

Food gardens capacitated with help from corporates

The Farm To Folk Community Food Garden's partnership with Checkers has seen it benefit from a major cash injection from one of the supermarket chain's suppliers.

Well-known aerosol brand, Glade donated R250 000 to the Farm to Folk Community Food Garden in Vanderbijlpark as well as two other Limpopo-based gardens. All three projects benefit from extensive efforts by Checkers to make these gardens more sustainable by offering training workshops over a period of 18 months, gardening infrastructure, tools as well as plant materials.

"We are extremely grateful for the support from both Checkers and Glade," says Zimasa Mlengana, who runs the food garden. "We are eight women working the garden, in which we produce kale, spinach and spring onions."

"This donation is part of a broader campaign to empower women. We took a percentage of sales of Glade products sold in Checkers Gauteng stores and the surrounding provinces to give back to the people, the majority of which are women, that support our brand," explains Rashmi Vadivelu, Senior Brand Manager for Glade.

"As a food retailer, hunger relief is a top priority in terms of our corporate social investment strategy. Supporting food gardens is one of the key ways in which we serve the communities in which we trade. In the last year we invested in more than 87 gardens across South Africa providing meals to over 400 000 individuals," adds Lunga Schoeman, CSI Manager of the Shoprite Group.

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