

How did IGP come to LJCF?



Beth Waitkus is the Founding Director of IGP.

As part of her deep commitment to community service, social and environmental justice, and equitable food systems, Beth founded the Insight Garden Program in 2002. Over the past several years, as Executive Director, Beth has overseen program expansion to seven additional California prisons, two prisons in Indiana (including a juvenile facility), and a collaborative reentry program in New York City. IGP plans for continued national program replication. To read more about Beth please visit the IGP website.

Please feel free to visit the IGP website at:

<http://insightgardenprogram.org/>

IGP also has other social media websites which can be found on their main website.

IGP's transformational approach is based in the latest neuroscience research on learning strategies. When combined with experiential gardening, participants experience big picture shifts that can last a lifetime.

Thank you for taking the time to read about this incredible program we are offering here at LJCF. We are so excited to see what all this program has to offer for the students housed here. The youth are the future of the society in which we all live in. This program provides education, tangible skills, communication skills, and so much more that these young men will bring with them upon their release from the facility back into society.



Copyright © 2017 Insight Garden Program



What is IGP? Are ya'll just playing in the dirt? Is there a purpose of this program? What does it do?



Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility

1118 S. State Road 25
Logansport, IN. 46975
Phone: 574-753-7571

What is IGP?



Students helped create, build, and install the raised beds used in the garden.

Insight Garden Program (IGP) is so much more than its name, and much more than simply gardening. IGP's holistic curriculum combines vocational gardening and landscaping training with educational lesson plans for the participants. The ambition of this program is to reconnect the participants to their selves, the community, and their natural world.

IGP has four core values and goals for its participants which are: to change with the tools and opportunities to grow and evolve, to take responsibility for our behavior, to give back to society by connecting to our gifts and passions, and to be committed to self-improvement and change with the support of families, communities, and the program. This inner and outer gardening approach has the abilities to transform lives, end ongoing cycles of incarceration, and can create safer communities.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility is the first juvenile correctional facility in the world to facilitate this evidence based innovative program.

IGP began in San Quentin Prison in California in 2002 for adult male offenders. IGP is one of the only evidence based rehabilitation programs in California. A 2011 recidivism study of 117 IGP participants showed that of those participants who paroled between the years of 2003-2009, only less than 10% returned to prison or jail. These men who did not return to prison or jail saved the state of California and the taxpayers approximately 40 million dollars.

There are four sections of the program called an Arc. Each Arc is a progression of classes that leads to an outcome, which includes where students are currently, and what they might grow into.



Students helped design and install the pathway for the students, staff, volunteers, and visitors to enjoy.

Arc Overview:

Arc 1 - Introduced systems thinking, and learn of the many ways in which we are interconnected to all life on the planet -- and thus not isolated individuals. "From Me to We."

Arc 2 - Developed capacity to cooperate with living systems through gardening. Understand the metaphor of the garden as it applies to oneself.

Arc 3 - Attention is turned from the systems of which we're a part, and the garden, to focus on our own lives. Our lives, like a garden, can be cultivated in ways that support our well-being and that of those around us.

Arc 4 - To develop the tools and self-awareness to improve personal health, prepare for work in the world, and function skillfully and meaningfully in family and work environments.

Once the garden installation is completed treatment groups will begin to be held as they have been since September 2016. Group will be held twice a week, Tuesdays school periods 1 & 2 and Thursdays school periods 3 & 4. One day will be mainly focused on the garden, tending to the plants, and learning along the way. The other day of group will be solely focused on the educational content of the program.