



Project Green

www.projectgreencommunity.org

Newsletter

Fall/winter 2022



Welcome to our first official Project Green newsletter! I'm Gina Johnston and I am the Executive Chairperson of Project Green, a small but mighty local nonprofit that is now officially in its second year. Project Green's official mission is to "engage youth to grow and sustain community and school gardens creating a safe outdoor environment supporting 21st century learning, while nurturing emotional and social development." I'm happy to say that Project Green is now supporting six local school gardens in the Rescue Union School District, and we are fielding calls daily from schools outside the district curious about what our program has to offer. Thanks to the generosity of individual and family donors, local foundations, and business sponsors, we are able to continue to maintain, support and grow our current garden spaces. We are also hoping to add even more in the days ahead like fruit tree orchards, science curriculum written especially for our gardens, and much more. We will continue to update you, our supporters, as new and exciting things happen in the garden. We thank our wonderful community in advance for your continued support!



Green Our Planet Hydroponics Grant

Project Green was recently awarded Green our Planet's Hydroponic / STEM grant for three of our schools! These grants include turnkey indoor garden hydroponic systems that can be used as living laboratories, which help inspire students to become the next generation of scientists, farmers, chefs, and entrepreneurs. Currently, these hydroponics systems are up and running at Jackson Elementary, Lake Forest Elementary and Marina Village Middle School. These amazing units allow students to grow a variety of vegetables and herbs in water only. The Grant totaled approximately \$24,000 in materials.



Follow us:



@projectgreencommunity



@projectgreencommunity



Community Update:



We are so thankful to partner with local Eagle Scouts and Girl Scouts (who are almost always former students!) on projects that immensely improve and enhance our school garden sites. Some recent projects have included much-needed deer fencing, complete rebuilding of garden beds, irrigation system repairs, beautiful outdoor education sites for students, and much more.

Did you know Project Green is lucky enough to have several local Master Gardeners who volunteer for us? We are thrilled to welcome Linda Meyers, a retired Marina Village Middle School History teacher and Heidi Broadbent, who have both signed on to help teach garden lessons. They not only bring great support to our program but much expertise to many garden questions and topics.

To Volunteer or DONATE Today:

WWW.projectgreencommunity.org

Overheard in our Gardens:

"I love that the Lunch Time Garden Program is sensory based and unstructured so that the SDC students can come and do what they feel like doing."

- SD Teacher

"I like making nature better and I can do that in the garden"

- 3rd Grader

"Dig deep to fill your heart"

- 2nd Grader

"Dylan's safe place is the garden. My safe place for him at school is the garden because I know how happy he is by contributing, learning and being loved on. I don't know what I'd do without Mrs. Johnston and her garden, her non-profit she's worked so hard growing! She's poured her love in such a small place that has made a huge difference! She's made my son feel safe while having fun!"

- Lake Forest Parent



If you would like to sponsor one of our gardens please email us at projectgreenedc@gmail.com