



# GROWING A SUCCESSFUL MISSION GARDEN

## What to plant

- **Consider planting vegetables and fruits with varied shelf life.** What foods might families eat within a few days of their food shelf visit and what foods have a longer shelf life? Why not try herbs too?
- **Consider planting vegetables and fruits that can be preserved by client families.** What vegetables can be frozen, dried or canned by food shelf families?
- **Consider planting ethnically diverse foods,** such as Hispanic ethnicity (i.e. tomatillos, poblano peppers, other pepper varieties).
- **Consider your garden environment.** What plants are appropriate for the garden's soil, design and available space?
- **Consider the time your volunteers are available to maintain and harvest the garden.** Do you have the "people" power to harvest many varieties of high producing vegetables? Do you have the "people" power to trellis many plants for needed support?
- **Consider the timing of your garden's harvest.** How often will your volunteers be available to harvest? When will your vegetables be ready to harvest? And for how long?

## Delivery of your garden harvest

- Banana boxes are a great for transporting the harvest and are easy for our volunteers to handle. If you bring two full banana boxes to the food shelf, you can take two boxes with you for your next harvest.
- For maximum freshness, it is ideal to deliver the harvest the same day as the picking.
- To assure longer shelf life, please do not wash the vegetables or fruit. Remove what dirt you can without using water.
- If you have a group or team in your organization or church who would like to volunteer to sort, bag and label the produce, please let us know. We will give you the supplies.

Best delivery times—Eagan, 651-686-0787  
3904 Cedar Grove Parkway, Eagan  
Monday thru Thurs 8:30 am–3:00 pm, and  
Tuesday & Thursday 6pm–7:30pm

Best delivery times—  
Apple Valley Mobile Pantry Center, 952-469-3444  
14757 Energy Way, Apple Valley  
Mon thru Friday, 8:30 am–3:00 pm