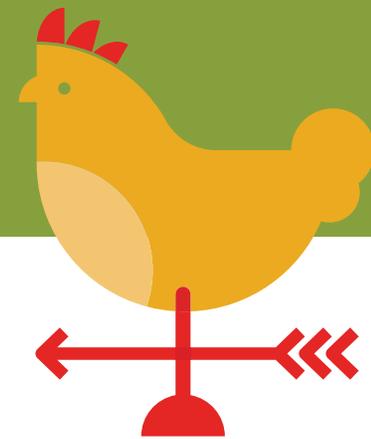


YOUTH FARM

ANNUAL
REPORT
2019



Our mission is simple.
We farm to grow.

We farm to grow food,
community, and, most
importantly, young leaders.

Youth Farm's Community:

Youth Farm offers farm and food programming, leadership development, and employment opportunities to youth ages 9-24, aiming to engage youth who may have barriers to accessing high quality programming elsewhere. In 2019, Youth Farm worked with over 1,500 youth throughout North Minneapolis and the Frogtown and West Side neighborhoods of St. Paul. Place matters to us, so our participants reside in, attend school in, and/or have a strong connection to one of these neighborhoods.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

John Hutchins, Board Chair, Deputy General Counsel, American Academy of Neurology & General Counsel, American Brain Foundation

Patti Hague, Board Treasurer, Independent Nonprofit Consultant

Kenneth Edwards, Innovation, Technology, and Quality Leader, General Mills Canada

Alex Lange, Teacher, Whittier School

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Shanna Woods, Employment Coach, Lifetrack

Diane Fisher, CPA (inactive), Retired Finance Professional/Community Volunteer

Amy Campbell, Marketing Professional

Michelle DeLamielleure, Director of Consumer Insights & Analytics, Schwan's Food Company

Dorothy Dahlenburg, Retired Financial and Development Professional

Nathan Moen, Business Operations Analyst, Life Time, Inc.

STAFF:

Gunnar Liden, Executive Director

Amanda Stoelb, Associate Director

Sarah Sarzoza, Director of St. Paul Programs

Marcus Kar, Director of North Minneapolis Programs

Heather Wiitala, Business Director

Jesus Perez, Program Specialist

AJ Zozulin, Program Specialist

Erin Finneman, Development and Communications Associate



YOUTH
FARM

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Programs & Accomplishments:

Our youth development curriculum is based on a unique progressive program model that is broken down into four age groups. While all age groups work together, each has its own set of skill development goals:

YOUTH FARMERS (AGE 9-11) & ALL STARS (AGE 12-13): Youth Farmers and All Stars participate in farm, food, and cooking classes, learning to hone their gardening and cooking skills while becoming role models, working within the food system, and making decisions regarding programming and food distribution. In 2019, Youth Farmers were actively engaged in their school gardens and learned how to interact with older youth through Project LEAD-led garden work days. All Stars were challenged to plan large projects, specifically at Olson Middle School where the sixth grade class is working in partnership with Program Director, Marcus Kar, to design aquaponic gardens that will grow produce for their school salad bar.

PROJECT LEAD (AGE 14-18): Project LEAD participants take on part-time employment in which their role is to lead programming for younger youth, assist with farm design, and co-host community events. This year, Project LEAD developed strong mentorship, conflict resolution, and leadership skills through their roles as facilitators during garden work days with Jackson Elementary School students and volunteer groups and as organizers at the Playing for the Plants garden music event series.

FARM STEWARDS (AGE 19-24): Farm Stewards participate in employment opportunities and take on the leadership of overall farm and program design. They also serve as mentors to younger youth and community connectors between Youth Farm and local businesses, schools, and organizations. In 2019, Farm Stewards successfully built and nurtured relationships with partners such as the Minneapolis Community & Technical College, co-hosted multiple events including Slow Roll Minneapolis and Playing for the Plants, and served as Youth Farm representatives in various contexts, including speaking at our annual event.

Cost of year-round programming (Form 990, not including in-kind): \$413,866



Outcomes & Significant Events:

Throughout our 25 year history, we have prided ourselves on being an organization that sees the need for change and makes it. In 2019, we saw shifting needs throughout the Lyndale and Powderhorn neighborhoods of South Minneapolis, so we made the decision to transfer management of our sites in those neighborhoods to long-time community partners. In addition, we saw the need to shift the way in which we ran summer programming. We have traditionally run an eight week summer camp-style program, but realized this wasn't allowing us to fully reach our goals. In order to engage more youth who may have limited access to programming, we took on a more flexible and organic summer program model, allowing youth to get involved at any point throughout our growing season. Both of these changes spoke to the needs of the communities we work with and we are excited to see how they continue to enhance the quality of our work.

Financial Review for 2019:

INCOME

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|
| Total Support | \$414,840 |
| Total Revenue | \$243,201 |
| Total Support & Revenue | \$658,041 |

EXPENSE

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------|
| Program | \$497,314 |
| Management & General | \$121,790 |
| Fundraising | \$71,788 |
| Total Expenses | \$690,892 |

INCREASE IN NET ASSETS

| | |
|---|----------|
| Net Assets, beginning of the year | \$60,778 |
| Net Assets, end of the year | \$27,927 |

FINANCIAL POSITION, END OF THE YEAR

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| Assets | \$305,763 |
| Liabilities | \$72,171 |
| Donor Restricted Net Assets | \$205,665 |
| Unrestricted Net Assets | \$27,927 |
| Total Liabilities & Net Assets | \$305,763 |

