Garden Design for CNY Services Group Residence

In Fall 2010, CNY Services partnered with SUNY College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry’s Center for Community Design Research to work with residents and staff to envision a new backyard garden design to benefit the health and well-being of its residents. Three workshops were held with the goal of creating enthusiasm, interest, and a sense of ownership for a garden. Three landscape architecture students and a supervising professor led the workshops and then used their experiences, observations and the feedback from residents and staff to inform their garden designs. Residents and staff also helped choose a final design that was then prepared by CCDR staff for further development. The final design incorporates a variety of opportunities for residents to interact with the garden landscape—actively and passively. It promotes therapeutic benefits with sensory stimulating plantings, chances to interact and congregate, and growing fresh fruit and vegetables. It provides a safe, welcoming, and home-like atmosphere that residents and staff can all enjoy.