

Wellington Information and Neighborhood Services Inc

WINS COMMUNITY CENTRE
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To whom it may concern

We are writing on behalf of (Wellington Information and Neighbourhood Service Inc) WINS Community Centre to seek your support for establishing a pilot Food Ladder project at the Centre. We are highly supportive of this exciting project which is a significant opportunity to enhance the learning and wellbeing of everyone (but in particular, the young people) who attend the WINS Community Centre. Food Ladder will support the children and families of Wellington on a number of levels and complement the activities that are already happening at WINS and in Wellington.

The main impact of the Food Ladder project, while enhancing diet and nutrition understanding for everyone, will be the opportunity for the community to see, work in and produce fresh food for families. There will be a long term benefit of ensuring that children have a healthy diet and an understanding about the importance of making good food choices that will have a positive impact in their later lives. They will also have the opportunity to learn about growing these foods and having some ownership of doing something for the good of themselves and others in their community.

We believe WINS is well placed for the pilot Food Ladder Project. They have seen large increases in young people's participation recently and in the other groups such as Parenting and Elders groups. WINS has the facilities for a secure growing space and the facilities to prepare healthy meals from the produce. Food Ladder will also offer a program to parents of school aged children after school hours and during holidays to provide this important education, advice and experience. Food Ladder will support WINS to develop learning programs to increase opportunities for young people to learn about the science and technology involved in running the equipment associated with the greenhouse.

This letter details some of the immediate benefits of the Food Ladder project to the children and families of Wellington, but as the project becomes more established, there is the potential for many more including possible employment and enterprise projects, and the development of resources to increase the understanding and awareness of growing and eating healthy fresh food.

We hope that you will support this important project.

Yours sincerely



Chief Executive Officer - Helen Swan
