



GRAND ASPIRATIONS

SUMMER OF SOLUTIONS ANNUAL REPORT 2012



PROGRAM MISSION

LETS GO Chicago is a grass-roots environmental community organization founded in Rogers Park in the winter of 2010. Our main strategy as an organization is offering youth opportunity for leadership development through green entrepreneurial programming. This programming includes running a free garden education program for kids in the community, facilitating the Rogers Park Yard Sharing Network, and organizing a small green business focused on storm water management.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• *Quotes from participants*

"This summer in Rogers Park with LETS GO Chicago has served as a test and implementation of my pre-existing beliefs. I have redefined environmentalism for myself as a way of looking at problems as interconnected and solutions as sustainable."

- Caitlin Grey

• *Participation*

- 4 Program Leaders, 6 full time participants, 14 part time participants
- Program dates [6/17-8/18]
- 5,960 volunteer hours

• *Projects*

Garden Education Program

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPACT

- Educated 30 kids from around the neighborhood between the ages of 5-12 on how to grow their own food & how to cook food from the garden
- Ran a 6 week long program/ 8 hours a week
- Ran 1 successful Free Farmers Market

MAJOR PARTNERS AND COMMUNITIES ENGAGED

United Church of Rogers Park, Loyola University Chicago

GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

- Create programming to engage youth 12 years old and older
- Build and operated a green roof farm on the roof of UCRP to expand educational programming
- Create a "Field Trip" curriculum to encourage school classes and organization to visit agriculture sites and to bring in funding
- Develop curriculum that is in line with state standards
- Reach out to schools to help them build school gardens

Rogers ParkYard Sharing Network

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPACT

- Build 5 new back-yard gardens
- Built a total of 15 new garden plots
- Started working with roughly 25 new growers

MAJOR PARTNERS AND COMMUNITIES ENGAGED

- Members involved include individuals and familys from around Rogers Park

GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

- Make the network financially sustainable
- Make the network replicable for other cities
- Build roughly 5 new gardens each year

(continued on next page)

Green Infrastructure

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPACT

- Constructed a residential French drain
- Made significant headway on planning a business strategy for our company
- Secured Professional contract to construct landscape feature at UCRP
- Trained 8 young people in rain garden concepts and installation
- Retained 3 volunteers who will stay involved through fall

MAJOR PARTNERS AND COMMUNITIES ENGAGED

- Center for Neighborhood Technology

GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

- Follow through on setting up business structures
- Seek and secure 3 new clients before end of 2012 planting season (mid-October)
- Develop curriculum for training employees
- Launch rain garden installation campaign in early spring 2013 with a goal of installing 20 gardens next year

• **Funding Total: \$12,672**

- Raised \$12,672
- In-kind donations included mostly volunteer hours and food donations from Whole Foods

PROGRAM MISSION

Since 2010, the Green Economy Leadership training (GELT) program implements green economy solutions (home weatherization, establishing urban gardens, etc.) while training individuals in how to build, work and live in a new green economy/clean energy framework. GELT is based in Highland Park – a low-income community in Detroit. Dozens of full-time volunteers work side-by-side with Highland Park community members to develop projects in the realms of renewable energy, energy efficiency and urban agriculture.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• *Participation*

- 20 full time participants
- June 11th – August 18th
- 7000 volunteer hours

• *Projects*

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPACT

- Participants trained in technical and application based Green Economy skill sets
- Launch of the Highland Park Farmer Market
- Launch of Highland Park SOUP – a micro-finance community dinner for Highland Park residents.
- The launch of the first growing season of Rhiza Food Co.
- The launch of a community garden.
- Launch of a community center.
- An off-grid solar pv installation at Food Field a CSA urban farm in Detroit allowing for the entire farm to go off-grid.
- High school internship program in solar energy.
- Continued developing tire playground with local youth.
- Energy Efficiency canvassing project in Highland Park.

MAJOR PARTNERS AND COMMUNITIES ENGAGED

Greater Saint Matthews Church, St. Benedict's Church, Food Field, Highland Park Community High School, Northpointe Academy (K-8), Michigan Black Farmers Network, Detroit Edison Public School Academy

GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

Build a bigger team with new program leaders, begin work with local schools on green economy programming and run GELT again next summer.

• *Funding Total: \$4,500*

- Solar team raised over \$3000 for its project with Food Field
- Global Exchange provided about \$1500 in support

PROGRAM MISSION

Summer of Solutions Hartford seeks to address both short-term and long-term causes of food injustice- systematic unequal access to good, affordable food- by training young leaders to work with Hartford communities building school and community gardens.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• *Quotes from participants*

"I've been exposed to a lot more ways in which I can have really fulfilling work. I know that I want to work around people, and... would like to live somewhere where I can grow my own food."

"If we can make a child love to plant vegetables and want to eat healthier, then that is the greatest accomplishment."

• *Participation*

- Participated in a 9 week Summer Program
- Recruited 13 full-time and 10 part-time participants ages 15-23
- Offered over \$7,000 in need-based stipends to participating youth
- Secured over \$5,000 in state funds directed towards youth employment
- Trained participants in urban agriculture, cooking, food preservation, social media and community organizing

• *Projects*

- Re-opened the Zion Street Community Garden for its second operating year
- Built two new school gardens and one new community garden
- Grew over 15 varieties of fruits and vegetables
- Ran regular garden programs for over 50 summer school students
- Ran a free summer camp for over 20 children ages 6-12

• *Funding total: \$30,000*

- Raised over \$20,000 in foundation grants and donations
- Signed up 387 supporters on an email list for an online grant voting campaign
- Won \$10,000 with over 2,300 votes in 14 days
- Brought 3,750 views to our website
- Worked with 8 major local organizations and institutions

PROGRAM MISSION

Uniting the community around principles of conscientious consumerism, environmental education and local energy solutions in pursuit of a more sustainable future. ICSoS identified three needs in our community around which we developed our three projects: an inequality in accessibility to home weatherization resources, a lack of unity in disparate community gardening efforts, and a disconnect between art/creativity and environmentalism/sustainability.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- *Quotes from participants*

"SoS has solidified in my mind what I care about, but has opened me up to the idea that my future is completely dependent upon the many opportunities that will present themselves. I don't know what they are, and I surely don't know which ones I will seize, but I have discovered that as long as I keep what I want in mind, I can take whatever path I find before me."

- ICSoS participant

- *Participation*

- 13 full-time participant , 3 part time participants, 4 program leaders
- Program dates: June 11-Aug 17 2012
- We had a total of 4,052.25 hours as a program.

- *Projects*

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPACT

- Maintained 3 productive ICSoS community gardens; assisted with maintenance of an additional 3 community gardens
- Weatherized 13 homes and reached out to 130 homes in 3 neighborhoods
- Informed 12 businesses about energy efficiency resources and programs
- Facilitated sustainable art and garden education activities with over 150 children per week (averaged approximately over 12 weeks)
- Donated over 150 pounds of produce and bread to the Crisis Center
- Volunteered at 2 local farms for a total of 11 weeks
- 5 newspaper articles; 9 blog posts

MAJOR PARTNERS AND COMMUNITIES ENGAGED

Partners: Iowa Valley Habitat for Humanity, Iowa City Parks and Recreation, Iowa City Community School District, Johnson County Local Food Alliance (Farm to Schools Program), New Pioneer Co-op, Wildwoods Farm, Friendly Farm, U of Iowa Wildlife Camps, Home Ties Daycare, Old Brick Foundation, Paul's Discount, Public Policy Center at the U of Iowa, Iowa Center for Research for Undergraduates, Hawkeye Area Community Action Program, Neighborhood Centers of Johnson County

Communities impacted: Broadway and Wetherby neighborhoods, children participating in summer programs and camps, gardeners at Wetherby Park neighborhood, at risk youth in Home Ties daycare, ICCSD students, small business owners, landlord associations, local artists, University of Iowa students

GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

Landscaping project for Old Brick Foundation (and possibly a semi-permanent office space in OB), increase the reach of the Our Power project to include more small businesses and landlords, engage local policy makers about energy efficiency issues, work more with the ICCSD during the school year, create templates and agendas for training activities to go on the Solutionary Knowledge Bank, create an off-season local initiative in Iowa City, more actively recruit participants from impacted communities in Iowa City

- *Funding Total: \$25,000*

- We had 19,500 raised in grants. And fundraised roughly \$5,500 towards additional need for stipends.
- In-kind donations included: office space in the Unitarian Universalist Society of Iowa City, wooden pallets, seeds, seedlings, weatherization materials, printing for outreach materials.

PROGRAM MISSION

Full Circles Foundation's Strong Camps was piloted in Lexington, KY as a tool for empowering girls with high potential, but who face institutionalized challenges. We worked with middle-school teens for six weeks focusing on a positive body image, community engagement, and environmental education.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• *Quotes from participants*

"Being a part of Full Circles introduced me to some very strong women from my community and I have enjoyed learning and growing from watching and listening to them. My number one personal goal is to make the world a better, safer place for women and I feel that Full Circles is going to be a big part of that goal."

- Amahlia Lena, Instructor-Fellow

"I love the non-hierarchical structure a lot. I felt so committed to the program, and always wanted to go above and beyond what was expected of me because I felt very respected in my contributions to the overall venture."

- Rachel Simon, Instructor-Fellow

• *Participation*

- 3 Program Leaders, 3 Instructor-Fellows, 27 Campers, 3 Volunteers, Workshoppers

- June 4 - July 19

- Strong Self, Strong Neighbor, Strong Home camps each eight days

• *Projects*

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPACT

- Measured impact through surveys filled out by each girl at the end of each of two sessions

- Instructor-Fellows and Program Leaders also filled out surveys at the end of the summer

- Instructor Debriefing spanned roughly ten hours for reflection, constructive criticism of Strong Camps, and planned strategic goals for the future

MAJOR PARTNERS AND COMMUNITIES ENGAGED

Planned Parenthood, Skirt! Magazine, Open Ground overnight recreation site, SeedLeaf, Kentucky Pride, Movement Continuum dance company, Lexington Fashion Collaborative, Tuska Art Gallery, Sisohpromatem Gallery, Sav's Grill, Savane Silver, Karen Lanier photography, Hunt Morgan House, Self-Defense teacher Kathleen Jagger, Yoga teacher Adrian Hosler, Bluegrass Pride, Visual and Performance artists including Bianca Spriggs-Floyd, Elissa Morley, and Rachel Savane

GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

- Continue SOS-FCF program in Lexington, KY

- Support SOS-FCF in Raleigh, NC

- Continue fundraising and creating partnerships to benefit girls

• *Funding Total: \$14,337.73*

- Individual Contributions: \$2,821.97

- Grants: \$8,565

- Fundraiser Profits: \$2,575.76

- Camper Family Donations: \$375

- In-kind donations: Lexington Traditional Magnet School culinary classroom, food from local city government feeding program, free workshops, Sandy Crain cooking lesson, Zine copies, jewelry design pieces, and training, culminating event, and fundraising spaces

PROGRAM MISSION

We started GFS to engage youth in hands-on environmental education through food production, cooking, art, biking, and multi-age relationship building. We ran a summer garden camp, organized community workdays, piloted a bike-powered compost service, and delivered produce donations to those in need.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• *Quotes from participants*

"I love the learning-and-teaching aspect of the program. It provides a safe, comfortable, and respectful environment for me to share my skills and knowledge, as well as to learn from others."

- Nurain Mohammad Hamdani, Full-Time Participant

"I had never felt so fulfilled leaving work every day as I did this summer. I learned so much about myself, knowledge that I will continue to use for the rest of my life."

- Lauren Reichelt, Full-Time Participant

• *Participation*

- 2 program leaders, 2 full-time participants, 10 part-time participants
- Program dates: June 19 - August 17
- 1,700 hours worked

• *Projects*

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPACT

- 27 students ages 4-17 involved in the summer garden camp
- 108 hours of garden summer camp taught within 9 weeks
- 1,260 pounds of produce grown and harvested
- 1,220 pounds diverted from the waste stream through our bike-powered compost pick-up service
- 730 pounds of produce donated to the Middleton Outreach Ministry Food Pantry
- 229 pounds of produce donated to the Middleton Senior Center
- 9 media hits; 20 blog posts

MAJOR PARTNERS AND COMMUNITIES ENGAGED

Middleton High School, Clark Street Community School, Kromrey Middle School, Middleton Outreach Ministry Food Pantry, Middleton Senior Center, Downtown Middleton Farmers' Market, Bloom Bake Shop, Roman Candle Pizzeria

GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

- Working with Middleton High School's Ecology Club to take care of the gardens and integrate the produce into their annual Organic Dinner fundraiser
- Start a new Ecology Club at the Clark Street Community School
- Work with teachers at both high schools to use the gardens as teaching spaces
- Sell half of the produce we grow at next year's Middleton Farmers' Market
- Teach 3-4 adult garden education workshops during the summer of 2013

• *Funding Total: \$10,462*

- \$1,586 raised through donations
- \$6,150 raised through grants
- \$1,570 raised through the summer garden camp
- \$1,156 raised through plant and produce sales
- \$1,637 in in-kind donations of materials

PROGRAM MISSION

Summer of Solutions Pioneer Valley is a two month youth leadership program, which works in Franklin County, Mass. to equip participants to address social, economic and environmental issues in the local community. SoS PV addresses the specific needs and assets of our rural community.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• *Quotes from participants*

"My identity does not have to be defined by my career, and I do not have to choose only one career... .. I wasn't to grow my own food in the future, bike and use public transit as much as possible!"

- SoS PV 2012 Participant

• *Participation*

- 3 full time participants, 7 part time participants
- Program dates June 11-August 11
- Over 500 hours of volunteer labor

SoS PV had three main project areas: sustainable agriculture, community education and community space building. We produced over 20 gallons of garlic scape pesto from local produce and marketed it at markets and events. We also grew much of our own produce, learning how to sustain ourselves. Additionally, we gathered feedback from many community members and stakeholders in the process of creating a community space for Greenfield.

Our primary partners were The Brick House Community Resource Center, and Harvest Moon Farm. The Brick House was host again to the Summer Workshop Series, which we contributed to on a volunteer basis through outreach, facilitation and frequent attendance. Harvest Moon Farm was the site of our agricultural work-share. We grew our own vegetables on a plot, and helped with maintenance of the other plots on the site. We also used garlic scapes from the farm to make our pesto.

Lastly we had several other partners, including local farms Laughing Dog and Warner, Community Action Youth Programs, our friends on Mountain Road in Gill, the Youth Entrepreneur Society in Orange, and Just Roots in Greenfield. These partnerships rounded out our weekly schedule and connected participants to the range of resources available to them in Franklin County.

Of equal importance we engaged our own friends, family and neighbors in the work we were doing. Most of our program team members were raised in Franklin County and remain well-connected. Events such as our Community Space Potlucks brought people together from around Greenfield, especially youth communities.

In the future our program participants and leaders will continue to pursue community development work in Franklin County and elsewhere, with partners such as Just Roots and The Brick House. Several participants are pursuing further education in fields of agriculture and sustainability.

SoS PV succeeded in raising over \$4,000 to support our work this year. Funders included the New England Grassroots Environment Fund, our 'Field to 'Field fundraiser bike ride, a fundraiser concert and the community engagement offices at Hampshire, Wheaton and Williams Colleges.

We also received generous in-kind donations of food from many farms.

PROGRAM MISSION

We facilitate sustainable and inclusive community development in the Mount Scott-Arleta and Lents neighborhoods of outer SE Portland. We do this through community listening projects and data-driven community engagement and outreach.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- *Quotes from participants*

"Life changing."

- Aileen Qin

"It gave me a newfound hope for humanity."

- Kay Real

- *Participation*

- 1 Program Leader, 5 Participants

- 3 Community Volunteers

- *Projects*

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPACT

- In the span of four weeks, Summer of Solutions participants knocked on 959 doors, of which 175 opened.

- 82 of 175 opted to take the survey and 45 took one of our challenges.

- We also tabled at the Lents International Farmers Market and allowed self-submissions through our website.

- Surveys and challenges from these two sources number 117 and 63, respectively.

- All told, residents of the area have taken 199 surveys and 108

- We also identified 62 businesses within the area

- *Funding Total: \$500*

- ~\$500 raised through consulting

- Countless pounds of produce and bagels acquired through in-kind donation.

- We also published a mid-program report through the NICE Galapagos Project. Four of our participants can count themselves as published authors.

PROGRAM MISSION

SoS Oakland empowers youth (ages 15-25) to imagine and create thriving, just, and sustainable communities. Our program challenges youth to work across lines of difference to build a powerful community of changemakers in the Fruitvale neighborhood of Oakland, California.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• *Quotes from participants*

"Summer of Solutions Oakland allowed me to leverage my already-existing leadership skills, broaden my perspective on many social justice issues, contribute to the growth of fellow changemakers, and make a tangible impact in the community, in a neighborhood that genuinely needs inspiration and healing."

- Andrew Dunn, program participant

• *Participation*

- Engaged 12 full-time fellows 40 hours/week in program activities, community events, workshops, and projects
- Enrolled over 20 part-time participants and volunteers to work on our projects and get involved in our community
- Program dates: June 21st - August 14th

• *By the end of the summer, we:*

- Hosted a training week for 17 full and part-time participants that included a camping trip, community-building activities, and workshops in the following topics:
 - Theater of the Oppressed
 - Restorative Justice
 - An abridged version of Joanna Macy's Work that Reconnects
 - Community Organizing
 - Social Movement Strategy through Oakland's Radical History
 - History of Fruitvale
- Organized and operated a free five-week community summer camp for local youth at the Peralta Hacienda Historical Park that focused on art, dance, theater, history, community, leadership, nature, and more.
- Completed a variety of construction, demolition, and yard work projects at 1969 Harrington Ave., site of a future youth center for community building and nonviolence at Cantic Farm.
- Enlisted hundreds of Oakland residents for Solar Mosaic, an emerging platform for financing community-powered solar projects in Fruitvale and across the country.
- Raised over \$16,000 to fund our projects, program expenses, and provide need-based financial support for 9 fellows and program leaders.

GOING FORWARD

We are thrilled and excited to continue building our program as we move into the 2013 program cycle. We will once again run the summer camp, and also bolster our training program, develop new project areas and partnerships, and enhance our curriculum.

PROGRAM MISSION

Full Circles Foundation carried out its second annual Strong Camp this summer in Raleigh, North Carolina. Strong Camp is a community powered, holistic, entrepreneurial summer camp for girls facing structural obstacles to realizing their potential that focuses on the connections between personal, community, and ecological health. Campers engage these concepts through creative, hands-on programming that includes field trips, service learning, self-directed research projects and more.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• *Quotes from participants*

"Ms. Joanna, this is the best day of my life."

- Jaden, 6-year-old camper

• *Participation*

- 30 enrolled campers (participants)

- 2 full time program leaders, 1 volunteer program leader, 5 full time instructor fellows, 1 part time instructor fellow

- Program dates: June 4, 2012- August 10, 2012

- 200 volunteer hours (camp, fundraisers, microventures)

• *Projects*

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPACT

- 30 active summer camp participants throughout the entire summer camp

- 12 middle and high school campers participated in their first overnight week long camp.

- Completed 210 hours of summer camp

- Fifteen middle and high school campers completed a six-week long holistic nutrition course sponsored by the Interfaith Food Shuttle

- Staff were paid need-based stipends (\$1400-\$2500)

- Consistently used Instagram, Twitter, and Facebook to update status and add pictures

MAJOR PARTNERS AND COMMUNITIES ENGAGED

Interfaith Food Shuttle, Pullen Memorial Baptist Church, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Raleigh, Umstead Park United Church of Christ, Wake County Public School System Nutrition Services, William B. Umstead State Park, North Carolina State University, Downtown Raleigh Alliance

GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

- Good standing in FCF communities- well-known, trusted, respected

- In two years, have matriculated a total of 75 girls

- Become a fully operating social entrepreneur organization and business, where we can finally drift away from being a non-profit and cross sector into both a for-profit and nonprofit organization

- Have a large and stable space for FCF offices, year long programs, and Strong Camps

- Have a bus purchased

• *Funding Total: \$20,000*

- \$6,500 Kelley Family Foundation Grant

- \$5,700 grassroots donations

- \$3,400 major private donors

- \$2,200 microventures

- \$800 event fundraisers

PROGRAM MISSION

Empower a team of young leaders to discover, experience, and document the people, projects, and organizations that are bringing forth real solutions to our communities social and environmental challenges and inspire people of all ages to take action in their communities by telling these powerful stories through our 'Yes We Are' blog.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- **Quotes from participants**

"SOS Seattle allowed me to fully recognize my own abilities as a young leader and as an engaged community member. This program offered me powerful experiences that have given me new perspectives about how to approach activism and problem solving on a broad scale."

- Mia Stroutsos

"...the importance of inter-identity, i.e. mixed class, race, sexuality, etc., and the critical role diversity plays in cultivating informed and highly interconnected first-hand perspectives within a community or group tackling social issues."

- Sonja Basha

- **Participation**

From SOS Seattle's launch on July 11th, to its culmination at our August 5th Community Celebration, our 12 full-time participants volunteered on over 50 projects citywide and clocked in roughly 2,900 hours in the field and "Solutionary classroom."

- **Projects**

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPACT

- Built 'Yes We Are' campaign - an online solutionary storytelling platform dedicated to the amplification of tangible solutions to our community's environmental and social challenges.
- Urban Farm and Wetland Workday - we broke into teams and spent hours weeding, harvesting, planting, and learning about the farm.
- Just Garden Project workday - we overhauled the entire property, eliminating tons of invasive plants, moving concrete and wood, and beautifying the yard.
- Bethany Church Garden Day - a day of weeding and harvesting in the garden at a local church.
- Slow Food Fundraising Dinner - an intimate evening of storytelling and incredible food cooked by several SOS participants. The evening culminated in a financial ask in which we raised over \$400.
- Community Celebration Event - culminating event with presentations, storytelling, art, music, food, and community-building activities.

HOW DID YOU MEASURE IMPACT?

- 30 Yes We Are posts
- 57 people in attendance at our events
- 60+ people contributed to our fundraiser
- Roughly 2,900 hours volunteered

MAJOR PARTNERS AND COMMUNITIES ENGAGED

The Art Affect, Sustainable Seattle, The Next Fifty, Seattle Center, InterConnection.org, Interchange Media Arts, Bethany United Church of Christ, Neighborhood Farmer's Market Alliance, Generation Waking Up, Seattle Tilth, Just Garden Project, Bike Works, Life Artistry Coaching, ...and many others

GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

- To maintain our Yes We Are blog and expand to include more contributors
- To develop an effective marketing strategy that will help us reach a wide diversity of audiences

- **Funding Total: \$27,500**

\$19,500 raised for the program from over 60 individual donors and 1 family foundation

Over \$8,000 worth of in-kind donations obtained (including food, space, bikes, mentorship, etc.)

PROGRAM MISSION

Build It Up East TN aims to improve the health of our community and economy and preserve our preserve our region's cultural heritage through the promotion of local, sustainably grown food.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- *Participation*

- 2 Program Leaders, 2 full time participants, 4 part time participants
- Program dates June 18 – August 17
- 150 volunteer hours

- *Projects*

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPACT

- Training week headed by Veronica Limeberry covered a number of topics relevant to community organizing, hunger, gardening and the East Tennessee region
- Maintained two beautiful community gardens at Shakti and ETSU, with the food eaten by participants or used for our workshops
- Held a Local Foods Fundraiser featuring delicious quiche and a talk with a local organic farmer
- Held a series of workshops at Shakti featuring worm bins, chemical free gardening, and food preservation
- Major partners for the summer were the ETSU Community Garden and Shakti in the Mountains (a women's community center)

MAJOR PARTNERS AND COMMUNITIES ENGAGED

- Shakti In the Mountains – a women's community center where we maintained a garden in exchange for space for our workshops
- ETSU Community Garden and the ETSU Environmental Conservation Organization (ECO) which gave us more garden space and helped us with events

GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

- Expand our leadership team
- Find a more permanent location for a community garden
- Involve more participants and volunteers in our program next year

- *Funding Total: \$1,135*

- Raised \$1135 through fundraising efforts, including music events and a Local Foods Brunch
- In kind donations included land for our gardens and space for our workshops

PROGRAM MISSION

In the Twin Cities, we work to build a green economy in low-income neighborhoods. We are committed to principles of social entrepreneurship and anti-oppression as we work on projects in energy efficiency, urban agriculture, green manufacturing, and sustainable transit.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

• *Quotes from participants*

"I have this attitude of thinking about the next step of every project that I'm working on. I love the fact that after I can stay working on these projects even after the summer. And that is everything in SOS for me.. it's not just a summer long program. It's an introduction to all the opportunity that there is and...continuing that."

- Carey DeVictoria Michel, full-time participant

"Being part of it has helped me understand what my home community is like in a really cool way."

- Molly McBride, full-time participant

• *Participation*

- 18 full time, 20 part time

- 6/18/12-8/18/12

- Over 6000 hours worked by participants, volunteers, and program leaders

• *Projects*

MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IMPACT

- Helped build the Spokes Walk and Bike Center from an empty warehouse into a thriving bike center
- We raised \$25,000 in funding for a campaign to explore Minneapolis's energy options through the year
- Tabled at 21 community events to invite community members to buy solar panels in bulk
- Signed on over 90 residents to a campaign for reliable, sustainable energy in South Minneapolis
- Developed and delivered an up-to-date power point for future presentations on our vision for a green reindustrialization plan for the Ford Plant in Saint Paul
- Created three farming business models to be implemented throughout the next year(cookbooks, garden installations, canning)
- Toured and worked at 8 farms and agriculture businesses in the Twin Cities

MAJOR PARTNERS AND COMMUNITIES ENGAGED

Harrison Neighborhood Peace and Justice Gardens, Phillips Neighborhood Gardens (Lynne Mayo), YEA Corps, Youth Farm, ARISE, CEF, Spokes Bike and Walk Center

GOALS FOR THE FUTURE

- Implement farm business plans (cookbooks, garden installation, canning)
- Continue to work with the Spokes Center

• *Funding Total: \$17,500*

- Raised over \$11,500 in cash and over \$6000 in in-kind resources

PROGRAM MISSION

Build-It-Up! West Virginia partners with local local non-profits and community-based groups on projects that bring communities together. These projects act as incubators for sustainable economic opportunity and local decision making. Participants learn community organizing skills, local history, and hands-on skills.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS• *Quotes from participants*

"If it wasn't for [Build-it-Up! West Virginia] I wouldn't know what I'd be doing right now. It was an amazing experience. I learned and experienced so much."

-Sierra Edwards

• *Participation*

- Three full-time participants
- Program dates June 4 - August 1
- 1,000 volunteer hours

• *Projects***CANE BRANCH WILDERNESS CAMP**

- Sorted 1 dumpster and 1 truckload of clutter
- Cleared 3 rooms, 1 porch and 100 square feet of outdoor space for camp use
- Prepared outdoor sleeping space for 3 tents and 1 hammock
- Prepared 1 outdoor cooking & campfire space
- Cleared 300 square feet of bamboo & cut to length for sale

BLAIR COMMUNITY CENTER & MUSEUM

- Filled raised beds for flowers and vegetables
- Constructed a model archaeological test pit
- Filled in an old well that caused a sinkhole in the parking lot
- Helped local community members clear brush from an ATV path
- Learned about civic engagement at the Casey Creek Number 1 permit hearing in Van
- Learned how to supplement income by wildcrafting
- Harvested vegetables from a community garden
- Helped relocate a trailer for Blair Community Center & Museum volunteer housing
- Extensive anti-oppression and nonviolent communication training

COAL RIVER MOUNTAIN WATCH

- Learned about the mountaintop removal permitting process
- Built a chicken coop from salvaged lumber
- Built a bear-proof (we think) compost enclosure
- Weeding and harvesting from the New House farm garden

MOUNTAIN KEEPERS FESTIVAL

- Cleared 1,000 linear feet of brush for roadside festival parking
- Removed fallen trees and debris from 2 miles of road after storm
- Assembled and erected canopy
- Helped service generator to power amplifiers

WHIPPLE COMPANY STORE & APPALACHIAN HERITAGE EDUCATIONAL MUSEUM

- Learned about West Virginia coal mining & labor relations history
- Helped clear the old butcher shop for use as a community meeting space
- Delivered over 1,000 lbs of disaster relief supplies with the Army National Guard

MOUNTAIN MOBILIZATION

- Two days of history, nonviolence, deescalation and tactics trainings
- Assisted with media and gave interviews, helped with press releases