

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

Dear supporters,

It is a great honor and privilege to be reflecting back on 2016 as the new Executive Director of Grow Pittsburgh. Having worked previously as Director of Educational Programming at Grow Pittsburgh, as a third generation Pittsburgh native and as a father raising children in this city, I couldn't be more proud of the work that Grow Pittsburgh has been doing, or more excited about where we are going in support of our mission to teach people how to grow food and promote the benefits that gardens bring to our neighborhoods.

Under Julie Butcher Pezzino's leadership over the past seven years, we have turned a small nonprofit working to carve out its niche in our city into a thriving and essential entity working collaboratively towards positive change in the food, environmental, social and economic sectors. From establishing and supporting school and community gardens, to the growing of thousands of pounds of produce by and for communities who otherwise wouldn't have access to this food, to championing progressive urban agriculture policies, we have grown and adapted to the ever changing Pittsburgh landscape.

In 2016, we were struck by how many more individuals, community organizations and schools were interested in establishing food gardens and looking to Grow Pittsburgh as a support and resource in their efforts. We increased our individual membership, had record number of school garden applications, grew our garden resource center participation, and provided the most support to date to community gardens through our sustainability fund. Clearly, the benefits of urban agriculture are resonating throughout our region and we are poised to continue to support and advocate for this important work.

I know that none of this would be possible without all of your support. This work, in its very nature, is collaborative and built upon meaningful community participation. Grounded by the leadership and guidance of my predecessors, and inspired by our staff, community partners and friends, I look forward to continuing to work towards our vision—that everyone in our city and region has the opportunity to grow and eat local, healthy, affordable and culturally appropriate food.

Warmly,

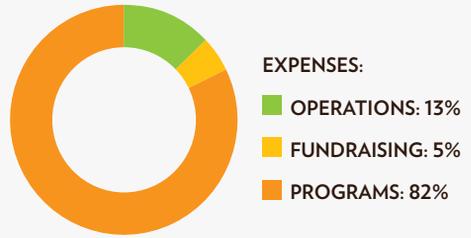
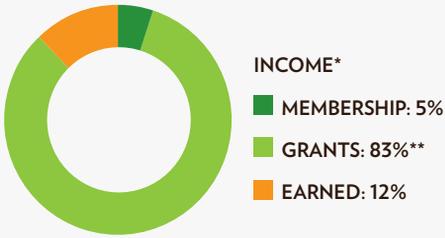


Jake Seltman, Executive Director



“I AM STILL AMAZED BY THE AMOUNT AND VARIETY OF VEGETABLES WE WERE ABLE TO HARVEST FROM THE PLANTERS AND GARDEN INSTALLATION! I, ALONG WITH THE STUDENTS, LEARNED A LOT!”

—Teacher at Pittsburgh Arsenal



* Figures based on un-audited financial statements

** Includes multi-year grants

WE GROW FOOD

- Grew 19,740 pounds of food on our production sites
- Hosted 14 farm tours for community groups and students
- 149 volunteers worked 670 hours on our production sites
- 90 percent of the produce grown at Shiloh Farm was sold to local residents through a weekly farm stand at the farm and a new stand at the Homewood Farmers' Market
- Hosted a visit from PA Department of Agriculture Secretary Russell Redding to Braddock Farms with the Pittsburgh Food Policy Council and Penn State Extension
- Grew 15,000 seedlings
- Donated nearly 3,000 pounds of produce to the Braddock Free Store, 412 Food Rescue and Greater Pittsburgh Area Community Food Bank

“THE CUCUMBER SALAD WE MADE LAST YEAR IS NOW MY SPECIALITY. I MAKE IT FOR MY FAMILY”

— 3rd Grade Colfax Student



“THIS APPRENTICESHIP HAS HELPED ME REALIZE THE LARGE NEED FOR FRESH FOOD IN MORE AREAS SURROUNDING PITTSBURGH AND UNDERSTAND HOW TO SUSTAIN MY ENVIRONMENT WHILE ALSO USING GREEN TECHNOLOGY.”

— 2016 Urban Farm Apprentice

WE TEACH PEOPLE HOW TO GROW FOOD

- Hosted 19 garden education workshops with a total of 214 participants
- Constructed five new Learning Gardens at Pittsburgh Public Schools, extending access to school gardens to 6,039 students
- The Urban Farm Apprentices received 1276 hours of hands-on training at Grow Pittsburgh’s production sites and 433 hours of educational experiences at local farms, restaurants, and community organizations
- Hosted the 3rd Annual Youth Garden Summit bringing together 60 youth from nine unique groups across Pittsburgh who spent their summer focused on food growing projects
- Partnered with the Frick Pittsburgh to lead the Learning Tree program with 375 second graders who took tours of the greenhouse and planted herb seeds
- Worked with local chef partners to present cooking demonstrations to over 800 students
- Conducted a workshop on self-watering containers with Family Care Connections Arlington



“THIS WORKSHOP PROVIDED SO MUCH INFORMATION, THOUGHT AND PERSPECTIVE THAT CANNOT BE FOUND ONLINE.”

—Workshop Participant

WE BUILD AND SUPPORT GARDENS

- The Garden Resource Center increased the number of enrolled users by over 150 percent, and had over 2,400 rentals to home and community gardeners
- Over 185 people attended our 4th Annual Seed Swap with Phipps Conservatory and Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh
- Partnered with the Western PA Conservancy to award 31 gardens with \$16,000 in grants for garden improvements
- Worked with communities to create 4,510 square feet of new growing space in Allegheny County
- 417 community gardeners attended Grow Pittsburgh workshops, garden events and volunteer days, working together to grow 7,418 pounds of food
- Provided seeds and gardening information to nearly 1400 people at the Greater Pittsburgh Area Food Bank's Produce to People
- Donated over 2,500 seedlings to the Braddock Youth Project, Arthouse, and the Garden Resource Center
- Grow Pittsburgh membership increased by 181 percent, and the amount of membership income increased by 238 percent
- Hosted the Harvest Feast event at the Frick Pittsburgh, an end-of-season celebration for our volunteers, members and programming partners

“THE GARDEN RESOURCE CENTER IS A PLACE WHERE EVERYONE FEELS WELCOME AND RESPECTED; REGARDLESS OF INCOME, RACE, GENDER OR GARDENING ABILITY.” – GRC User



THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING PARTNERS FOR THEIR FINANCIAL AND PROGRAMMING SUPPORT

AgRecycle Compost Center	Cutting Root Apothecary	La Prima Espresso Company	Revive Marketing Group LLC
Allegheny County Conservation District	Day La Soul Catering	Leech Tishman	Sankofa Village for the Arts
Allegheny County Controller's Office	Deco Resources	Legume Bistro	School at Frick Park
Allegheny County Economic Development	Don's Appliances	Let's Move Pittsburgh	Seed Aquaponics
American Eagle Outfitters	Duquesne University Law Clinic	Little Garden Club of Sewickley	Seeders & Weeders Garden Club
Avenue B	e2	Luminari / Camp Delicious	Sharpsburg Community Library
Bear Left Bear, LLC	East End Food Coop	Marcus Studio	South Hills Interfaith Movement
Bible Center Church, Inc.	Eat n' Park Hospitality Group	McAuley Ministries	Spirit
Bidwell Training Center	Eisler Landscapes, Inc.	Miller Mats	Square Cafe
big Burrito Restaurant Group	Engine House 25 Wines	Modesto Studios	Squaw Run Garden Club
Black Urban Gardeners and Farmers of Pittsburgh Co-op	Ethos Collaborative	Nature Works Farm	Superior Motors, LLC
BNY Mellon Community Partnership	Evey True Value Hardware Co Inc.	Nature's Way Market of Greensburg	Sweet Peaches, LLC
Braddock Carnegie Library Neighborhood Print Shop	Fairmont Hotels Pittsburgh	New Sun Rising	TeleTracking Technologies
Braddock Free Store	Fairview Capital Investment Mgmt	Nine Mile Run Watershed	The Butterjoint
Braddock Redux	Frank B. Fuhrer Wholesale Co.	North Hills Community Outreach	The Consortium for Public Education
Braddock Youth Project	Frick Art & Historical Center	Ola's Herb Shop	The Davey Tree Expert Company
Burgh Bees	Garden Club of Allegheny County	Operation Better Block / Jr. Green Corps	The Environmental Charter School at Frick Park
Cannon Design	Garden Dreams	Penn State Cooperative Extension	The Kitchen Community
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh	Garfield Farms	Pennoni Associates	The Porch at Schenley
Carnegie Mellon University School of Architecture	Goat Rodeo Farm and Dairy	Penns Corner Farm Alliance	The Sprout Fund
Chatham University School of Sustainability	Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank	Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture	Thomas Blvd Group
Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh's Healthy Schools Program	Green Building Alliance	Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture	Thoughtful Balance
Children's Museum of Pittsburgh	GTECH Strategies	Pennsylvania State University	Tree Pittsburgh
Chipotle Mexican Kitchen	High Mowing Seeds	Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens	Turtle Creek Borough
Churchill Garden Club	Hill House Association	Pittsburgh Distilling Company LLC	Turtle Creek Development Corporation
Churchview Farm	Hillcrest Nursery	Pittsburgh Food Policy Council	United Somali Bantu of Greater Pittsburgh
Common Ground Community Land Trust	Hilltop Alliance	Pittsburgh Public School Food Services	University of Pittsburgh's PittServes
Community College of Allegheny County	Homewood Children's Village	Pittsburgh Public Schools	Village Garden Club
Crafton Borough	Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh	Point Breezeway	Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
Crankshaft Service Co.	Idea Foundry	Propel Charter School	Whitehall Presbyterian Church
CTC Electric LLC	Johnny's Selected Seeds	Red Oak Café	Wilderness Lumber Co.
	Just Harvest	Repair the World, Inc.	Wilksburg Youth Project
	KDKA NewsRadio 1020		Window Box Garden Club
	KEYS Service Corps		YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh

THANK YOU TO THE FOLLOWING FOUNDATIONS FOR THEIR GENEROSITY

Braddock Voices Giving Circle
of The Pittsburgh Foundation

Carol Lang Family Foundation

Colcom Foundation

Dollar Bank Foundation

Edwin R. Crawford Estate Trust

Henry John Simonds Foundation

Henry L Hillman Foundation

Howard & Nell E. Miller Foundation

Laurel Foundation

Network for Good

Nina Baldwin Fisher Foundation

McCartan Charitable Trust
of The Pittsburgh Foundation

McCune Foundation

McSwigan Family Foundation

Remmel Foundation

RK Mellon Foundation

The Benter Foundation

The Buhl Foundation

The Futrell Foundation

The Grable Foundation

The Heinz Endowments

The Kraft Heinz Company Foundation

The Pittsburgh Foundation

The Sampson Foundation

Grow Pittsburgh thanks the many individual members, volunteers, GRC users, growers and community partners who support our work and mission of teaching people how to grow food and promoting the benefits gardens bring to our neighborhoods.



WE KEEP GROWING!

- Added three new positions to Grow Pittsburgh staff and hired a total of six new team members
- Six office dogs came in to visit regularly
- Underwent office renovation adding meeting spaces, storage and flexible workspace to accommodate more staff

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Shannon Anglero, *Vice Chair*

Jacob Bacharach, *Treasurer*

Jennifer Bonfile

Tim Cook, *Chair*

Chris Fletcher

Vikki Ayanna Jones

Jordan Kay

Anne Marie Kuchera, *Secretary*

Sarah Miley

Ryan Misenheimer

Kelly Price

Alexander Saksen

Sara Thompson

GROW PITTSBURGH TEAM:

Christina Bard

Office & Membership Manager

Eva Barinas

School Garden Coordinator

AJ Bisesi

Community Garden Coordinator

Rachel Brunner

Community Garden Coordinator

Maggie Graham

Communications Consultant

Marshall Hart

Braddock Farms Manager

Denele Hughson

Education and Community

Outreach Coordinator

Rebekah Jenkins

Director of Operations

Alyssa Kail

Braddock Farms Assistant

Nick Lubecki

*Frick Greenhouse
and Shiloh Farm Manager*

Carla Lukehart

Learning Garden Project Manager

Kathy Mahoney

Accountant

Marisa Manheim

Director of Community Projects

Molly McHolme

Garden Educator

Paul Pagoda

Garden Educator

Julie Butcher Pezzino

Executive Director

Jim Rowell

High School Garden Educator

Jake Seltman

Director of Educational Programming

Rayden Sorock

*Community Garden
Program Manager*

Michelle Soto

Garden Educator

Celeste Taylor

Seasonal Greenhouse Worker

Valerie Testa

Frick/Shiloh Farm Assistant

URBAN FARM APPRENTICE TEAM:

Tajona Mays-Ford

Rashay Evans

Daijohn Bey

Erik Gans

Robert Grey

Sydnee Turner

Essence Muhammed Howze

Tylar Gardner

THANKS TO OUR STAFF, APPRENTICES, VOLUNTEERS, AND BOARD FOR THEIR HARD WORK IN 2016!



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**“ALL APPRENTICES
WERE COMMITTED
AND ENTHUSIASTIC
PARTICIPANTS, EAGER TO
BOTH WORK & TO LEARN.”**

— Programming Partner, Churchview Farm

**“THIS YEAR I HAVE BEEN
EMPOWERED BY GROW
PITTSBURGH’S
EDUCATION TEAM.
I LEARNED ADVANCED
FARMING TECHNIQUES
THAT HAVE ENABLED
ME TO MAINTAIN A
SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE.”**

— 2016 Urban Farm Apprentice



**“BECAUSE OF THIS
GARDEN, I HAVE FORMED
BEAUTIFUL FRIENDSHIPS
WITH COMMUNITY
MEMBERS.”**

— Turtle Creek Gardener

