

Late fall 2016, the non-profit Gardeners of Greater Cleveland, came to Malachi House with a proposal. The Garden Club offered to enhance our front tree lawn space, raise the funds, purchase the plants, provide the labor, and transform our rather bleak tree lawn into a beautiful urban garden, complete with a bench and bird bath!

Patients residing at Malachi House receive end-of-life care at no cost to them. Their conditions usually restrict their ability to visit a park or walk in a garden. Studies show that contact with green spaces is calming and is critical to our well-being. This new project will provide these patients with a lovely garden that can be viewed from the front rooms and porches of Malachi House.

Gardeners of Greater Cleveland was originally created in 1932 as the Business Men's Garden Club of Cleveland, joining the Gardeners of America as a Member Club in 1934. Gardeners of Greater Cleveland became the official name in 2007 to reflect the fact that there have been women members and directors of the club for many years.

Gardeners of Greater Cleveland provide college scholarship funds to qualified horticultural high school seniors. They have organized and participated in many community service projects in the Greater Cleveland area, including: Serenity Garden at the Women's Transitional Housing Inc., Tranquility Garden at the St. Joseph's Home for Disadvantaged Men, Interfaith Hospitality Gardens in Tremont, Interfaith Hospitality Network Garden, Spinal Cord Injury Center at the Wade Park Veterans Hospital, Garden installations at facilities owned by the AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland . . . and now our own Malachi House!

Gardeners of Greater Cleveland reached out to others in the community and received support for this project from:

- Kurtz Brothers Inc.
- The Home Depot (West 117th store, Jim Drinkwater, Manager)
- Petitti Garden Centers
- The Gardeners of America/Men's Garden Clubs of America "Gardening from the Heart" Program
- Lowe's (Rocky River store) referral to a gentleman (Del)

Malachi House wishes to extend its heartfelt gratitude to everyone who assisted in this amazing Gardeners of Greater Cleveland project. Enjoy the photos of the transformation, and please stop by and enjoy our urban garden!