



## MID-MICHIGAN DISTRICT HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Your public health team, connecting with our communities to achieve healthier outcomes

Submitted by: Leslie Kinnee, Public Information Officer  
615 N. State St., Stanton, MI 48888-9702  
989-831-3669, [kinnee@mmdhd.org](mailto:kinnee@mmdhd.org)

[www.mmdhd.org](http://www.mmdhd.org)



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### **Heartland House takes over Greenville community garden**



Ithaca, Stanton, St. Johns~ The Mid-Michigan District Health Department has maintained a community garden on Water Street in Greenville the past several years, but is handing over the gardening gloves and responsibility to the Montcalm Center for Behavioral Health's Heartland House.

The garden, which has grown in popularity, provides a place to grow healthy food for those who may not have access to affordable, locally grown produce, or who may not otherwise be able to have a garden.

Marcy Rosen, Heartland House's Community Inclusion Services Manager, is excited to be taking over the garden. "So much of what we do at the Heartland House is to support community inclusion for our members, and the addition of the garden will help enhance our efforts."

The Heartland House helps those with mental illness learn valuable employment and life skills and manage their illness. They already provide a lot of instruction in areas such as cooking and shopping, and will now be able to add gardening to their curriculum. Members will have their own plot, so they'll get to help prepare the ground for planting, will help maintain the plot, and make delicious meals with the healthy vegetables they harvest.

Rosen said they plan to make some minor improvements at the garden and will also be adding a memorial flower garden at the site, in honor of Heartland House members who have passed away.

Anyone living in the Greenville area is invited to register for a 10' x 12' or 10' x 24' plot. The registration deadline isn't until April 17, but those interested should register immediately as there are a limited number of plots available. Registration includes (at no charge) vegetable seeds, plants and access to gardening tools and supplies.

If you would like more information, would like to reserve a plot, or would like to volunteer at the garden, please contact Kindra or Melissa at Heartland House at 616-712-6556 or in-person between 9:30 a.m.– 2:30 p.m. at 108 N. Lafayette Street in Greenville.

*Mid-Michigan District Health Department serves the residents of Clinton, Gratiot and Montcalm Counties.*

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