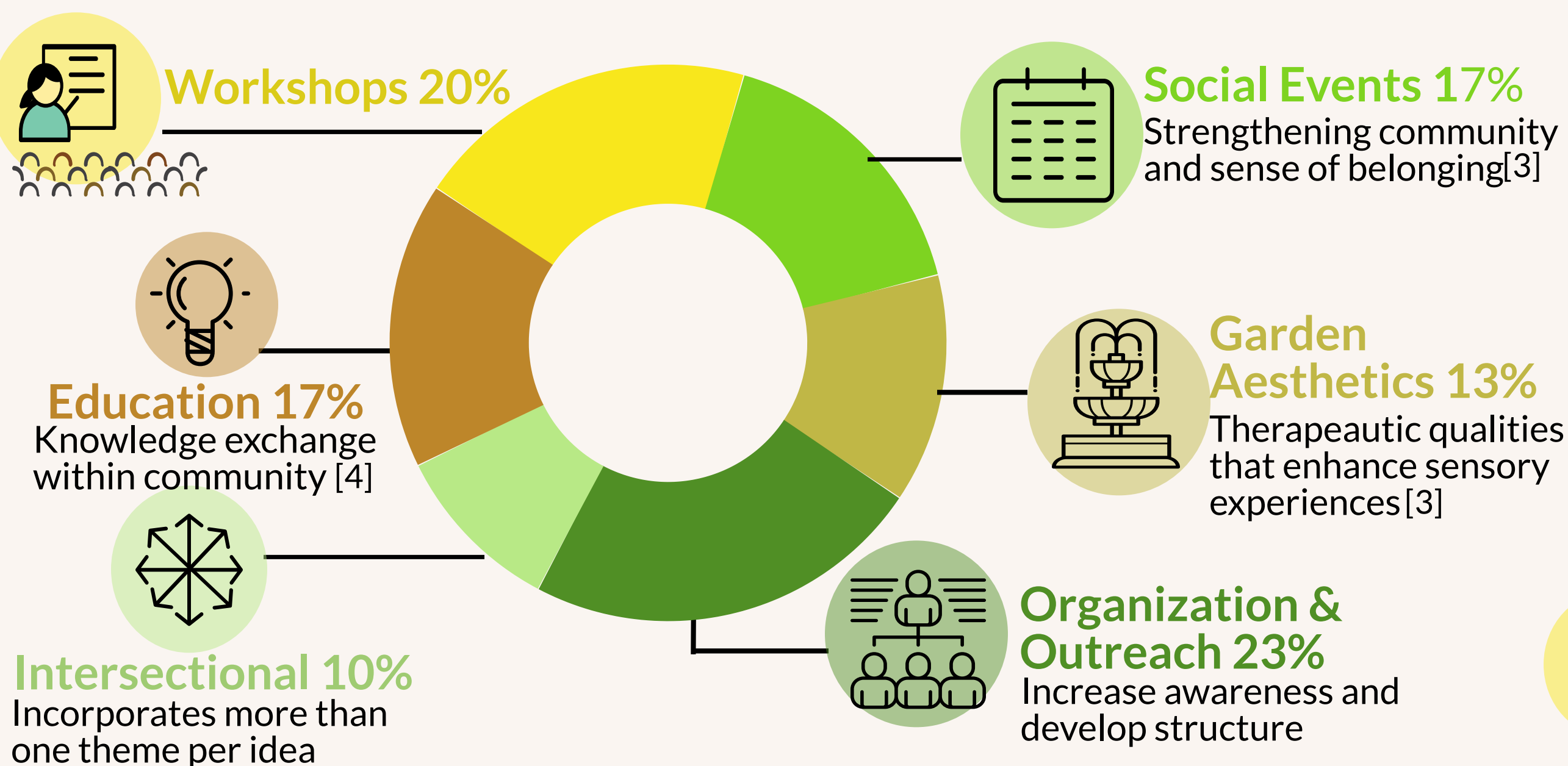
Ideas generated

### KEY FINDINGS

**#1**

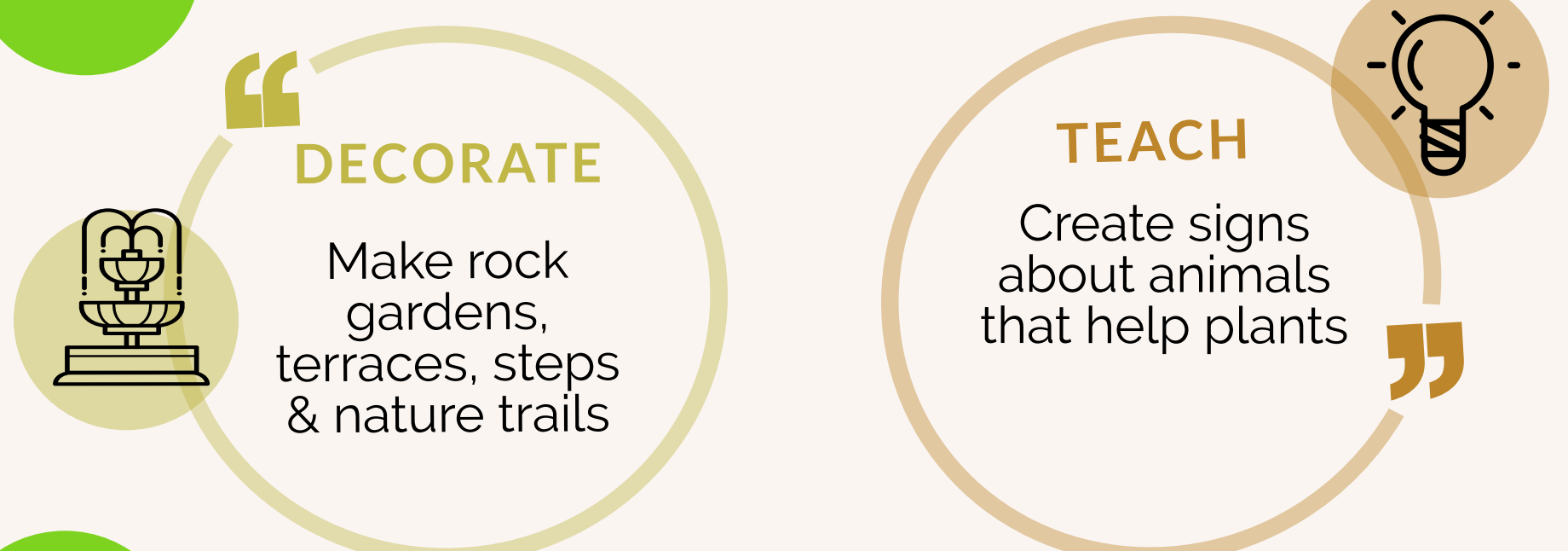
**Ideas generated to increase involvement by Idea Tree & Community Gathering**

#### Common Themes



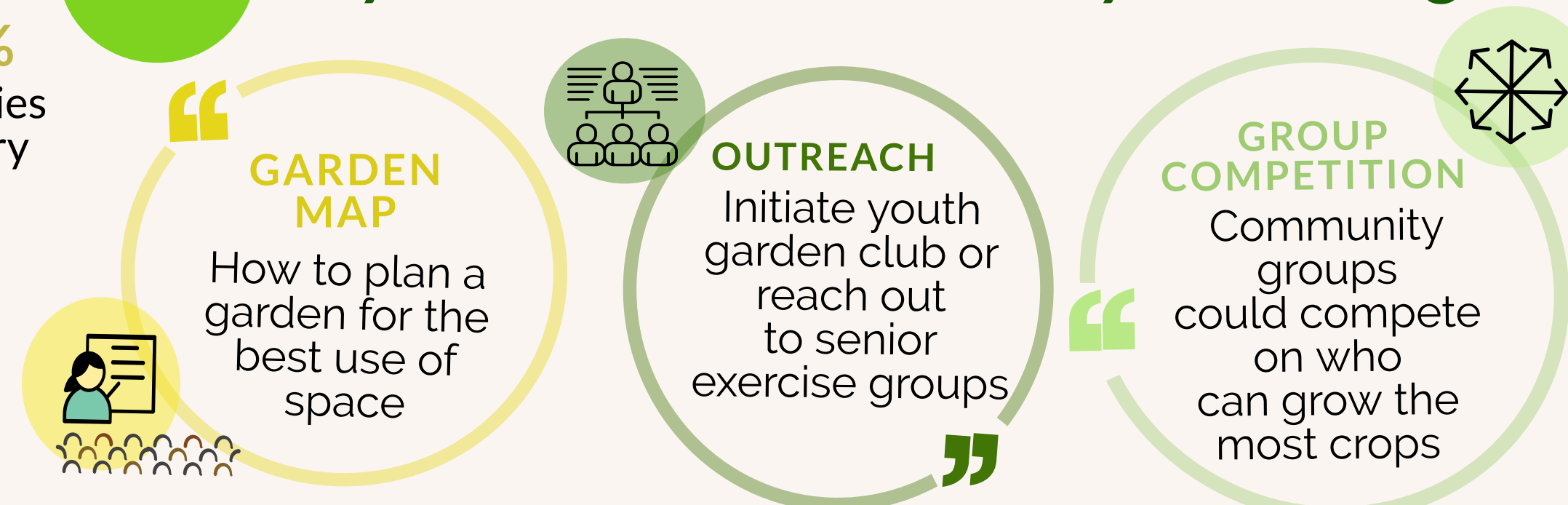
**#2**

**Keywords from Idea Tree**



**#3**

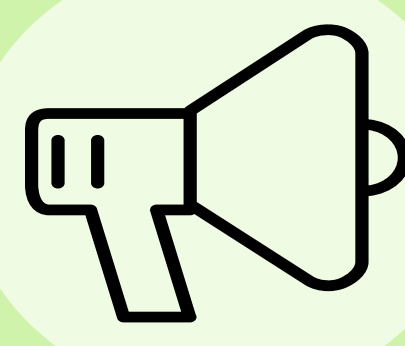
**Keywords from Community Gathering**



### TAKE HOME MESSAGE



**Community members are interested** in the garden for social community events and hands-on educational activities



More actions needed to **spread awareness** about how and where to get involved in the community garden

[1] Hastings Community Association About HCC. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://hastingscc.ca/?p=7>  
[2] UBC Logos. (2018, August 29). Retrieved from <https://brand.ubc.ca/guidelines/downloads/logos-signatures-and-visual-identity-assets/>  
[3] Hale, J., Knapp, C., Bardwell, L., Buchenau, M., Marshall, J., Sancar, F., & Litt, J.S. (2011). Connecting food environments and health through the relational nature of aesthetics: Gaining insight through the community gardening experience. *Social Science & Medicine*, 72(11), 1853-1863. doi:10.1016/j.socscimed.2011.03.044  
[4] Datta, R. (2016). Community garden: A bridging program between formal and informal learning. *Cogent Education*, 3(1) doi:10.1080/2331186X.2016.1177154  
[5] Hastings Community Centre Food & Garden Programs. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.facebook.com/SeasonsOfFoodVancouver/>  
[6] Hamm, M. W., & Bellows, A. C. (2003). Community food security and nutrition educators. *Journal of Nutrition Education and Behavior*, 35(1), 37-43. doi:10.1016/S1499-4046(06)60325-4  
[7] McMillen, H., Campbell, L. K., Svendsen, E. S., & Reynolds, R. (2016). Recognizing stewardship practices as indicators of social resilience: In living memorials and in a community garden. *Sustainability*, 8(8), 775. doi:10.3390/su8080775