



The Food Literacy Project

2022 Impact Report

Vision: A healthy and equitable community where people and places thrive.

Mission: Youth transforming their communities through food, farming and the land.

Values:

ENERGY: We are bold and inspired by our community.

ROOTS: We are grounded and purposeful, connected with people and dedicated to sustainably addressing community needs.

DISCOVERY: We embrace the joy of learning by doing.

CULTIVATION: We bring great care to our work and relationships; we nourish growth in our community, and, in turn, are nourished ourselves.

ABUNDANCE: We leverage our community's diverse assets to achieve personal and social change.

JUSTICE: We pursue fairness and equity.



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Welcome to the Shawnee People's Garden

2022 marked the start of a brand new chapter for the Food Literacy Project as we began farming at 536 N. 44th St., activating change alongside youth leaders. The 2022 season started with a goal of growing 700 lbs of produce and ended with over 1,800 lbs harvested thanks to the hard work of young people and the fertile soil at the garden.

While we continue to search for a forever home for the Food Literacy Project, we are committed to partnering with the Shawnee community and being involved in the neighborhood in an impactful way.

Food Access & Community Engagement



The Food Literacy Project takes an asset-based approach to youth development and community engagement. We believe youth are capable contributors to help grow food security and nutritional proficiency and bring change to family tables. In 2022, we engaged with our community in these ways:

- 1,839 pounds of produce grown and distributed via produce shares to students, canvassing efforts to neighbors, farmers' markets, and food pantries
- 1,906 seed packets or plant starts shared
- 891 community members participated in programs centered around healthy living
- Farmed alongside 4 community gardeners
- YCAP built and planted 4 community center garden beds at partner agencies
- Planted a pollinator garden in partnership with Common Earth Gardens



Youth Community Agriculture Program (YCAP)

Youth (16-21 years of age) learn, earn, and become agents of change in their communities. The YCAP crew leads food production and distribution efforts, and assists in the facilitation of Field-to-Fork Clubs and community engagement activities. In the past year, the YCAP crew engaged with our food systems and worked with local leaders and stakeholders in the following ways:

- 20 crew members grew, harvested, and distributed produce while engaging in hands-on learning about their local food system
- 12 workshops and learning opportunities with local activists, farmers, and business owners (majority led by women and BIPOC)
- 3 Field-to-Fork Clubs benefitted from YCAP leadership and mentoring
- 5 weeks of Cultural Pass programming over the summer led by the crew including farm tours, cooking, and fun activities
- 2 Youth Participatory Action Research projects completed, resulting in a podcast and a mural at the Shawnee People's Garden



Field-to-Fork Clubs

Elementary school children learned by discovery at our after school clubs. Each week, club members participated in making healthy choices, gardening, and cooking fun recipes. Members received weekly learning kits (fresh produce grown by YCAP crew, pantry staples, gardening supplies) to promote healthy habits with their families. During the past year, Field-to-Fork Clubs included:

- 107 students and family members engaged in hands-on learning and exploration
- 23 total weeks of club activities
- 3 club partners (Hazelwood Elementary, Portland Elementary, Backside Learning Center)
- 380 lbs of YCAP produce taken home by participants



Volunteers

Volunteers make the work of the Food Literacy Project possible. In 2022, 126 volunteers gave almost 600 hours in support of our mission of youth transforming their communities through food, farming, and the land. Whether it was through lending a hand at Field-to-Fork Clubs or working on the farm alongside the YCAP crew, you made it possible to keep doing what we do. To volunteer, contact zac@foodliteracyproject.org.



Farm Visits

We love welcoming supporters, friends, and neighbors to the farm to see our work in action. Whether it is a corporate wellness retreat, a neighborhood meeting, or a gathering of friends old and new, we always welcome company at the Shawnee People's Garden. Email info@foodliteracyproject.org to schedule a farm tour.



Board of Directors

Thank you to our board members who provide the vision at the root of our work:

Nikki Boyd, President
Director, Maternal and Infant Health Initiatives, March of Dimes

Kurt Mason, Vice President
Retired, USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service

Annie Anderson, Secretary
Mental Health Practitioner, Camp Taylor Elementary

Craig Oeswein, Treasurer
Owner, Taylor Blvd. Save-a-Lot

Lockett Davidson
Leadership Development Coach & Illustrator

Martha Geier
Retired, Louisville Free Public Library

Michael George
Community School Coordinator, Jefferson County Public Schools

Bob Dixon
Cyber Engineering Teacher, Seneca High School

Michelle Elisburg, MD
Pediatrician, Family Health Centers - Iroquois

Maggie Epperson
Food Education Service Member, Food Corps
Owner, Diabetic Nutrition Coach

Mindy Arndt
Health & Wellness Educator, Contractor

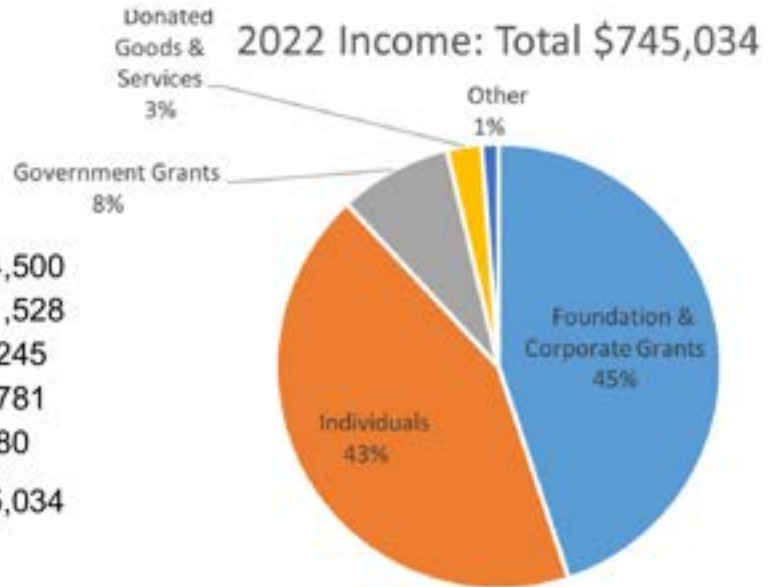
LeTicia Marshall
Owner, operator, principal coach, BearFruit & Grow
Local Food Systems Justice Coordinator, Kentucky State University

Sam Overbee
Vice President, Business Banking Relationship Manager, Fifth Third Commercial Banking

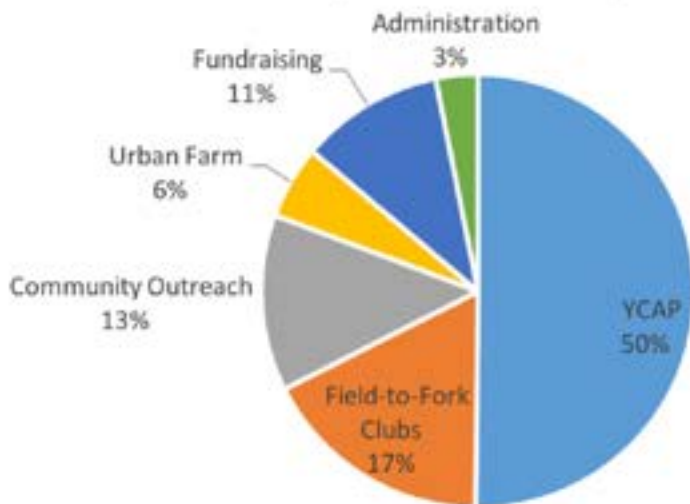
Financial Outcomes

2022 Income by Source

| | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| • Foundation and Corporate Grants | \$334,500 |
| • Individuals | \$321,528 |
| • Government Grants | \$61,245 |
| • Donated Goods and Services | \$18,781 |
| • Other | \$8,980 |
| Total | \$745,034 |



2022 Expenses: Total \$573,499



2022 Expense by Category

| | |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| • YCAP | \$287,830 |
| • Field-to-Fork Clubs | \$99,604 |
| • Community Outreach | \$75,392 |
| • Urban Farm | \$31,302 |
| • Fundraising | \$61,363 |
| • Administration | \$18,008 |

Total \$573,499

Beginning Net Assets

\$640,969

Ending Net Assets

\$812,504

The Food Literacy Project's purpose and goal is to empower youth who are thriving, engaged, and leveraging their power to cultivate health, justice and prosperity through a sustainable community food system.

This work depends on contributed support from our community.

2022 Growing Season

