

Organization Information

Our mission: To enrich the lives of our community through sustainable urban agriculture. We envision people experiencing a direct and deep connection with plants, the land and each other.

Through our programs...

Growing Gardens provides the opportunity for children, youth, adults, seniors and the disabled, to create a healthy lifestyle with nutrition education, access to fresh vegetables, job training and physical, as well as social activity, through urban agriculture programs.

Through land preservation...

We preserve and protect agricultural land for everyone. Our main garden site, located in North Boulder, has been in agricultural use for the past 100 years.

Goals for 2012:

1. Children, youth, adults, seniors and people with disabilities, will create healthy lifestyles, through gardening activities, nutrition education and food preparation.
2. Diverse youth participants will demonstrate an increase in community leadership skills, job skills, and participate in more community service activities.

2012 In Short-

- We directly served a total of 9,311 diverse people in 2012, of those 53% were low-income.
- We served over 214 youth, 3,840 children, 140 seniors and people with disabilities, and 4,925 low-income individuals.
- Our volunteers donated over 2,000 hours of service.
- 24% of our participants were of diverse racial and cultural heritage.
- We donated a total of 12,037 lbs. of produce and 400 seed packets
- We partnered with over 128 agencies to better serve our community.



A diverse mix of at-risk teenagers work daily cultivating a 1.5 acre organic garden. This program builds leadership, teamwork and entrepreneurial skills.

The iCultiva! youth also teach and guide younger children, learn about cooking, nutrition, beekeeping and volunteer in the community.

2012 Achievements

49 diverse youth participated in the iCultiva! Youth Project. We created a 50 member CSA (Community Supported Agricultural farm business model) that the youth planted, cultivated and harvested from their 1.5 acre garden. The youth wrote newsletters, created recipes and interacted weekly with the CSA members. They also tended 13 beehives, took a total of 19 workshops on sustainable farming topics, nutrition, conflict resolution and community participation. The youth volunteered to glean produce for those in need. They taught what they had learned to over 750 children in the Children's Peace Garden.



98% reported "I feel like I improved my job skills working at Cultiva"

93% reported "I feel more connected to the community after working at Cultiva"

80% reported "I feel that I have increased my leadership skills after working at Cultiva"

86% reported "Cultiva helped me to be more tolerant and understanding of others"

"My four years at Cultiva have been priceless and the experiences I have had during my time here have helped me grow significantly as a person. I started Cultiva as a pretty shy 14 year old who knew nothing about eating healthy and hated being put into situations where I wasn't around my close circle of friends. But, as time progressed I learned how to step up and take charge of not only the people I came in contact with but my own life as well." – Mariah Wisner, Cultiva Youth Leader 2012



The Children's Peace Garden is a place for fun and learning. Classes are available to children aged 4 -10 with age-appropriate lessons

about the life processes of plants, inter-dependency of species, where food comes from, how to grow food, and respect for self, others and the environment.

2012 Achievements

Our Children's Peace Garden Program held 59 field trips and conducted 51 classroom visits. We expanded our summer camp to 7 weeks. We reached deeply into our community and created or participated in 7 special events for kids.

88% of the children reported increased knowledge of sustainable agriculture and greater physical fitness.

92% said they knew more about where their food comes from.

72% felt more connected to their community

89% tried one new vegetable.



"Our students are very urban & have little experiences with gardens & their natural world around them. They needed this!! :)"-Ann Cacciatore, CLS charter school, 5th grade teacher

"She's been very enthusiastic to go each day, and taught us lots of biology/botany each evening! She wants to come back to another camp." - Dave and Kris Ringoen-about their daughter, Sarah

"We went from ' Kill the Bugs!' to 'Don't hurt the Bugs!' Andrew Gross- Children's Peace Garden participant.



Growing Gardens manages 490 garden plots in ten different Boulder County neighborhoods where families at every level of gardening skill can grow

food and have a positive community experience.

2012 Achievements

We had 490 garden plots serving 1470 total participants. Gardeners took classes and held potlucks and social events at their individual sites.

74% said the Community Garden provided their only means of growing food

89% of gardeners donated between 1 and 50 lbs. of food to neighbors, friends or community members in need

89% met new people and/or increased their connection to their community at the Community Garden

99% were physically active 1-10 hours per week because of the community garden program

78% ate more fruits and vegetables because of their participation in the community garden

"Cultivating, planting, pulling weeds, strolling around looking at other gardens, and talking to other gardeners is the healthiest thing I do all week, including jogging. You can feel your blood pressure dropping when you're out there!"



CLASSES

We offered an 8-month beekeeping series and 2 organic gardening classes this year.

87.5% gained an understanding about basic organic gardening principles due to this class

100% gained an understanding about honeybees as pollinators and their role in the environment in this class series

100% learned more about the interaction of plants, insects and humans

100% gained the skills to feel more confident in keeping their own bees



In partnership with local agencies that serve seniors and people with disabilities, the Horticultural Therapy Program offers weekly

gardening classes and activities as well as classes in cooking and crafts using garden plants.

2012 Achievements

We served 73 seniors and people with disabilities and partnered with 5 agencies in Boulder County. Participants planned, grew and harvested from their gardens. They learned to prepare food for friends and family, learned about insect habitats, and participated in garden art projects.

- 88% learned how to grow fruits and vegetables
- 100% ate more fruits and vegetables because of the class
- 67% cook more at home because of the class
- 86% were more physically active
- 88% have met someone new or increased social interactions

*"I never used to like gardening until I came here."
Christopher Donley- Horticultural Therapy participant.*



Our Fresh Food, Families and Fitness Project grew and donated 10,000 plants and 400 seed packages. This produced 18,819 lbs of produce in our community.

3,160 individuals received plants starts and seeds for their gardens.

Over 1,200 pounds of produce was donated through Growing Gardens' Community Gardens and our ¡Cultiva! Youth Project.



Thank you to our great volunteers!

2012 Board of Directors

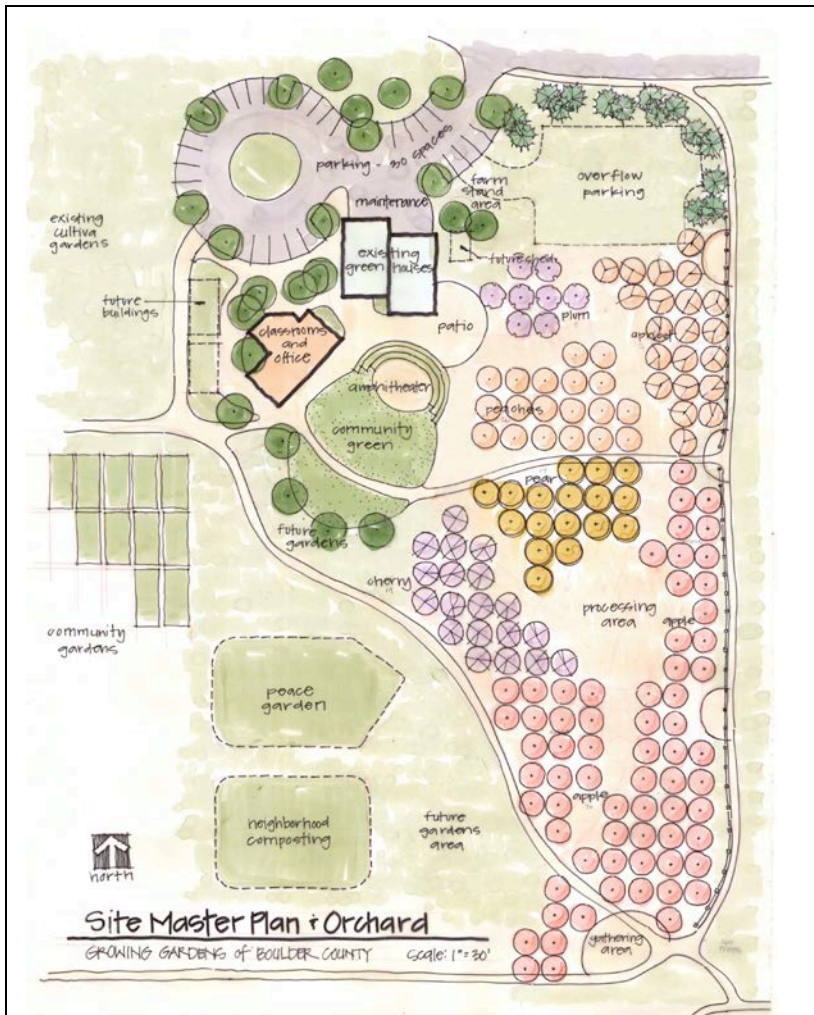
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2012 Growing Gardens' Staff

- Ramona Clark- *Executive Director*
- Vanessa Keeley- *Deputy Director*
- Annie Sweeney- *Program Director*
- Cassy Bohnet- *Program Coordinator*
- Connor Murphy- *Market Garden Grower*
- Lauren Richardson- *Volunteer Coordinator and Greenhouse Manager*
- Megan Reehl- *Operations Coordinator*



We had a great ¡Cultiva! Harvest Dinner and Community Plant Sale this year!



Plans for the future

We would like to build our education offerings in the future and expand the number of classes we offer to the community.

We lost 10 beehives and want to rebuild the hives and increase participation in our beekeeping series.

In 2013 we will be installing a beautiful orchard that demonstrates both heirloom and modern varieties of fruit trees. This will become a wonderful addition to our growing family and we are working to raise the remaining 25% funds needed for its completion.

Thank you for helping to make this year a great success, we could not have done it with out your support and generosity. We hope our relationship continues to blossom.

2012 Statement of Activities

(Year ending December 31, 2012)

ASSETS

Cash Accounts-Unrestricted	\$245,831
Cash Accts-Temp. Restricted	\$ 76,133
Other Current Assets	\$ 8,991
Property & Equipment	\$255,351
Total Assets	\$586,306

Liabilities

Accounts Payable & Accruals	\$ 5,225
Total Liabilities	\$ 5,225

Net Assets

Restricted and Unrestricted	\$581,081
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$586,306

Statement of Activities

REVENUE & OTHER SUPPORT

Corporate	\$ 58,597
Individual Donations	\$ 25,390
Earned Income	\$169,306
Events	\$ 62,760
Government	\$ 47,655
Grants	\$148,350
In-Kind Contributions	\$ 11,445
Interest Income	\$ 154

SUBTOTAL OPERATING REVENUE AND OTHER SUPPORT	\$ 523,657
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EXPENSES

Program Services

Children's Peace Garden	\$ 59,166
Community Garden	\$ 71,761
Cultiva	\$146,430
Horticultural Therapy	\$ 22,792
Local Farm (capital expense)	\$ 6,063
Volunteer and Outreach	\$129,202

Administrative Expenses

General	\$ 53,197
Fundraising	\$ 8,622

SUBTOTAL OPERATING AND CAPITAL EXPENSES	\$ 497,233
NET OPERATING INCOME	\$26,424

2012 Growing Gardens Supporters

<p>\$35,000 Eleanor & Henry Hitchcock Charitable Foundation</p> <p>\$7,000- \$20,000 Adolph Coors Foundation Collins, Ruth Denver Foundation International Delight John S. Scurci Foundation May and Stanley Smith Charitable Trust Millennium Trust SCFD- Scientific and Cultural Facilities District Silk Retzloff Family City of Boulder Youth Opportunities Program WhiteWave Foods</p>	<p>Marcy, Cindy Polk Family Charitable Fund Tasch, Woody Tebo, Stephen Wittenberg, Katherine \$100- \$499 Alfalfa's Market Badertscher, Kerrie & Kurt Bell, Lisa Bercholz, Sara Berry, Dennis & Libby Boyle, Chelsea Brett, Joan & Golten Cohen, Terry Cooke, David Cutler, In honor of Deirdre Daley, Darrell D Daly & Fitzgibbons, Thomas & Margaret Decker, Kimberly Desrosiers, Keith Dooley, Scott Dressler, Larry Edmondson, Andrew & Sandra Engels, Josh Ferry, Mike Ficken, Terry Fodeman, Cydney Ford, Mary Ellen Forster, Nick Gocke, Carol & Robert Greene, Robert & Yuki Grillo, Joanne Guggenhime, David -In honor of Jim Hagg, Cindy Happe, Kereen Heffron, Paul Higbie, Lolita Hines, Sue Hobbs, Laura Hoge, Steve Hopper, Marti Howard, Kristin Keller & Dirks, Anne & Douglas Lester, Gus Lieder, Heather Loomis, Stephen MacDonald, Kristin & Andy Mackenzie, Leslie Mckesson Foundation Mellott, Vicki Merritt, Brandy Metal Movers Metzler, Brian Miller, Merle Moyen, Nathalie Natapow, Jenny & Kevin Nicholson, Kathy Perry, Ginger Peters, George Quinlan, Christine Regan, Cathy Richardson, Lauren L Richardson, Stephen Ridinger, Ernst, Julie & Omar Ritter, Claris</p>	<p>Natapow, Jenny & Kevin Nicholson, Kathy Perry, Ginger Peters, George Quinlan, Christine Regan, Cathy Richardson, Lauren L Richardson, Stephen Ridinger, Ernst, Julie & Omar Ritter, Claris Rosato, Curry Rosenblum, Joanna & Mark Schultz, Daniel Shiesley, Marie, Joel Silvus, Greg Simon, Joel Slow Food Snook, Judy Soll, Larry Natapow, Jenny & Kevin Nicholson, Kathy Perry, Ginger Peters, George Quinlan, Christine Regan, Cathy Richardson, Lauren L Richardson, Stephen Ridinger, Ernst, Julie & Omar Ritter, Claris Rosato, Curry Rosenblum, Joanna & Mark Schultz, Daniel Shiesley, Marie, Joel Silvus, Greg Simon, Joel Slow Food Snook, Judy Soll, Larry Spencer, Jane Sweeney, Sandra Thornton, Cara odd, Shawna Todd, Sheila Tolley, Kevin Tromey, Elyn Van Westrum, Derek Wagner, Karleen Walker, Marsha Watt, George Weller, Christy Wenig, Paul Whitman, Lynn Williams, Elizabeth Wilsman, Leni Wilson, Lawrie Diack Wood, Sam Young, Mary Zephyr Media \$1- \$99 Abraham, Jim Aldridge, Steve Arbogast, Bradley & Loretta Armstrong, Beverly Artino, Sharyl Aspinwall, Elizabeth Barrett, Joy Beadle, Heather Becher, Harold & Ingrid</p>	<p>Benjamin, Lee Bickel, Amanda Bickeley, Lynne Blair, Greg and Jane Boyer, Kristen Bratter, Deanna & Adam Breymaier, Arthur Byrne, Ann Campbell, Meg Carlozzi, In honor of Gianna Carlson, Dave Clark, Sherry Clarke, Nancy Clifford, Patrick Coco, Annetta Cook, Angie Derby, Sue Dillion, Pat Doering, Allison Durgin, Leslie Engel, Jane Eppels, Lynne Feuerstein, Jamie Fitzsimmons, Ann Gates, Dianne Gifford, Chelsea Gralapp, Marcelee Grauer, Fred & Louise Greenberg, Patty & Wayne Greene, Michael Gregory, Katherine Guercio, Jim & Lucy Gurrola, Mike Gutierrez, Horacio Hale, Sandy Hanifin, Alex Hanscom, Andy Hanzel, Karl Hellmer, Paul Henderson, Diane Hernando, Anna Marie Holden Walsh, Bob & Susan Kamibayashi, Dale Keeley, Vanessa Kent, Clinton Keveny, Molly Kirtland, Amy Knutsen, Eric Kocjancic, Julie Koller, Joe Kula Lee, Lin Leifeste, Mark Leinonen, Lauie Levine, Alice Lightenburger, Kerry Loeb, Robby Ludwig, Donna McKay, David McPeak, Blaine Miltzer, Patricia & John Mirrelez, Sara Moore, Caitlin Morzel, Lisa Muser, In honor of Jane Myers, Michelle One Earth Landscape, Inc Onysko, Joshua Peacock, Jim Perry, Jonathan</p>	<p>Reber, Nonajeon Reed, Todd Reehl, Megan Renton, Alice Retzloff, Oliver Rhoads, Laurie Roach, Paul Schnorr, Jake Searcy, Jimmy Secary, Kendall Sheaks, Cheryl Shepherd, Lianne Sherry, Jennifer Shor, Rona Silva, Beverly Smart, Louise Stewart, Charlotte Sweeney, Mary Thompson, George Thorne II, Oakleigh Vilate, Carol Wallace, Matt Wanner, Steven Ward, Tabor Weaver, Alexandra Whitaker, Patricia Williamson, Catherine Young, Dolores Young, M.H. Zikmund, Sybil</p>
<p>\$3000- \$6999 AEC Trust Boulder County Board of County Commissioners City of Boulder Clif Bar Family Foundation Community Foundation Serving Boulder County Dr. Scholl Foundation Earth Balance Feeney, Ellen Fortune, Sheila Horizon Organic Jared Polis Foundation The Max and Victoria Dreyfus Foundation McIntyre, TJ Oreg Foundation Red Empress Foundation RBC Wealth Management Shaffer, Julie Thomas P Waters Foundation</p>	<p>Engels, Josh Ferry, Mike Ficken, Terry Fodeman, Cydney Ford, Mary Ellen Forster, Nick Gocke, Carol & Robert Greene, Robert & Yuki Grillo, Joanne Guggenhime, David -In honor of Jim Hagg, Cindy Happe, Kereen Heffron, Paul Higbie, Lolita Hines, Sue Hobbs, Laura Hoge, Steve Hopper, Marti Howard, Kristin Keller & Dirks, Anne & Douglas Lester, Gus Lieder, Heather Loomis, Stephen MacDonald, Kristin & Andy Mackenzie, Leslie Mckesson Foundation Mellott, Vicki Merritt, Brandy Metal Movers Metzler, Brian Miller, Merle Moyen, Nathalie Natapow, Jenny & Kevin Nicholson, Kathy Perry, Ginger Peters, George Quinlan, Christine Regan, Cathy Richardson, Lauren L Richardson, Stephen Ridinger, Ernst, Julie & Omar Ritter, Claris</p>	<p>Soll, Larry Spencer, Jane Sweeney, Sandra Thornton, Cara odd, Shawna Todd, Sheila Tolley, Kevin Tromey, Elyn Van Westrum, Derek Wagner, Karleen Walker, Marsha Watt, George Weller, Christy Wenig, Paul Whitman, Lynn Williams, Elizabeth Wilsman, Leni Wilson, Lawrie Diack Wood, Sam Young, Mary Zephyr Media \$1- \$99 Abraham, Jim Aldridge, Steve Arbogast, Bradley & Loretta Armstrong, Beverly Artino, Sharyl Aspinwall, Elizabeth Barrett, Joy Beadle, Heather Becher, Harold & Ingrid</p>	<p>Greenberg, Patty & Wayne Greene, Michael Gregory, Katherine Guercio, Jim & Lucy Gurrola, Mike Gutierrez, Horacio Hale, Sandy Hanifin, Alex Hanscom, Andy Hanzel, Karl Hellmer, Paul Henderson, Diane Hernando, Anna Marie Holden Walsh, Bob & Susan Kamibayashi, Dale Keeley, Vanessa Kent, Clinton Keveny, Molly Kirtland, Amy Knutsen, Eric Kocjancic, Julie Koller, Joe Kula Lee, Lin Leifeste, Mark Leinonen, Lauie Levine, Alice Lightenburger, Kerry Loeb, Robby Ludwig, Donna McKay, David McPeak, Blaine Miltzer, Patricia & John Mirrelez, Sara Moore, Caitlin Morzel, Lisa Muser, In honor of Jane Myers, Michelle One Earth Landscape, Inc Onysko, Joshua Peacock, Jim Perry, Jonathan</p>	<p>We are so grateful for the faith and support that was given to Growing Gardens in 2012. It was truly a year of community!</p>
<p>\$1000- \$2999 303 Vodka Boulder Luncheon Optimist Club Celestial Seasonings Community Foundation Serving Boulder County Elevations Foundation Foundation for Innovation and Sustainability Guggenhime, David Guggenhime, Jim Hagen, Jim & Mia Lane, Debra Kay Michael & Jolynn Blair Family Foundation New Belgium Obreja, Mikki Raab, Paul & Sue Tonahill, Joe Woodruff, Jeffrey</p> <p>\$500- \$999 Asbury, David Barrett, Betzi & David Clark, Ramona Easterlin, Sue Feinblum, Barney & Julie Gates, Catherine & Dennis Jones, Amy</p>	<p>Engels, Josh Ferry, Mike Ficken, Terry Fodeman, Cydney Ford, Mary Ellen Forster, Nick Gocke, Carol & Robert Greene, Robert & Yuki Grillo, Joanne Guggenhime, David -In honor of Jim Hagg, Cindy Happe, Kereen Heffron, Paul Higbie, Lolita Hines, Sue Hobbs, Laura Hoge, Steve Hopper, Marti Howard, Kristin Keller & Dirks, Anne & Douglas Lester, Gus Lieder, Heather Loomis, Stephen MacDonald, Kristin & Andy Mackenzie, Leslie Mckesson Foundation Mellott, Vicki Merritt, Brandy Metal Movers Metzler, Brian Miller, Merle Moyen, Nathalie Natapow, Jenny & Kevin Nicholson, Kathy Perry, Ginger Peters, George Quinlan, Christine Regan, Cathy Richardson, Lauren L Richardson, Stephen Ridinger, Ernst, Julie & Omar Ritter, Claris</p>	<p>Soll, Larry Spencer, Jane Sweeney, Sandra Thornton, Cara odd, Shawna Todd, Sheila Tolley, Kevin Tromey, Elyn Van Westrum, Derek Wagner, Karleen Walker, Marsha Watt, George Weller, Christy Wenig, Paul Whitman, Lynn Williams, Elizabeth Wilsman, Leni Wilson, Lawrie Diack Wood, Sam Young, Mary Zephyr Media \$1- \$99 Abraham, Jim Aldridge, Steve Arbogast, Bradley & Loretta Armstrong, Beverly Artino, Sharyl Aspinwall, Elizabeth Barrett, Joy Beadle, Heather Becher, Harold & Ingrid</p>	<p>Greenberg, Patty & Wayne Greene, Michael Gregory, Katherine Guercio, Jim & Lucy Gurrola, Mike Gutierrez, Horacio Hale, Sandy Hanifin, Alex Hanscom, Andy Hanzel, Karl Hellmer, Paul Henderson, Diane Hernando, Anna Marie Holden Walsh, Bob & Susan Kamibayashi, Dale Keeley, Vanessa Kent, Clinton Keveny, Molly Kirtland, Amy Knutsen, Eric Kocjancic, Julie Koller, Joe Kula Lee, Lin Leifeste, Mark Leinonen, Lauie Levine, Alice Lightenburger, Kerry Loeb, Robby Ludwig, Donna McKay, David McPeak, Blaine Miltzer, Patricia & John Mirrelez, Sara Moore, Caitlin Morzel, Lisa Muser, In honor of Jane Myers, Michelle One Earth Landscape, Inc Onysko, Joshua Peacock, Jim Perry, Jonathan</p>	

2012 Growing Gardens In-kind Donors

Thank you to all these individuals and businesses. Through their generosity we are creating a community that thrives!

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