

SCHOOL GARDENS IMPACT REPORT



Thank you! Your generous support helped create and sustain school gardens, trained and inspired teachers, and made it possible for children throughout Allegheny County to learn how to grow, cook, and eat fresh food.

Thanks to your contribution, more than 25,000 students across the Pittsburgh region were able to experience the many benefits of gardening last year! Your help also provided extra hands-on support for struggling schools and connected teachers to resources like lesson plans, garden recipes, and a network of fellow educators.

2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR BY THE NUMBERS

- **25** school gardens received hands-on active programming with our team
- **6** new early childhood gardens created in 2022-2023
- **100%** of teachers believe gardening enhanced student engagement in class
- **100%** of teachers believe that work in the school garden increased student capacity for teamwork and cooperation
- **100%** of teachers feel that students experienced physical and emotional benefits from being outdoors
- **100%** of teachers noticed among students an enhanced knowledge of growing food and/or desire to grow food at home.



We love our garden and really enjoy growing things! Thank you so much for always helping us get the supplies we need. We look forward to doing even better in the future.

- Teacher, Pittsburgh Carmalt K-8



This year I took 9 different classes outside to the garden for a spring planting and an end of the year (summer) planting. We split all the classes in two groups and while half of them planted, the other half worked on a lesson. It was great to get almost 200 kids outside using the garden. It also helped us get over 30 families to volunteer to help work in the garden this summer!

- Teacher, O'Block Elementary (Plum)

Our garden blooms beautifully each year and the children love it.

- Early Childhood Educator, Angel's Place North Side

My kids are completely enthralled by the small steps and visible growth they've seen in things they actually planted with their own hands. They have so much pride in their work, and show such care for the plants they're raising - there are few opportunities for them to have that level of agency. Having not only the outdoor garden but the greenhouse in the classroom where they can actively care for and check on their plants throughout the day has made a big difference in their level of independence in a variety of day-to-day opportunities and responsibilities.

- Educator, The Early Learning Center at Yeshiva School

