Dear Supporters and Friends,

At Grow Pittsburgh we work hard to support food growing projects across Allegheny County so we can all realize the many benefits gardens bring to our lives. In this difficult moment in history, with the outbreak of COVID-19, I’m particularly struck by both the therapeutic benefits that gardening can provide, as well as the health benefits and nutrition that growing our own food offers our community.

The past year certainly reflects these positive impacts across each of our programs. In 2019, we celebrated ten years of our community garden program, which started as an internship project. Thanks to your gifts of time, talent, and treasure, along with the efforts of so many neighbors and communities all over Pittsburgh, we’ve been able to support more than 100 community gardens in Allegheny County over the past decade. These thriving green spaces account for over 450,000 square feet of new garden space and 300,000 pounds of fresh, nourishing food in our community. Beyond numbers, the people involved in our community, school, and backyard gardens consistently share that they feel the most happy when working in the soil.

As I write this note from the quiet of my home, my thoughts are with you all in the hopes that this finds you and your loved ones and colleagues in good health. May we all find resilience, patience, and deep connection to help us move through this difficult time. As spring begins blooming around us, I’m reminded that growing and preparing our own food is truly an essential function, and we remain committed to reaching our vision where everyone in our community is able to grow and eat fresh local food. Thank you for believing in and supporting this vital work.

Sincerely,

Jake Seltman, Executive Director

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**INCOME**

* TOTAL: $1,708,963
  - MEMBERSHIP: $149,160
    Corporate & member support
  - GRANTS: $1,395,317
    Includes multi-year grants
  - EARNED: $164,486

**EXPENSES**

* TOTAL: $1,548,262
  - OPERATIONS: $206,241
  - FUNDRAISING: $105,178
  - PROGRAMS: $1,236,843

* Figures based on un-audited financial statements
• In partnership with Allegheny Land Trust, protected EastField Cooperative Garden in East Liberty and Garden Dreams Urban Farm & Nursery in Wilkinsburg in perpetuity through Three Rivers Agricultural Land Initiative (TRALI)

• Celebrated the 10th anniversary of the Community Garden Program in partnership with The Gardens of Millvale, one of the first gardens established through the program a decade ago

• Grew member community to more than 500 individual donors and volunteers

BUILDING OUT URBAN AGRICULTURE AND EDUCATION HUB AT GARDEN DREAMS SITE
including building a new greenhouse space, launching a workshare program, expanding youth and young farmer apprentice programs, and establishing a community gathering space
“THAT’S MY FAVORITE PART. JUST BEING THERE, MEETING PEOPLE. IT GIVES BACK TO THE COMMUNITY, KEEPS EVERYTHING IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.”

—Tyree, Homewood Youth Market

WE GROW FOOD

• Sold over 24,000 pounds of food to local residents between two weekly farm stands at Braddock and Shiloh Farms and through a partnership with Penn’s Corner Farm Alliance

• Donated more than 3,800 pounds of food to Braddock Youth Project, Heritage Community Initiatives, Rankin Christian Center, and Wilkinsburg Youth Project

• Sold 460 pounds of produce during inaugural year of biweekly SOKO Community Markets in the Hill District following the closing of the neighborhood’s Shop’N Save

• Hosted 57 farm tours to 984 individuals from school, community, and corporate groups, as well as part of the Pittsburgh Urban Farm Tour

• Grew over 20,000 seedlings, 2,000 of which were donated to users at the Garden Resource Center, area community gardens, and nonprofit partners

• Distributed more than 4,000 pounds of food through a youth market initiative in tandem with Urban Farmers in Training program at farm stands in Homewood and Braddock

LOOKING AHEAD

CONTINUING TO INCREASE ACCESS TO FRESH FOOD IN BRADDOCK
by increasing the number of farm stands held each week on-site the farm, based on community feedback
“YOU DON’T EVEN HAVE TO BE A GARDENER TO PARTICIPATE. PEOPLE LIKE COMING AND WALKING AROUND THE GARDEN BECAUSE IT MAKES THEM FEEL GOOD.”

—Scott, Duquesne Community Victory Garden

WE BUILD AND SUPPORT GARDENS

• 181 new users joined 185 renewing users at the Garden Resource Center, surpassing 11,000 all time loans in its fifth year of operation

• More than 700 area growers convened for the 7th Annual Seed and Plant Swap, put on in partnership with Phipps Conservatory and Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

• Partnered with Western Pennsylvania Conservancy to award $20,000 in materials to support improvement projects at 39 gardens, as part of our Community Garden Sustainability Fund

• 343 community gardeners from 8 community gardens in our program logged 3,090 volunteer hours at garden workdays, events, and workshops

• Worked with garden groups to support 1.2 acres of new gardens in Allegheny County

• Received 12 applications from regional garden groups interested in pursuing site protection under TRALI

LOOKING AHEAD

LAUNCHING A MASTER COMPOSTER CERTIFICATION COURSE to train community members in best management practices for coordinating and operating community compost projects at five existing garden sites throughout Allegheny County
“I SAW STUDENTS WHO RARELY PARTICIPATE IN MY CLASSROOM OPEN UP AND JUMP IN WHEN WORKING IN THE GARDEN, AND AFTER THAT THEY WERE MORE ENGAGED IN CLASS.”

—Teacher in Learning Garden

WE TEACH PEOPLE HOW TO GROW FOOD

- Hosted 14 adult Garden Workshops with a total of 234 participants
- Partnered with Homewood Children’s Village and Braddock Youth Project on Urban Farmers in Training, a six-week summer education and employment program for 20 youth
- Hosted two events as part of the 6th Annual Youth Garden Summit, attended by over 100 youth from across the region who spent their summer focused on food growing projects
- Piloted school garden programming with 234 students in six early childhood education centers in Pittsburgh Public Schools and Hosanna House as part of statewide Ready, Set, Grow! initiative
- Partnered with The Frick Pittsburgh to lead the Learning Tree Program, in which 221 students from Colfax and Faison schools learned curriculum-based garden and cooking programming
- Hosted four Teacher Trainings for 50 educators representing 36 schools

LOOKING AHEAD

ENVISIONING CONTINUED GROWTH AND LONG TERM SUSTAINABILITY OF LEARNING GARDEN PROGRAM, leading up to and following completion of 40 Learning Gardens established since 2016, with gardens in 28 of 54 Pittsburgh Public Schools
THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS FOR THEIR SUPPORT

COMMUNITY

412 Food Rescue
AgRecycle Compost Center
Allegheny County Conservation District
Allegheny Intermediate Unit
Allegheny Land Trust
AmeriCorps/KEYS Service Corps
Apple Cookie and Chocolate Factory
Associated Master Plumbers of Allegheny County
Baker Creek Heirloom Seeds
Bonfire Food & Drink
Bathhouse Ceramics Studio
Bear Left Bear
Bible Center Church
big Burrito Restaurant Group
Big Green
Black Urban Gardeners and Farmers of Pittsburgh Co-op (BUGS)
Bloomfield Yoga
Braddock Borough
Braddock Carnegie Library
Braddock Economic Development Corporation
Braddock Redux
Braddock Youth Project
BTC Center Inc.
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh
Chatham University
School of Sustainability
Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh’s Healthy School Program
Churchview Farm
City of Duquesne
City of Pittsburgh
City of McKeesport
Common Threads
Crankshaft Service Co.
Cutting Root Apothecary
DRE/media Solutions
Duquesne Family Center
East End Brewing Company
East End Food Coop
Easy Digging
Eisler Landscapes
Eminent Hospitality Solutions
Ethos Collaborative
Evey True Value Hardware
Farm to Table Western PA
First Presbyterian Church of Duquesne
Fresh Thyme Farmers Market
Frick Art and Historical Center
Garden Club of Allegheny County
Garden Dreams
Urban Farm and Nursery
Gateway School District
Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank
Grist House
Grounded Strategies
Harvie
Herbein and Co.
Heritage Community Initiatives
Hill House Association
Hill Community Development Corporation
Hilltop Urban Farm
Homewood Children’s Village
Idea Foundry
Johnny’s Selected Seeds
Just Harvest
Kurzweg Tavern Co.
Landforce
Let’s Move Pittsburgh
Local Government Academy
Marcus Studio
McKeesport Family Center
Mon River Fleet Lion’s Club
Nature Works Farm
New Academy Charter School
New Sun Rising
Nine Mile Run
Watershed Association
Northgate School District
Office of Public Art
Ohio Earth Foods
Operation Better Block / Junior Green Corps
Pashek + MTR
Paragon Foods
Penn State Cooperative Extension
Penn’s Corner Farm Alliance
Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture
Pennsylvania Women’s Agricultural Network
Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens
PittMoss
Pittsburgh Food Policy Council
Pittsburgh Paralegal Association
Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy
Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation
Pittsburgh Public Schools
Pittsburgh Public Schools Food Services
Pittsburgh Urban Gardening Project
PNC Bank
PrimeLending
Procopia
Propel Schools
RAND Corporation
Repair the World Pittsburgh
Sankofa Village
Community Garden
Seed Savers Exchange
Smith Construction
Spirit
Sprezzatura
Square Cafe
Strassburger McKenna Gutnick & Gefska
Student Conservation Association
Superior Motors
Sycamore Estate
The Environmental Charter School at Frick Park
The Food Trust
The Gardens of Millvale
Thomas Blvd Group
Threadbare Cider and Mead
Tree Pittsburgh
Triple A&R Farm
Trellis Legal
Triboro Ecodistrict
Trident Enterprises/DeerBusters
United Somali Bantu of Greater Pittsburgh
University of Pittsburgh’s PittServes
Urban League of Pittsburgh
Western Pennsylvania Conservancy
Whitaker Community Cares
Whitaker Borough
Wilderness Lumber Co.
Wilkins Township
Wilkinsburg School District
Wilkinsburg Youth Project
Woodland Hills School District
YMCA of Greater Pittsburgh
YWCA of Greater Pittsburgh
The Heinz Endowments
The Opportunity Fund
The Pittsburgh Foundation
The Sampson Foundation
Tull Family Foundation
Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh
USDA Farm to School
Zeve Family Foundation

FUNDERS

Allegheny County Economic Development
Allegheny County Health Department
Allegheny Foundation
Benter Foundation
Birmingham Foundation
Buhl Foundation
Colcom Foundation
Edwin R. Crawford Estate Trust
American Eagle Outfitters
CannonDesign
Carnegie Mellon University - Heinz College
Dollar Bank
Eat’n Park Hospitality Group
EIS Solar
FedEx Ground
Giant Eagle
Penn Fencing
Pirates Charities
Rivendale Farms
UPMC Health Plan
Whole Foods Market

CORPORATE

Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh
BTC Center Inc.
Braddock Youth Project
Bible Center Church
big Burrito Restaurant Group
Big Green
Black Urban Gardeners and Farmers of Pittsburgh Co-op (BUGS)
Bloomfield Yoga
Braddock Borough
Braddock Carnegie Library
Braddock Economic Development Corporation
Braddock Redux
Braddock Youth Project
BTC Center Inc.
Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh
Chatham University
School of Sustainability
Children’s Hospital of Pittsburgh’s Healthy School Program
Churchview Farm
City of Duquesne
City of Pittsburgh
City of McKeesport
Common Threads
Crankshaft Service Co.
Cutting Root Apothecary
DRE/media Solutions
Duquesne Family Center
East End Brewing Company
East End Food Coop
Easy Digging
Eisler Landscapes
Eminent Hospitality Solutions
Ethos Collaborative
Evey True Value Hardware
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First Presbyterian Church of Duquesne
Fresh Thyme Farmers Market
Frick Art and Historical Center
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Homewood Children’s Village
Idea Foundry
Johnny’s Selected Seeds
Just Harvest
Kurzweg Tavern Co.
Landforce
Let’s Move Pittsburgh
Local Government Academy
Marcus Studio
McKeesport Family Center
Mon River Fleet Lion’s Club
Nature Works Farm
New Academy Charter School
New Sun Rising
Nine Mile Run
Watershed Association
Northgate School District
Office of Public Art
Ohio Earth Foods
Operation Better Block / Junior Green Corps
Pashek + MTR
Paragon Foods
Penn State Cooperative Extension
Penn’s Corner Farm Alliance
Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture
Pennsylvania Women’s Agricultural Network
Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens
PittMoss
Pittsburgh Food Policy Council
Pittsburgh Paralegal Association
Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy
Pittsburgh Penguins Foundation
Pittsburgh Public Schools
Pittsburgh Public Schools Food Services
Pittsburgh Urban Gardening Project
PNC Bank
PrimeLending
Procopia
Propel Schools
RAND Corporation
Repair the World Pittsburgh
Sankofa Village
Community Garden
Seed Savers Exchange
Smith Construction
Spirit
Sprezzatura
Square Cafe
Strassburger McKenna Gutnick & Gefska
Student Conservation Association
Superior Motors
Sycamore Estate
The Environmental Charter School at Frick Park
The Food Trust
The Gardens of Millvale
Thomas Blvd Group
Threadbare Cider and Mead
Tree Pittsburgh
Triple A&R Farm
Trellis Legal
Triboro Ecodistrict
Trident Enterprises/DeerBusters
United Somali Bantu of Greater Pittsburgh
University of Pittsburgh’s PittServes
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American Eagle Outfitters
CannonDesign
Carnegie Mellon University - Heinz College
Dollar Bank
Eat’n Park Hospitality Group
EIS Solar
FedEx Ground
Giant Eagle
Penn Fencing
Pirates Charities
Rivendale Farms
UPMC Health Plan
Whole Foods Market
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Farm Outreach Assistant

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THANKS TO OUR STAFF, VOLUNTEERS, AND BOARD FOR THEIR HARD WORK IN 2019!