

# CommunityGrows Annual Report 2013



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### NEED in the WESTERN ADDITION

A high needs neighborhood of San Francisco based on multiple economic and social indicators.

- **Highest percentage of residents living in public housing** in San Francisco per land area.
- Youth ages 19-24 represent the largest age group in the community seeking employment.
- **17%** of households are below the federal poverty line (compared to 11% citywide).
- Median income of only \$41,322 (compared to \$70,040 citywide).
- **Unemployment rate has increased by 100%** between 2000-2009 (compared to a 57% increase citywide).
- The Western Addition has **some of the highest rates** of asthma, diabetes, alcohol abuse, and infant health problems in San Francisco (according to the Health Matters SF Community Snapshots, 2009).

### YOUTH SERVED

**Total # of Youth: 1298    # of Classes Taught: 560**

Age		Gender		Race/Ethnicity		Free/Reduced Lunch (eligibility based on the low-income of the family)
K-2 <sup>nd</sup>	54%	Females	51%	African American	39%	80%
3 <sup>rd</sup> -5 <sup>th</sup>	43%	Males	49%	Asian American	11%	
6 <sup>th</sup> -12 <sup>th</sup>	2%			Latino/a	27%	
18-20 yrs.	1%			Native America	1%	
				Middle Eastern	2%	
				Multi-Ethnic	16%	
				White	4%	

## ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

Year Established: 1994

*Goal: To educate each student by using high academic learning standards and hands-on science curriculum that will foster knowledge of, and respect for, our environment.*

- Hands-on science curriculum meets CA core academic standards
- Students attend field-trips to farmers markets, local farms and gardens, and outdoor adventures
- Gardens grow over 50 varieties of fruits and vegetables
- Students learn teamwork and respect, while studying science and the environment
- Produce is grown, harvested, and given to participating youth and their families

Locations: Koshland Garden and John Muir Elementary School,  
Rosa Parks Elementary School, Booker T. Washington Community Center,  
Cobb Elementary School



Environmental Education 2013 YOUTH SERVED:		
School Programs	685 youth	255 classes
After-School Programs	180 youth	112 classes
Summer Programs	225 youth	62 classes
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>1090 youth</b>	<b>429 classes</b>

## SEED TO MOUTH

Year Established: 2005

*Goal: To promote healthy eating habits for youth to support healthier lifestyles.*

- Youth cook recipes from around the world using fresh, whole ingredients
- Classes teach nutrition and cooking basics, including kitchen safety
- Youth take home recipes and cookbooks so they can prepare meals with their families

Locations: Hayward Rec Center, Hayes Valley South Community Room

Seed to Mouth 2013 YOUTH SERVED:		
Hayward Rec Center	163 youth	38 classes
Hayes Valley South	9 youth	5 classes
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>172 youth</b>	<b>43 classes</b>



## The BEETS

Band of Environmentally-Educated and Employable Teens

Year Established: 2008

*Goal: To develop job readiness and life skills to prepare youth for success with a focus on the field of environmental education.*

- Three-month paid internships for youth ages 15-19, the majority live in the Western Addition
- Youth gain experience in designing, building and maintaining gardens and in teaching garden classes to younger children
- Youth attend field trips to job training and career development workshops
- Each BEETS youth receives over 100 hours of group and individualized learning per session

Location: Hayes Valley Youth Center

BEETS Program 2013 YOUTH SERVED:		
Spring Session	12 youth	31 classes
Summer Session	12 youth	21 classes
Fall Session	12 youth	36 classes
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>36 youth</b>	<b>88 classes</b>

### BEETS 2013 DEMOGRAPHICS:

42% currently living in public housing  
8% currently/previously homeless  
78% qualify for free/reduced lunch  
6% currently/previously involved in Foster Care  
11% involved in the justice system  
36% history of physical/mental health issues

### From BEETS to Bi-Rite

Barbara Nguyen, Spring 2012 and Summer 2013 BEETS Participant, is one of our teens of whom we are particularly proud. Barbara came to us with lots of natural enthusiasm and energy but not many practical job skills. **She struggled to show up on-time, dress appropriately for work, and communicate with her supervisor.** Over time, she began to show up not just on-time but early, communicate clearly about her schedule, and come dressed for work.

One day at BEETS Barbara met the Outreach Manager of Bi-Rite Market who came to talk about setting and achieving goals. Barbara was very inspired by the presentation and inquired about employment. Over the next few weeks we helped her send in a cover letter and resume, write appropriate email correspondence, and eventually prepare for an interview. **She has been employed at Bi-Rite Market since summer 2013 and has become a key part of their marketing team.** We salute Barbara for her tremendous success!



Barbara working hard at Bi-Rite (right)



BEETS Summer 2013 Graduation

### ***BEETS Achievements:***

Damion Edgerson, Gateway at City College  
Joseph Lilly, Treasure Island Job Corp  
Julianna Echeverria, City College of SF  
Shontay Vessell, City College of SF  
Sydni Walker, New Door Ventures  
and Skyline College

## STAFF and ADVISORY BOARD

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Staff:

Barbara Wenger, *Executive Director*  
 Nora Brereton, *Director of Programs*  
 Melissa Tang, *BEETS Program Manager*  
 Adrian Almquist, *Garden Educator*  
 Ezekiel McCarter, *Rosa Parks Assistant Gardener*  
 Adrian Gaino, *Seed to Mouth Educator*

2013 Professional Development  
 LEAPS for Environmental Literacy  
 Brothers on the Rise  
 CommunityGrows staff meetings  
 CPR/First Aid Training  
 Cultivating Impact Farm visit  
 DCYF Youth Development Trainings  
 Edible Schoolyard visit  
 Mo' MAGIC Convener  
 SF Youth Employment Coalition  
 Salesforce trainings  
 Staff and Board Retreat  
 Summer Matters Conference  
 Teacher's 4 Social Justice  
 The Lineage Project  
 Zen Center 'Urban Ecology' Panel

Advisory Board:

Jennie Carpenter, *Grant Supervisor, Northern CA-Richard Heath & Associates*  
 Barbara Fujimoto, *Founder of the Green Team at Rosa Parks Elementary School*  
 Mordy Karsch, *Director of Optimyz Interactive*  
 Rebekah Black, *CEO, 4 Corners Bookkeeping, LLC & FlowerChild, LLC*  
 Heather Groninger, *HR Director and I.T. Manager at The Marine Mammal Center*  
 Jeremy Siemers, *Starbucks Ambassador and Store Manager*  
 William Newsom, *Attorney, Pearson, Simon, Warshaw & Penny*  
 Shakirah Simley, *Communications/Outreach/Community Manager at Bi-Rite Market*  
 Kristen Wolslegel, *Program Manager, CalNonprofits*



### PROGRAM PARTNERS

\*new partners made in 2013

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AAACC  
 Booker T. Community Center  
 Brothers on the Rise\*  
 Buchanan YMCA  
 Camping in the Presidio  
 Cobb Elementary School  
 Cobb ExCEL After-School  
 Program, YMCA  
 Community Partners United  
 Crissy Field Center  
 Friends of the Urban Forest  
 Garden for the Environment  
 Green Gulch Farm and the Zen  
 Center

Green Streets  
 Hayes Valley South  
 RMC/Tenant's Association  
 Hayward Rec Connect  
 John Muir Elementary School  
 McCormack Baron & Ragan  
 Mo' Magic and Magic Zone  
 MYEEP\*  
 Prince Hall Learning Center  
 Recreation and Parks  
 Department  
 Rosa Parks Elementary School  
 Rosa Parks Green Team

The Village Project  
 WA Beacon Center  
 Westside Community Health  
 Services  
 Year Up\*



## EVENTS and VOLUNTEERS

10 Workdays @ CommunityGrows Gardens  
 8 Salad Days @ Rosa Parks Elementary School  
 4 Partner Events @ various locations  
 1 Outreach Event @ the West Coast Craft Fair  
**23 TOTAL Events**  
**329 TOTAL Volunteers with CommunityGrows in 2013**

**BEETS teens helped serve food to families at a partner event: the Western Addition Beacon annual Thanksgiving Luncheon**



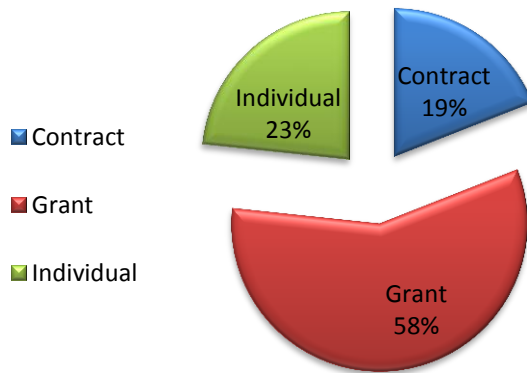
Volunteers with Programs:  
 Frances Bradley -Seed to Mouth  
 Janine Gee-Magic Zone  
 Johanna Peterson -Rosa Parks  
 Paige Thorton - BEETS Program

Volunteer Organizations:  
 CA Academy of Sciences Food Sleuths  
 Climate Action Now!  
 George Washington H.S. Service Club  
 One Medical Group  
 Redwood Trust  
 Rosa Parks Green Team  
 Starbucks  
 Yale University Alumni of San Francisco

← Making salad to serve to Rosa Parks students at the very popular monthly salad days.

## FUNDING

### Revenue



• **TOTAL Revenue \$346,348.32**

• **TOTAL Expenses \$345,125.09**

Funders:

- Aetna Foundation
- Daniel Koshland Foundation
- Department of Children, Youth and Their Families
- Frances and Theodore Geballe
- GGS Foundation
- Joseph R. McMicking Foundation
- Kaiser Permanente Foundation
- Kimball Foundation
- Mrs. Meyer's Cleaning Products
- Phyllis Friedman
- Redwood Trust, Inc.
- Rose Foundation
- San Francisco Community Challenge Grant
- SD Bechtel Foundation
- Starbucks Foundation
- The San Francisco Foundation

### Expenses

