



ROCK COVE ASSISTED LIVING

Rock Cove Assisted Living in Stevenson, Washington, was awarded a \$7,000 grant from the Community Foundation of Southwest Washington to build a greenhouse for their upcoming Inter-Generational Greenhouse Project. Robin Aman, administrator of Rock Cove, applied for the grant in hopes to bring community members of all ages together to work toward the common goal of increasing social capital in Stevenson and its surrounding areas and enriching the lives of Rock Cove residents. From planting seedlings to Mother's Day plant sales, this project will offer a multitude of opportunities for the public to combine talents and resources to create a positive environment and hone healthy relationships.

Rock Cove currently offers many small programs to bring people of varying ages to their building and to promote inter-generational relationships that keep residents active within the greater community. The Inter-Generational Greenhouse Project would provide a larger platform to coordinate these activities more effectively and leverage the benefits currently received by older adults and community members, specifically, local children. This is important as research has increasingly shown that inter-generational programming has positive health and overall wellness benefits for both older adults and children. Emerging family issues and geographic proximity of adult children are just some of the factors contributing to a significant need for this type of inter-generational programming across the country. Furthermore, this project will allow residents with differing cognitive and physical abilities to participate in meaningful activities and foster feelings of community and companionship. Examining the long-term advantages of this project for both Rock Cove residents and Stevenson area community members could be an interesting focus for professionals in the aging and community development industries. Rock Cove hopes that professionals and students will inquire about opportunities for research projects.

Funding for this project comes from the Community Foundation of Southwest Washington, an organization that works to strengthen communities through charitable funds and philanthropy. Rock Cove would like to thank the Community Foundation of Southwest Washington, especially Anne Digenis, for their support and the generous grant donation. They would also like to thank the Rock Cove staff, Guy Biesanz, Jesse Lingenfelter, Ken Aman, and Bert Zerkel and his family for their contributions of time, labor and material, Barbara Hardgrove and Bill Yee for a donation in memory of Elsie O'Connor, and various community members who supported their fundraising efforts that helped to fund this project.

The public is encouraged to watch for updates on the Inter-Generational Greenhouse Project as opportunities for community involvement and volunteering will be available in the future. For more information regarding this project or Rock Cove Assisted Living Community, please call (509) 427-7272 or visit www.rockcove.org.

