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The Food Literacy Project

The Power of Generosity: A Record-Breaking Give for Good Louisville!



We are thrilled to share the incredible success of this year's Give for Good Louisville campaign! Thanks to the overwhelming generosity of our supporters, friends, and family, we not only met our ambitious \$30,000 goal — we exceeded it, raising a grand total of \$39,640! This has been one of our most successful Give for Good Louisville campaigns in the history of the Food Literacy Project, and we could not have done it without your support.

Our original goal of raising \$30,000 was surpassed in the afternoon of September 12th, but thanks to your continued donations and a generous matching gift of \$14,000, we kept pushing forward and came within reach of \$40,000! Every single contribution, whether it was \$10 or \$1,000, helped bring us closer to this incredible milestone.

Your generosity will directly fuel our mission to support youth as they activate

young leaders how to care for the land and their communities, your contributions make a tangible difference every day.

Beyond the dollar amount, the real impact of your donations is felt in the lives of the young people and families we serve. With your support, the Youth Community Agriculture Program (YCAP) has had an amazing growing season, already harvesting and distributing over 2,000 pounds of produce to the community, surpassing last year's harvest total! Your donations help us continue to nurture the farm, share food with our community partners, and expand the educational experiences we provide to youth and families throughout Louisville.

We couldn't be more excited about what the future holds for the Food Literacy Project, especially as we work to establish our Forever Home at the farm. With your help, we are building a foundation for long-term sustainability, ensuring that our mission and vision will thrive for generations to come.



To all who donated, shared our page, and spread the word —thank you! Your support is the heartbeat of the Food Literacy Project, and we are in awe of the generosity and kindness you have shown. We are so grateful to be part of a community that believes in the power of our work.

We look forward to keeping you updated on the exciting progress we'll make in the months ahead!

Together on the Farm



In mid-August, The Food Literacy Project welcomed a fresh group of young leaders to the farm. The Fall 2024 YCAP crew is here, ready to work the land, learn new skills, and make a difference in our community. This season, we're excited to introduce 9 new YCAP crew members and celebrate the leadership of our new Crew Leaders!

Introducing the New YCAP Crew Members

This fall, we have a fantastic group of new faces on the farm. Each crew member brings their unique energy and curiosity to the team, and we're thrilled to see them grow together throughout the season. Meet the new YCAP crew members:

- Abraham "Abe-Apple"
- Audrey "Appletree"
- Awad "Cabbage"
- Kensyanna "Sweet Pea"
- Khalid "Kale"
- Leonardo "Leo-Lemon"
- Mariam (farm name pending)
- Malik "Mango"
- Naima "Nectarine"

- Anab "Apricot"
- Fehima "Fruit"
- Jericho "Juniper"



New Leadership Role: Crew Leaders

This fall, we introduced a new leadership position to the YCAP crew: Crew Leaders! As Crew Leaders, Audrey "Appletree" and Jericho "Juniper," play an important role in guiding their peers through farm tasks, leading workday activities, and assisting the Program Manager with planning for the week. This increased responsibility allows them to develop essential life and leadership skills, all while working hands-on at the farm.

Meet Our Crew Leaders

Jericho "Juniper" (left) has been a part of YCAP since spring 2023 and continues to bring their passion and joy to the program. With interests in herbalism, the culinary arts, and baking, Jericho is always eager to share their knowledge and enthusiasm with others. Whether it's leading a farm tour or discussing how YCAP has expanded their understanding of farming and community impact, Jericho is a natural leader and an inspiration to their peers.

Audrey "Appletree" (right) is our second Crew Leader, and her vibrant spirit lights up the farm! When she's not hard at work, you can find her crocheting or striking a pose with uniquely shaped produce she finds around the farm. Audrey lives by the quote, "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder," a reminder that fresh food from

model for the rest of the crew.

We're so excited to see how this season's crew will grow and learn together. The farm provides the perfect backdrop for the crew to build confidence, develop leadership skills, and gain hands-on experience in agriculture. As we work towards our shared goals, we can't wait to see the full impact this group will make in our community.

Stay tuned for more updates as the crew continues to cultivate crops, and their power to lead and create real change in our community!



The Joy of Discovery at Jacob Elementary and Backside Learning Center



This fall, the Field-to-Fork Clubs at Jacob Elementary and Backside Learning Center have been buzzing with excitement as young minds explore the world of food and farming.

At Backside Learning Center, the club kicked off by planting radish, parsley and oregano seeds for container gardening. They also made a fresh basil and mint pesto pasta, celebrating the last of the summer basil from the farm. The students were captivated by the unique flavors, with one participant sharing, *"I liked the mint, it tasted powerful."* Their enthusiasm for the ingredients and the hands-on experience made the day memorable!



At both Jacob Elementary and Backside Learning Center, the clubs have been learning all about pollinators and their vital role in agriculture. The students created a [Pollinator Heroes Mural](#), proudly featuring their favorite pollinators and learned how these creatures help gardens thrive. Jacob Elementary also hosted its first [Family Cooking Night](#) of the fall season, where participants prepared a hearty potato soup and black bean brownies for dessert. The joy of cooking together and the sense of accomplishment was shared by all.

The Food Literacy Project's long history of introducing young people to new foods is a powerful example of one of our core values, **DISCOVERY**. Through discovery, *we embrace the joy of learning by doing*. Programs like Field-to-Fork Club are just one of the many ways we empower youth to explore new foods, gain confidence, and build lifelong skills. Whether it's cutting into a fibrous okra pod or tasting the earthiness of beets for the first time, we're often there to experience the embodiment of discovery firsthand. You never know how far that ripple effect will go — how many family members, friends, and communities will benefit from that one discovery.

As Field-to-Fork Clubs continue, we look forward to seeing more discoveries, shared meals, and community connections. Follow our social media pages to see more exciting updates from Jacob Elementary and Backside Learning Center this fall.





Celebrate Healing Week With Us!



with one another, express themselves, and lean into intergenerational learning and self-care. Each day is designed to focus on different aspects of healing and wellness.

Day One: Healing Your Inner Child Day

Tuesday, October 1 | 5:00-6:30 PM

Reconnect with your inner child and focus on self-care practices that make you feel safe and joyful. We'll explore coping skills, mindfulness, and activities that help heal emotional wounds.

Day Two: Art Therapy Day

Wednesday, October 2 | 5:00-6:30 PM

Engage in creative expression through art therapy! We'll dive into artistic activities that allow you to reflect and express your emotions. Discover the power of creativity for self-care and emotional release.

Day Three: Field-to-Fork Club Day

Thursday, October 3 | 5:00-6:30 PM

On our final day, we'll connect with nature and explore healing through food. Experience the grounding power of growing, cooking, and sharing food together.

Come celebrate healing in all its forms with the YCAP crew and take part in meaningful conversations, activities, and connections! Please reach out to gabriella@foodliteracyproject.org for any questions.

Grow with Us: Volunteer at the Farm!

Are you looking for opportunities to help at the farm? We are always in need of volunteers - see below for chances to get your hands dirty with The Food Literacy Project!

Check out our upcoming Community Day at the farm for cooking and farming activities for the whole family:

October 12th 10am - 12pm

Looking for additional ways to volunteer with the Food Literacy Project? [Click here](#) to fill out our volunteer form!

The Food Literacy Project invites young people to leverage their power to cultivate health, justice, and sovereignty through a sustainable community food system.

This work is only possible with contributed support from our community.



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