

Foundation of Sustainable Living: Concerns and Solutions

Cooperation on a local and global people-to-people scale and redefining community is imperative for preserving our future. Creating connections within existing communities is important and creating/assisting intentional communities to network together is important. Below are some concerns, ranging from personal to global, matched to the solutions we are modeling.

<i>Concerns</i>	<i>Sustainable Community Solutions</i>
Safety for family members. Parents want to protect their children from growing societal dangers. We all want good care to be provided for our elderly, the holders of community's most concentrated wisdom.	Family-centered neighbors. People sharing common values create safe, nurturing places where all ages are cared for and valued as they lead productive, useful, and dignified lives.
High quality education for all ages. Current education systems were designed to prepare workers for industrial jobs in systems that do not foster equality, creativity and ingenuity, and may not last for the next generation.	Education for personal, community and global needs. Cradle to grave learning and teaching – share what you know and learn more. All ages teach and learn environmentally sustainable living in close-knit communities caring for one another and the planet.
Food quality. “Trans-National Factory Farm” food has less nutritional value, taste and may not be safe. Today, few people feed many people who are isolated from being able to impact food quality.	Locally grown fresh organic food free of pesticides, chemical fertilizers and genetic modification, tastes better and is healthier. Many must feed fewer of us in local, low energy input, sustainable farms.
Health care. High health care and insurance costs diminish family financial stability and business profits. The growing shortage of elder care medical services creates uncertain futures for seniors.	Health and wellness centers offer training and care in many forms of health service. People learn to use natural remedies, many grown in the community, for optimal health.
Job security. Outsourcing, pension cuts and “rat race burnout” creates financial instability, resulting in unstable families and an unstable nation.	Meaningful jobs. Locally networking communities creates new jobs that meet the needs of families and their communities and keeps money local.
National economy. Currency devaluation, ongoing wars, rising deficits, and income inequalities always undermine a people's confidence in government and the trans-national business who control government.	Financial independence. Local enterprises not dependent on trans-nationals or governments keep money local and are less impacted by national business, government, and global instabilities.
Global development. Emerging economies have to depend on corporations that are run for profit, not for helping families or the environment.	People-to-people programs are helping new and old economies grow with small loans and training in self-reliance and sustainability.
Planetary overpopulation, diminishing resources and climate change. Eco-refugee numbers continue to grow as hotter climate and water shortages reduce food supplies, rising oceans submerge islands, and storms destroy homes. In this country the general population has no skills or education crucial to providing basic needs as we enter this phase of climate, environmental and population disruption. We urgently need people who can share these skills.	Replicate models of sustainable living. We are creating a community designed to care for the needs of people and the earth. We must produce our own renewable energy, food, fiber, green buildings and small locally networked businesses without harming the land. We are localizing production of basic needs and restoration of the environment in areas with low population density and the highest probability for climate stability. We will train others in these skills.

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