

Garden House Honored

LOUISVILLE, Ky (August 24, 2009) – The week of August 23-29 has been designated by Governor Steve Beshear as Community Gardening Week. In celebration, the Garden House, located on the Ursuline Campus, was one of two Louisville, community gardens visited by Secretary of Finance and Administration Jonathan Miller on Monday, August 24. The Clifton Community Garden was the other.

The Garden House is one of several facilities run by the Zoom Group which strives to give adults with mental disabilities a sense of belonging through social and community based programs. The Garden House sits near the hockey field, across from Field Elementary. The land is provided by the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville for just a dollar a year.

“Without the valuable partnerships we cultivate within the community, this wouldn’t be possible,” said Annie Rosenberg-Sattich, President of Zoom Group. “If it weren’t for the Ursuline Sisters, this wouldn’t be possible. Each of the groups who take part help us better help the individuals we serve.”



Steve Meredith, who helps maintain the Governor's garden (left to right), Sister Lynn Jarrell, President of the Ursuline Sisters, Secretary Jonathan Miller, Annie Rosenberg-Sattich, President of Zoom Group, and Brenda Adamson, second grade teacher at Field Elementary

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Sister Lynn Jarrell, President of the Ursuline Sisters, attended the event as did several state and local officials. The principal of Field Elementary, Susan French, teacher, Brenda Adamson, and several second, third, and fourth graders were also there. Field Elementary students use a garden in front of the Garden House as a sort of outdoor classroom.

“It’s the perfect partnership,” Brenda Adamson told us. “We have a program for autistic kids and this really encourages them. Many of the children in that program and in our other classes know which plants are certain vegetables. Plus, they know how to tend and care for the vegetables. It’s so wonderful to see them so excited about gardening and the benefits of it.”

About two dozen people attended a brief tour of the grounds before Secretary Miller read a proclamation regarding Community Gardening Week, which was presented to Rosenberg-Sattich. According to the proclamation, the average meal in the United States travels 1,200 miles from the farm to the dinner table. (To read the proclamation, [click here](#).) Kentucky’s first lady, Jane Beshear, started the first-ever Governor’s garden in an effort to spread awareness about the need to grow locally and promote community gardening.

To learn more about the Garden House and Zoom Group's mission, [click here](#) for a direct link to their website.

During the event, Secretary Miller was "twittering" about the Garden House. To see his posts, go to <http://twitter.com/millerky>. To see the Ursuline Sisters' twitter page, [click here](#).