

greenguerillas

2018 Program Accomplishments

Thanks to your generous support, Green Guerillas engaged in another successful year of program activities to help grassroots community garden groups strengthen their community gardens and cultivate community. We provided plants, materials, information, and help organizing community-building events to community garden groups and a vital youth-powered urban farm in central Brooklyn, Crown Heights, Harlem, the Lower East Side, and the South Bronx.

Providing community gardeners the materials they need to produce a bountiful harvest

Plant Giveaways: This year we provided vegetable seedlings to a diverse group of community gardens in the spring to really boost the harvest in significant ways. We distributed multiple flats of tomatoes, peppers, beans, okra, eggplants and herbs to:

Central Brooklyn: Hattie Carthan Community Garden, Herban Farm, Shiloh Garden, Phoenix Community Garden, PS 262 Garden, Tranquility Farm, Feeding Tree Garden, Hart to Hart Garden, New Vision Garden, Clifton Place Memorial Garden, Vernon & Throop Community Garden, Good Shepherds Garden, T&T Vernon Block Association Garden, Stars of Hope Garden, Madison Street Block Association Garden, Red Gate Garden, A Better Community Garden, Shiloh Garden. Bronx: Jackson Forest Garden, Mosaic Center Success Garden, Leave it Better Kids Garden, Las Casitas Garden, Jardin de la Familia, Jardin de las Rosas, Davidson Avenue Garden, River Garden, Garden of Eden, Green Patch on Walton Garden, Townsend Garden Neighborhood Advisory Committee Garden, Bainbridge Garden, Jacqueline Denise Davis Garden, Anthony Avenue Garden, Roberto Clemente Garden. Harlem: William A. Harris Garden, Convent Garden, Carver Garden, Clayton Williams Garden, La Perla Garden, Hope Steven Garden, and Frank White, Jr. Memorial Garden, W. 132nd Street Community Garden.

Supporting grassroots land trusts: Our executive director and program consultants provided critical organizational assistance to the Bronx and Manhattan Land Trusts. We consulted with land trusts leaders throughout the year and helped both land trusts: manage their finances, fundraise, organize events, engage in effective property management, resolve City fines, and provide services to their 32 member gardens.

Supporting senior gardening: We partnered with City Council Member Richie Torres and the Parkside NYCHA Senior Center to help a talented group of seniors install a beautiful raised garden full of herbs, vegetables, and flowers in the courtyard next to the center.

Engaging youth at the core of our work

Helping the Youth Farm Thrive: Green Guerillas helped urban farmers and youth leaders manage a bountiful urban production farm that produced a bountiful harvest of fresh, healthy fruits and vegetables for the Crown Heights/East Flatbush community and created service and learning opportunities for dozens of young people. The Youth Farm team managed a weekly farmers market and CSA program, organized a Farm Club, taught a Go Green class, and trained farm apprentices.

Youth Tillers: Our YT team of 8 teenagers engaged in paid internships at the Youth Farm that helped them gain skills as they led fieldwork activities for adult and youth volunteers, led farm tours, worked at the market, conducted cooking demonstrations, and did market outreach.

Youth & Community Arts: Youth at the Harvest Festival at Phoenix Community Garden in Brooklyn engaged in colorful community arts activities to help them celebrate the growing season. Youth at the Youth Farm painted colorful signs and created food art through market cooking demonstrations.

Helping gardeners grow vertically: Through our *Grow Vertical NYC* Campaign we reached out to community garden groups, assessed their needs, and designed and installed 15 easy-to-maintain vertical growing systems in community gardens and therapeutic gardens. The systems help gardeners grow more herbs and vegetables in tight spaces and make it easier for children, seniors, and people with limited mobility to pitch in and garden.

Fundraising for a bountiful harvest

Phoenix Community Garden: Green Guerillas continued to serve as the fiscal sponsor for this large, active food-growing community garden on Fulton Street by helping them manage individual donations and a grant from the Citizens Committee for NYC.

W 132nd Street Community Garden: We served as fiscal sponsor for this historic Harlem community garden, helping them solicit and obtain donations from community members to pay for garden improvements and program activities.

Engaging garden stewards: Our annual meeting and our benefit party served as energetic, educational, and celebratory opportunities to inspire our members, supporters, and board of directors to support the work of community gardeners.

Measuring the effectiveness of our work: GGs staff used formal and informal methods to monitor the effectiveness of our work and ensure that our programs met the needs of community gardeners. We utilized meetings, phone interviews, and one-on-one discussions with garden leaders. Our board of directors closely monitors the organization's fiscal and programmatic efficacy.