



YOUTH GROW'S MISSION

Youth Grow engages kids in food and gardening, giving them new perspectives on food, health, and the world around them.

I love garden! It was my favorite activity this year!
- 2nd Grader, Faubion K-8

I love watching the plants grow, finding insects and I love Growing Gardens.
- 3rd Grader, Powell Butte

My Kinders really enjoy getting their hands on everything and anything. Garden lessons have helped grow their empathy for others (bugs and plants), as well as excite them about fruits and vegetables.
- Kindergarten Teacher
Patrick Lynch Elementary

This program should be in every school, with options to expand to greater levels of connection with the school's lunch program.
- 4th Grade Teacher, Cherry Park

WHAT WE DO

We work with children ages 18 months-18+ years, providing self-affirming opportunities for kids to connect with food, nature and one another.

- Teach Pre-K - 5th grade lessons, during the school day, that integrate environmental science, food and culture
- Provide Pre-K- 5 after school and summer garden/food education
- Develop teen leaders in food and agriculture through after school, summer programming and internships
- Grow organic fruits and vegetables and offer cafeteria tastings, cooking lessons and take-home kits
- Contribute to an increase in sustainable school garden programs through our School Garden Coordinator Certificate online training, technical assistance and network-building

1

DIRECT EDUCATION

- Taught over 3400 students at 14 distinct sites throughout the city during the school day.
- Provided over 2000 garden and food sessions (school day, afterschool and summer)
- Offered programming in Spanish for students and families pre-k-teens, including our Jardeneria Familiar (pre-k), Semillas Indigenas (k-5) and Sanando en el Jardin (teens) programs
- Offered a for credit summer school course through David Douglas High School's 9th Grade Counts program
- Offered teen leadership opportunities: an 8 week Food Systems Summer Internship for 2 High School Students, and teen assistants during our afterschool program.
- Collaborated with over 150 teaching and other school staff

HOW ARE WE DOING?

2 FOOD SHARING

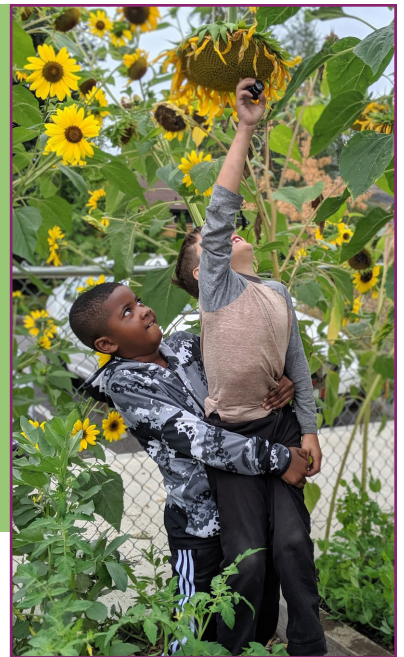
- Delivered over 1494 take home kits an estimated 2,000 pounds of donated food
- Collectively harvested and shared 1,155 pounds of garden produce to families and school food pantries
- Provided 45 cafeteria tastings highlighting local farmers

3 FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

- Family programming for 82 families with very young children
- Participated in or hosted 45 family events
- Engaged with 62 families from 5 partner schools to learn what they would like to see our programs offer

4 FOOD SYSTEM ENGAGEMENT

- 14 farmers and food entrepreneurs presented to students
- Purchased from and highlighted 21 different local area farmers and food producers, majority BIPOC, through our *Cafeteria Tastings* and *Take Home Kits*
- Distributed over 2000 pounds of fresh local produce to families through take home kits
- A field trip to Peachwood Orchard



5 SUPPORT SERVICES

- Hosted the School Garden Coordinator Certificate Training in collaboration with OSU PACE three times
- Distributed 12,000 seed packets & 500 plant starts to 20 sites in the Portland Area
- Offered a Trauma Informed Care in Farm to School webinar with local area equity advocate Vo Vo to the Portland Farm to School Community
- Collaboratively hosted an all day training for four local Farm to School organizations, which was facilitated by Tahoma Peak Solutions and centered Native Plants and Foods
- With generous support from the EPA, we offered seven \$3,500 grants to support garden based education in seven SUN schools in east Portland
- We consulted on several school garden projects throughout the Portland Area



WHERE WE WORKED

EARLY CHILDHOOD & FAMILIES

Serving 200 students at 5 sites

Powell Butte, Cherry Park, Whitman, Davis and MHCC

K-5: Serving over 3000 students in 11 settings

Powell Butte, Patrick Lynch, Cherry Park, Glenfair, Davis, Scott, Faubion, Whitman, Lent, Kelly and Rigler

TEENS: Serving 100 teens in 3 settings

DDHS, Morrison Long and Short term shelters

SUPPORT OUR WORK!

- Donate at www.growing-gardens.org
- Volunteer to build gardens, support beginning gardeners, teach classes, grow plants and more!