

Oregon Food Bank Learning Gardens

Volunteers of the Month



Marilyn Berti & Gail Beasley

Marilyn & Gail have been two of our regular Seed to Supper instructors at the Inverness Jail since 2014. Both have found working with inmate populations rewarding and have greatly valued the opportunity that Seed to Supper provides for continued learning while teaching. Marilyn enjoys volunteering with Seed to Supper as a way to give back, contribute to the welfare of others and share the things she really enjoys doing. Gail, a retired Special Education teacher finds it rewarding to know that she's making a difference in someone's life.

Both Marilyn & Gail are dedicated to helping to improve the lives of their neighbors in need by being involved in additional community gardening efforts. Marilyn volunteers at the Washington Co. Master Gardener Learning Garden which distributes garden produce to OFB partners, and Gail helps at the "Hunger Garden" at her church which provides produce for OFB and partner agencies and while staffing the church food pantry.

Marilyn and Gail very much value the experience of co-teaching and have become an excellent team supporting and complementing each other's styles. They love hearing about participants' stories of their first experiences in the garden and feel fulfilled in knowing that some inmates will leave with new interests and skills in growing their own food and sharing that knowledge with younger generations.

Marilyn has spent 100 hours and Gail, 34, in the classroom for Oregon Food Bank. Thank you Marilyn & Gail for your dedicated commitment to fighting the root causes of hunger!