



CREATING HEALTHY SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITIES!



Creating Healthy Schools and Communities

Ralph G Reed Middle School & Central Islip Civic Counsel Collaboration

Pea Plants Find a New Home

This Spring, Creating Healthy Schools and Communities (CHSC) was thrilled to coordinate the donation of three dozen pea plants to Central Islip Civic Counsel and Christian Cultural Center (CICC-CCC) for their outdoor garden and ultimately, the pantry. Ms. Ivette Rios, a Science Teacher at Ralph G. Reed Middle School generously shared some of her seedlings grown at the school.

Connecting the Dots

The CICC-CCC Food Pantry, located in Central Islip, serves over 4,000 adults and children in the community, providing emergency food supplies. Additionally, the Council operates a thrift store with proceeds supporting the organization. The pantry's organic vegetable garden also contributes fresh herbs and produce to its guests. While collaborating with Ms. Rios on various wellness initiatives such as indoor and outdoor growing projects, she expressed a desire to donate produce to a local pantry. As CHSC was in the process of providing nutrition banners to the CICC-CCC pantry to promote healthy foods, the opportunity arose to facilitate this generous donation.



CICC-CCC staff by the CHSC Nutrition banner



Ivette Rios, CHSC coordinators and seedlings

Sorority Cultivates Community

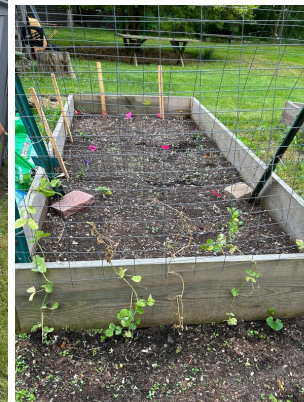
The Theta Iota Omega Chapter of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority coordinates the CICC-CCC community garden and provides volunteers for its maintenance and harvesting. Last month, the sorority planted the pea plants near the raised bed gardens.

Looking Ahead...

CHSC is excited to continue our collaboration with the CICC-CCC Food Pantry, the Middle School, and the Theta Iota Omega Chapter. Together, we aim to make healthier choices more accessible for the community, create more opportunities for physical activity, and work on chronic disease prevention. By combining our efforts in nutrition education, gardening projects, and wellness initiatives, we hope that the people who visit CICC-CCC have the resources and support needed to lead a healthier lifestyle. We look forward to continuing this partnership and watching our shared efforts turn into lasting positive change.



Sorority members in the garden



Pea plants in garden

Contact information:
agibbons@wsboces.org
kkirschb@wsboces.org

Scan to learn more:



@CHSC_LongIsland



Healthy Schools and Communities Long Island

This project is supported with funds from the State of New York