



Client:  
Women's Supported Housing &  
Empowerment  
Somerville, MA

Design Team:  
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Grants:  
The Agnes M. Lindsay Trust;  
Anonymous Foundation;  
Cambridge Mustard Seed Foundation;  
Farm & Garden Association;  
LEF Foundation;  
Somerville Neighborhood  
Improvement Council

Completion: June 10, 2000



Kent Street Apartments in Somerville is a low income housing facility developed and managed by Women's Supported Housing and Empowerment, Inc. (WSHE) and The Community Builders to provide a stable and supportive living environment for previously homeless women and their children.

Over the winter, the design team worked with the residents to create a

plan that would turn construction leftovers into attractive gathering spaces for the entire community. On a beautiful day in June, a "Planting Brigade" made up of designers, residents and a group of skilled and experienced volunteers installed the garden. By the end of the day, a narrow and sterile space was transformed into an alley of trees and shrubs.

Garden design is the art of creating places in the landscape that please the eye and nourish the spirit. At the Kent Street Apartments, the residents became designers to create beautiful places uniquely their own. The evolution of this garden was an exciting and extraordinarily satisfying experience for the residents, the Design Team, the Planting Brigade, and the many supporters who made this project happen.

