Liesel Theusch

Critical Incident Journal

Erika Allen Lecture

 I attended Erika Allen’s public lecture at MSU. At the lecture, she presented how her father has worked to bring healthy and fresh food to poor communities and food deserts in urban areas. She discussed Growing Power’s progress, hardships they have faced, and their future aspirations. A lot of the projects she presented were small plots that produced healthy foods for the surrounding communities that would not have access to fresh food otherwise. The fact that a lot of her work was based on small projects across the country drove home the fact that a small idea can grow to have large impact.

I believe this applies to global citizenship because her father’s dream was to give back to communities in need of fresh food. He didn’t do it by starting a large corporation. He made a difference by starting in a set of run-down greenhouses in Milwaukee. Many world problems could be solved if people that see a problem in their community make an effort to correct it. Many of us think that we need to be rich or powerful to make a difference in the world we live in, but that’s not true. Anything that impacts our way of living starts with one step in the right direction. Erika Allen’s lecture was accompanied by many photos depicting troubled youth, families, retirees, majorities, and minorities. All it takes is one person.