

# "FOOD JUSTICE AND URBAN AGRICULTURE IN ACTION"

## PHOTO ESSAY

## DIGGING IN: FACILITATING DIALOGUE AND ACTION

### KEY THEMES AND TERMS

Food justice, food security, food sovereignty, social justice, anti-poverty, vertical poverty, anti-racism, structural racism, anti-oppression, food apartheid, food desert, governance, community-shared agriculture (CSA), urban agriculture.

### CATALYZING CONNECTIONS

#### DECODING QUESTIONS

- *Description:* What stories are told? How did you feel reading them?
- *Personal Connection:* Does this story connect to your personal experience or stories in your family?
- *Common Themes:* What social issues/themes are raised in these stories? Is there a common issue shared across contexts?
- *Social Analysis:* What are the historical and social processes that created this situation?
- *Planning for Action:* What can be done? What can I/we do?

#### SPECIFIC QUESTIONS

- How did Leticia's personal and community organizing experience help her understand food justice in the Jane-Finch community?
- What are some examples from the photo story that helped you understand food justice?
- Leticia uses the term "food apartheid." What does this term mean to you? Where do you see evidence of it in your community? How does it differ from the term "food desert"?
- How does structural racism shape the food system and food movements?
- Why were governance and community control such important issues at the Black Creek Community Farm? How were these issues addressed?

Hands-On Activities

Think about where you live. Is anyone struggling with food insecurity? Are there food deserts, examples of food apartheid, or urban agriculture initiatives in the community where you live or in the city you live in? Investigate grass-roots actions in response to these issues.

## **INTERGENERATIONAL AND INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE**

How is the farm engaging youth and seniors? What is the value of this intergenerational engagement?

View the video “Black Creek Community Farm: Healing the Community” as Leticia describes in greater detail the programs and purposes of the farm. How did she broaden your understanding of food justice?

How does Leticia’s experience connect with the experience of other Legacies collaborators on the issue of food justice?

Read the photo essay “Promoting Organic Agriculture in Mexico: From Urban Gardens to Multinational Companies” and compare urban agriculture in suburban Guadalajara with urban agriculture in Toronto.

## **INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE ACTION**

How does the [Black Creek Food Justice Network](#) organize around food justice issues in the community and beyond?

What role can an organization like Black Creek Community Farm play to galvanize collective action in a community?

How could urban agriculture address issues of food security, food sovereignty and food justice in cities? In your local context?

The U.S. and Canadian food movements have been criticized for structural racism. What are the ways that it is manifested? How are these issues being addressed by food movement leaders and organizations?

## **DIGGING DEEPER: RESOURCES FOR FURTHER RESEARCH AND ACTION**

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## **ORGANIZATIONS**

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Michigan Urban Farming Initiative. "Home - mufi." Accessed July 5, 2020.  
<https://www.miufi.org/>.

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