



2022

Annual Report



Dear Friends,

2022 was a year of incredible growth for Urban Roots. We settled into our new buildings, expanded our tillable acreage, and served more youth in paid job training internships than ever before. With this growth comes introspection. Over the last five years we have pursued four core strategic goals:

- Be known as a leading youth internship organization in the Twin Cities.
- Achieve and maintain financial, organizational, and operational stability.
- Establish and implement a growth plan.
- Have an organization that reflects the youth and community we serve.

We have met each of these goals by building strong community partnerships, practicing good stewardship of the resources with which we have been entrusted, strategically investing those resources into our organization, and continuing to expand the pathways for our graduating youth interns to return to Urban Roots as staff and board members.

The following pages tell the story of how your investments in Urban Roots have helped us build a strong, vibrant community where our youth grow into their full potential and are empowered to create positive change in our world.

As our Youth Council, Board of Directors, and staff reflect on the past five years and what we have accomplished together, we are inspired to build new strategies to continue growing healthy communities into the future. As we move forward, our mission, values, and the community we serve remain at the heart of all we do. We cannot thank our community enough for the investment of much time and resources into our success. Urban Roots will maintain our commitment to serving our youth, their families, and the East Side of St. Paul with enthusiasm and energy in 2023.

Gratefully,

Hayley Ball

Executive Director

&

Leif Masrud

President - Board of Directors



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Leif Masrud (President)

Mechanical Engineer

Shonda Craft (Vice President)

Interim Dean at St. Cloud State University and a private practice therapist

Dan King (Treasurer)

Product Developer, Xcel Energy

Amy Thomas (Secretary)

Chief Operations Officer, Penumbra Theater

Tim Dykstal

Retired Fiscal Compliance Coordinator, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

Stephanie Harr

Legislative Aide, City of St. Paul Council Member Jane Prince

Angie Becker Kudelka

Assistant Director for Strategy & Operations, Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources

Sri Siddabathuni

Senior IT Leader, HealthPartners

Daniel Yang

Communications Specialist, TriNet

Jamie Gehan

Associate Finance Director, UnitedHealthcare

Melissa Prenevost

Operations Manager, Institute for Agriculture & Trade Policy



Mission

Urban Roots is a Saint Paul organization whose mission is to cultivate and empower youth through nature, healthy food, and community.

Vision

Urban Roots' vision is a world where all communities have unlimited access to nature and healthy food.

Values

COLLABORATION: Together we can achieve more than if we act alone.

STEWARDSHIP: Communities will be healthy when we inspire residents to understand, respect, and conserve the natural environment.

INCLUSION: Diversity and inclusivity strengthen every aspect of our organization.

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING: Opportunities for hands-on discovery will help youth and communities engage and grow.

Our Work and Programs

Urban Roots was founded in 1969 to empower community residents to realize their goals for better health, wellbeing, and economic opportunity. Since 1996, our food and environmental programs on the East Side of St. Paul have engaged thousands of low-income youth in education, training, and work projects providing service to the community, developing youth leaders, and improving health and the environment.

Today, Urban Roots operates as a youth development program and one of the largest youth employers on the East Side. We create economic and educational opportunities for under-resourced, majority BIPOC youth, preparing them for academic and professional success while addressing immediate community needs around fresh food access, the environment, and wellbeing. We currently accomplish this important work by operating the following programs:



Conservation

Interns maintain 278 acres of greenspaces at six area parks through: 1) displaced (invasive) plant material removal, native seed collection, and native plant installation; 2) installing and maintaining rain and pollinator gardens; and 3) participating in citizen science projects. Our Conservation program also provides environmental education to our community.

Cook Fresh

Interns gain skills in food preparation and creative cooking through projects spanning the intersection of food, culture, justice, and health. Interns learn from prominent Twin Cities chefs, representing a range of cultures and disciplines as they prepare culturally relevant meals. Cook Fresh interns also work with University of Minnesota School of Public Health Nutrition students to learn about nutrition.



Market Garden

Interns grow and harvest up to 15,000+ pounds of produce at six urban sites, providing healthy food access and learning entrepreneurial skills by managing gardens and crops for distribution to Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) shares, farmers markets, hunger relief efforts, intern families, and small-batch food preservation.



YOUTH SPOTLIGHT

Growing though Experience

In the fall, the USDA Risk Management Agency spent three days with us filming our youth and staff at work. The video can be found on our website, and some of the film crew's beautiful photography is included here.

Adora Thao, Urban Roots alumna and current Market Garden Crew Lead, and Chris Weikert, Urban Roots Conservation Harvest Crew (3rd year) intern, were featured in the video along with other Urban Roots staff and youth. Here's some of what Adora and Chris had to say:



“ *It's very nice to just be involved with the community and helping them in some way to get healthier food and eat healthier. And it's just fun in general. Urban Roots has been one of my top favorite choices I've made in my life so far because I love the staff here and I love the interns that I work with.* - **Adora**



“ *So what I've gotten is a lot more fulfilling job versus fast food or retail. Within communities that I've done gardening, I've met a lot more of my neighbors and it eases you into the workforce a lot better.* - **Chris**



A YEAR OF URBAN ROOTS

3,261 COMMUNITY MEMBERS *Engaged*

650 MEALS SERVED
at summer lunches

44 SPECIES of NATIVE SEEDS *Collected*

10 
parks and greenspaces WITH PROJECTS

74 PEOPLE ENGAGED
in pop-up dinners

69 YOUTH INTERNS
87% BIPOC 

6,943 
Native trees, shrubs, forbs & grasses *Planted*

11,000 POUNDS
of Produce Grown in 82 Varieties

46 CSA members 

4 HUNGER RELIEF PARTNERS

18 
COMMUNITY Garden Plots

1.5 
ACRES FARMED

150 HOURS
spent at FARMERS MARKETS

4 ALUMNI Staff 

..... over 6 gardens

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

91% of youth scored greater than **70%** on program-specific knowledge tests



95% of youth reported an increase in confidence

98% of youth increased 21st century employment skills

4,363 
Volunteer & Service-Learning HOURS

8 PROFESSIONAL Chefs *Engaged*



A YEAR OF GROWTH FOR...

Conservation

2022 was a busy year for Conservation as we returned to pre-pandemic numbers of interns. We also reinstated our bike crew to build our interns' confidence when biking by using bikes to get to all the parks in which we work.

Rivoli Bluff Farm and Restoration Site received a lot of attention from the Conservation crews this year. The focus was on restoring a hillside that had crown vetch and other displaced plants. Interns removed those plants and experimented with using cardboard to smother old weeds and create a "clean" bed in which a diverse mix of native plants were planted. We also worked closely with Wakan Tipi Awanyankapi (formerly Lower Phalen Creek Project) to expand the Indigenous Medicine Garden onto the restored hillside, planting plants that have high cultural, medicinal, or edible value, with the goal of building a naturalized foraging landscape in parts of Rivoli where farming isn't happening.

We were asked to help rejuvenate the **Jessamine Pocket Park**, blocks away from our new office. Over the year, interns visited the park, took inventory of what was already there, did a lot of clean up, and envisioned a new direction for the park. In the fall, interns and volunteers held a big planting day, putting in a mixture of native plants, fruit- and nut-producing shrubs, and some fruit trees. Over time, we hope to see the Pocket Park as a place where community members can forage, enjoy the color and energy of the pollinator gardens, and showcase



and view outdoor art, with 2022's River Stories sculpture and rock paintings on display this year.

Another new initiative this year started with a [partnership with Frogtown Green](#). They have been raising trees in a gravel bed nursery for the past 10 years to give away to Frogtown residents to improve urban tree canopy coverage. Frogtown Green reached out to us to expand this program into the East Side. In 2022 we helped get 24 trees planted at residents' homes, free of charge, and we plan to give away 50 in 2023!



River Stories—an art and storytelling project in partnership with the other media group and Great River Passage—had another successful year. This time interns created two unique art pieces. Participating interns explored their and others' relationship with the Mississippi River with field trips and intentional conversations. A group of interns then combined a series of sketches they had drawn for a collaborative digital print, while another group used trash collected from cleanups done at Swede Hollow Park to build a sculpture. Both works and additional original intern art were displayed in the fall at the annual Solidarity Street Gallery and continue to be on display at our office.

In the summer we launched **Your Conservation Story**, a journal designed to use in conjunction with our Green Your Mind environmental education curriculum. The journal encompasses nine weeks of learning topics, including an introduction to the field of conservation, plant identification, biomes, water quality, cultural history, pollinators, and Minnesota wildlife. Each youth intern received their own journal and used it as a reference tool, as well as a space to take

notes and/or draw observations. Youth were able to express their learning creatively and enjoyed engaging with these colorful journals.



ADDITIONAL CONSERVATION HIGHLIGHTS:

- Continued our restoration work at Willowbrook, Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary, and Trout Brook Nature Sanctuary, removing displaced plants and supporting biodiversity through additional plantings and seed spreading, with a highlight being the Snowshoe and Seeding event we do with Wakan Tipi Awanyankapi (formerly Lower Phalen Creek Project) every February at Bruce Vento.
- New restoration projects at Phalen Lake, Willow Reserve, and Loeb Lake, which included expanding an oak savanna, trash clean ups, bumblebee surveys, and creation of new shoreline habitat.
- Establishment of fishing and archery programming thanks to support from a Minnesota Department of Natural Resources No Child Left Inside Grant.
- Joining University of Minnesota researchers in butterfly surveys and then visiting their lab to see how they study the movement of heavy metals through an ecosystem.
- Implementation of art and learning about the land and natural relatives through creative and cultural lenses that provide inclusive narratives in the field of conservation.

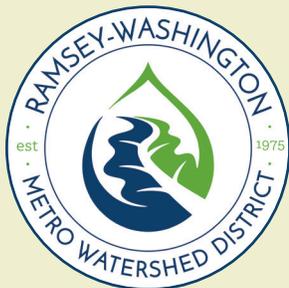
“ When I was asked to share my thoughts about Urban Roots, it was fun to reminisce about everything we’ve done together. With each project, the people and goals have been deep and stimulating and have changed me. It feels like it’s been a spiritual journey with our similar values and missions around empowerment and deepening the connection between the environment and community.

Much has to do with the roots of the organization and what Conservation Program Director David Woods has brought to it, including deepening the connection with a variety of community members and organizations, integrating arts into environment work, and modeling a paradigm shift for working with youth together with the community.

With many projects, it was clear that Urban Roots was the right organization for the job - they appear where the world needs them, working with youth to provide viable food sources and a visible presence in the community. Their work in Maplewood growing native plants for seed collection is something I have wanted to do— Urban Roots has a unique ability to find ways to support things in the community that might not happen otherwise.

What often happens when I work with Urban Roots, is that I’ll get some other insight about the community that I might not have otherwise known. I hear an honest reflection of what young people who care about the world are experiencing, and I know at Urban Roots there’s camaraderie and grounding for people to feel valued and empowered. ”

~ Sage Passi Watershed Education Specialist
at Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District



Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District partners with the 12 cities to manage about 65 square miles of watershed that eventually drain into the Mississippi River, including 20 lakes, five streams and over 1,000 wetlands. Urban Roots and Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District have partnered on many projects, including community events, career exploration activities, water quality education, restoration projects, rain garden design and installation, seed starting, public art (storm drain and water education art), performance art, and Indigenous partnership building with Wakan Tipi Awanyankapi (formerly Lower Phalen Creek Project).



A YEAR OF GROWTH FOR...

Cook Fresh

Our Cook Fresh program took a new turn with staff and location, but it also returned to its “roots” by bringing back Chef-Led Lunches - a favorite for interns and staff alike!

NEW STAFF, NEW LOCATION

In March, we sadly said goodbye to Cook Fresh Program Manager Saba Andualem who started at Urban Roots in 2017. Saba is proud of the Cook Fresh program’s growth and collaborations, and one of her favorite memories is when Cook Fresh interns had a conversation about food and culture with chef, TV host, and writer Samin Nosrat!

In May, we welcomed Elżbieta “Elly” Martínez-Kukowski as our new Cook Fresh Program Manager. Elly came to Urban Roots with a variety of experiences in food service, education, and nonprofit communications. In December, we welcomed Astrid Berger as our new Cook Fresh Program Coordinator after saying goodbye to Judy Nguyen, who is now living in Vietnam.

As 2022 was our first full year in our new building, we also settled into new kitchen operations and layout. The beautiful cafe saw many meals over the course of the year, and interns quickly adapted to shouting “corner” whenever moving from the kitchen to the cafe space with heavy or hot items.



CHEF-LED LUNCHES

Chef-Led Lunches are a premier part of the summer for interns and staff. We had to move away from these group meals the past two years but were eager to bring them back this year. It's a chance for everyone to come together over great food and for our Cook Fresh interns to work with local chefs and serve a nutritious meal to a large, hungry group. Cook Fresh interns also get a chance to practice public speaking by introducing the dishes being served.

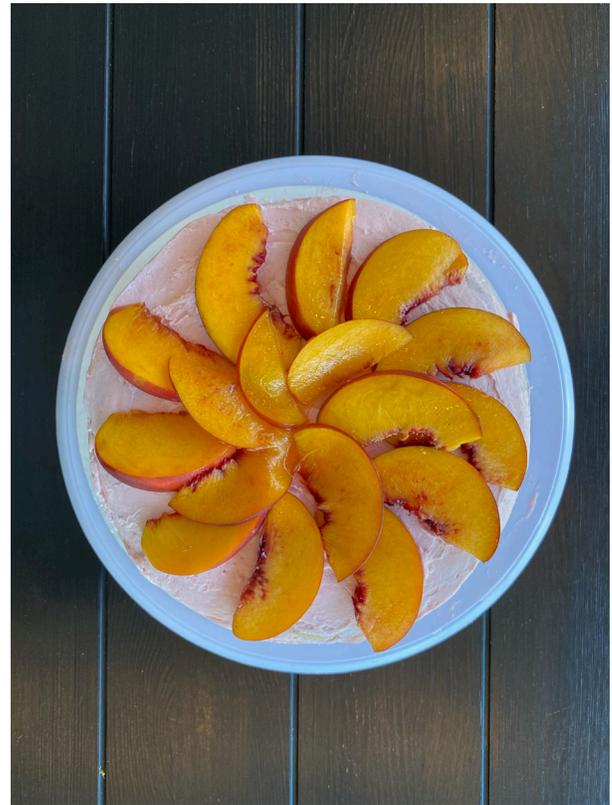
The guest chefs often bring culturally relevant recipes, so interns are able to learn new dishes and techniques from experienced chefs. Our final chef of the year, Chef Zachary Hurdle of Food by Zachary, spoke with interns about entrepreneurship, community aid, and the science of cooking. We were also happy to welcome Colin Anderson, Jametta Raspberry, Blong Vang, Youth Farm, and our own youth interns for a couple of youth-led lunches.

FOOD STORIES

In our Food Stories project, Macalester interns Nethmi Bathige and Astrid Berger (who's now our Cook Fresh Program Coordinator!) and our youth interns worked with community chefs and Urban Roots staff members who shared recipes that are dear to them and representative of their cultures. Just some of the recipes included Hmong poached chicken and a wild rice and buffalo soup from Tara Perron, a Lakota and Ojibwa chef. In addition to sharing the cultural importance of these dishes, chefs spoke with students about the personal and familial stories behind their food.

Our youth interns also shared their own Food Stories through recipe cards they created. Our intern Jolie shared a recipe for Atakilt Wot. Jolie has been a Cook Fresh intern at Urban Roots for two summers and is a member of our Grow Crew.

“My goal is to spread Ethiopian culture through cuisine and provide a great option for others who enjoy a simple, yet deliciously healthy dish.” - Jolie



POP-UP DINNERS

Cook Fresh interns had the chance to work with professional chefs for two Pop-Up Dinners where we invited the public to come to our building to enjoy a meal. At our Harvest Pop-Up Dinner in August, Chef Blong Vang and interns prepared a delicious Hmong menu featuring lots of our fresh produce. The October Pop-Up Dinner took a creepier turn with a presentation by Dr. Rebeca Gutierrez-Moreno, Minnesota's State Pollinator Coordinator, who discussed a creepy side of some pollinators and why it's maybe not so creepy after all. We also enjoyed tasty fall flavors by Chef Lachelle Cunningham.

AS ALWAYS, EARNING AND LEARNING

Here's just some of the great learning that took place in our Cook Fresh program:

- Kitchen safety! This includes everything from knife handling to food safety.
- Fundamental basics of good cooking: salt, fat, acid, and heat.
- Baking curriculum, including everything from the role of eggs to the social importance of bread. Along the way, interns made delicious dishes ranging from artisanal-style bread loaves to hodduk.
- Interns hosted a bake sale where they made three recipes—one was a tomato basil muffin with Urban Roots-grown tomatoes.





A YEAR OF GROWTH FOR...

Market Garden

The Market Garden program had one of the best years ever in 2022! Our program is being nationally recognized as a successful model for other organizations to look to, as evidenced by the USDA visiting us to film a video about our work. The incoming cohort of students in our program connected deeply with each other and with the work, and as a result we expect to have record high numbers returning to join advanced crews in 2023.

This summer we rolled out our **Children's Garden** expansion project, a garden site meant to share natural wonders with pre-K through elementary school students, and we shared the space with over 300 children in its first year. Activities included Storytime in the Garden with Arlington Hills Public Library and a visit from Dayton's Bluff Achievement Plus Elementary School, which was featured by KARE 11 (Urban roots garden for children, July 2022).

2022 was the second year for our **Mobile Market**, a refrigerated transit van that we use to offer pop-up farmers markets in accessible locations. Our sales, including from SNAP/EBT, increased from 2021, and we foresee continued growth for the Mobile Market into 2023. Our interns greatly enjoy running markets with both our Mobile Market and at Mill City Farmers Market.



We rolled out **new vegetable production space** at our Rivoli farm site, empowering youth in our program to make even more decisions about the kinds of crops we grow. In addition, we used this expansion to launch culturally-specific crop partnerships, where we paid local neighbors and groups to grow food relevant to their traditions and share their practices with us. Thank you to all of our supporters who helped us raise funds for this expansion and summer programming in general!

On September 10, we partnered with Xcel Energy for their Annual Day of Service to provide free produce from our Mobile Market to over 100 community members at Arlington Hills Community Center. Free meals were also provided by our partners, the Minnesota Vikings and the Vikings Table, along with backpacks loaded with school supplies from Greater Twin Cities United Way. Executive Director Hayley Ball and Office Manager Zarea Mobley even got to go to Vikings Training Camp and meet Viktor the Viking!



ON TOP OF EVERYTHING LISTED ABOVE WE ALSO:

- Stepped in to restore the Gateway Community Garden and are now stewarding that space for our neighbors, in addition to our other community garden spaces.
- Had youth work with soil scientists at the University of Minnesota to run samples in their soil labs and collect data.
- Attended and hosted more farmers markets than ever before.
- Increased our food redistribution with more food giveaways.
- Ran more volunteer and education events than ever before.

We did this all while growing over 80 varieties of produce in our six gardens and two orchards. We're excited about the ways we've been able to expand and empower our community, and we're looking forward to an even better 2023!



Growing our Reach



Visit From U.S. Senator Tina Smith

We were honored to host U.S. Senator Tina Smith and other professionals connected to urban agriculture during a tour of our largest growing site - Rivoli Bluff Farm and Restoration Site. The group also had a roundtable discussion about urban agriculture and the Farm Bill. The Senator was happy to see the growth of urban agriculture and the locally produced foods it provides.

St. Paul Public Schools Partnership

We partner with St. Paul Public Schools to provide environmental, agricultural, and cooking education, as well as service learning opportunities. Some highlights with St. Paul Public Schools in 2022 include:

- Field Trips
- Service Learning Activities
- Classroom Visits



Urban Roots at the MN State Fair

We had so much fun at the Minnesota State Fair! Our Cook Fresh program did a cooking demonstration of elote bruschetta on the Sustainability Stage in the Eco Experience. We were also guest hosts at The Common Table: Minnesota Eats exhibit in the Agriculture Horticulture Building. We enjoyed seeing how State Fair goers responded to the "chalkboard plate wall" question: "What's your favorite vegetable?" The plates were full of all kinds of vegetables by the end of the day!

Minnesota Campus Compact Presidents' Community Partner Award

Urban Roots is grateful to President Arthur and the Institute for Community Engagement and Scholarship at Metro State University for selecting us as the recipient of the 2022 Minnesota Campus Compact Presidents' Community Partner Award for Metro State University.

"This award is for a community-based organization that has enhanced the quality of life in the community in meaningful and measurable ways and has engaged in the development of sustained, reciprocal partnerships with Metro State University, thus enriching educational as well as community outcomes." -Iowa & Minnesota Campus Compact

We were recognized with other award recipients at a virtual celebration hosted by Minnesota Campus Compact on May 4, 2022. Thank you!



Camping Trip

Youth and staff had a fun time in the great outdoors on a camping trip to YMCA Camp St. Croix. Part of the trip involved paddling down the St. Croix River, and while not everyone stayed dry, everyone stayed safe!

TRIPS LIKE THESE:

- Help staff and youth bond
- Support equitable access to outdoor recreation
- Provide experiential learning - one of our values - to help youth grow





Take me out to the (Hayley) Ball game!

Executive Director Hayley Ball threw out the first pitch at a June Saint Paul Saints game. Staff and youth had a great time at the game and were happy to share the story of Urban Roots with attendees. Thank you to the Saint Paul Saints and Xcel Energy!

Bee Inspired

We held our annual fall fundraiser - **Bee Inspired: An Evening to Grow Urban Roots** - in September at the Science Museum of Minnesota. The event honored the work of honey bees and all native pollinators, as we see them as a link between our programs. **Conservation** helps create and support the native habitat that many pollinators call home. **Market Garden** benefits from the pollinators doing their work, giving us many of our favorite crops. **Cook Fresh** prepares wonderful meals from those crops.

The event featured our staff and interns and included the presentation of our Community Cultivator Award to Metropolitan State University. The creation of the GROW-IT Center—a space where learning has no limit and all are welcome—accomplished the extraordinary:

- Providing our youth interns with tangible experiences working in a state of the art greenhouse.
- Feeding over 10,000 people on the East Side of St. Paul
- Aiding in the development of a Native Seed Farm to restore over 278 acres of local green spaces annually.
- Providing free educational workshops to community members to further their pursuit of lifelong learning.

We also raised funds for a new-to-us van, for which we can say a big thank you to our supporters and report that we'll purchase in 2023!



Thank You to All!

Thank you to everyone who was a part of growing a healthy community on the East Side of St. Paul in 2022!

Community members, partners, interns, volunteers, board members, donors, and staff are all critical parts of cultivating and empowering youth through nature, healthy food, and community.

We are so grateful for all of your contributions!

2022 Highlights

Thank you!



Pocket Park rehab

Tree giveaway to improve tree canopy coverage



Organizing and stewarding more community gardens around us for neighbors to grow more food

Archery and fishing programs



Youth engagement at Mobile Market

New kitchen space



Camping trip to YMCA Camp St. Croix

Youth council presenting their proposal for a 5-year plan to the board



Making new friends

Bringing back Chef-Led Lunches



Looking to 2023

More interaction across the three programs

Opening the Mobile Kitchen for sales

VocalPoint Concert

Tree seed collecting and growing

Cook Fresh connecting with the community

Making mobile markets even better

Culturally-specific crop partnerships where community members were paid to show us ways they grow food

Getting hundreds of children in the Children's Garden



Financials

"In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Urban Roots MN as of December 31, 2022 and 2021, and the changes in its net assets and its cash flows for the years then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America." - Carpenter, Evert & Associates, Certified Public Accountants, March 2023

Consolidated Balance Sheet

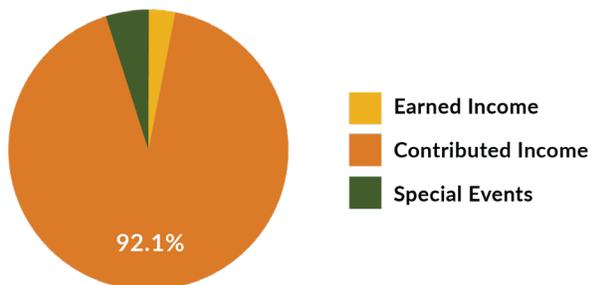
Assets:	2022	2021
Current Assets:		
Cash	\$ 238,362	\$ 351,729
Investments	\$ 11,156	\$ 11,161
Contributions Receivable	\$ 141,086	\$ 223,442
Prepaid Expenses	\$ 8,264	\$ 12,368
Total Current Assets	\$ 398,868	\$ 598,700
Right-Of-Use Asset		
Right-Of-Use Asset	\$ 155,101	--
Equipment and Leasehold Improvements - Net	\$ 95,488	\$ 102,360
Total Assets	\$ 649,457	\$ 701,060
Liabilities + Net Assets:		
Current Liabilities:		
Accounts Payable	\$ 18,712	\$ 28,091
Notes Payable	\$ 1,030	\$ 997
Lease Liability - Current	\$ 84,000	--
Accrued Salaries	\$ 19,386	\$ 17,056
Accrued Vacation	\$ 21,046	\$ 21,331
Total Current Liabilities	\$ 144,174	\$ 67,475
Long-term Liabilities:		
Lease Liability - LT	\$ 71,101	--
Notes Payable	\$ 6,641	\$ 7,671
Total Liabilities	\$ 221,916	\$ 75,146
Net Assets:		
Without Donor Restrictions	\$ 288,541	\$ 351,164
With Donor Restrictions	\$ 139,000	\$ 274,750
Total Net Assets	\$ 427,541	\$ 625,914
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 649,457	\$ 701,060



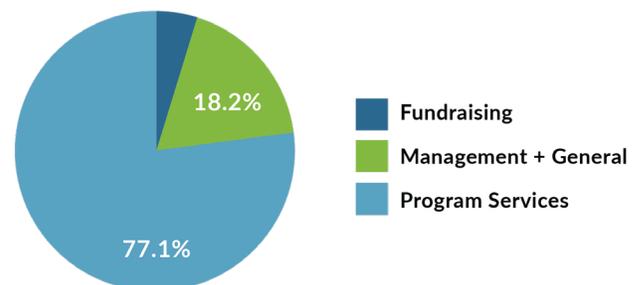
Consolidated Statement Of Activities

Support + Revenue:	2022	2021
Contributions	\$795,296	\$1,038,534
Contributions Of Nonfinancial Assets	\$136,286	\$61,178
Investment Income	\$537	(\$271)
Other Income	\$30,375	\$28,707
Special Event:		
Special Event Income	\$77,068	\$30,052
Cost of Direct Benefit to Donors	(\$28,160)	(\$10,083)
Net Special Event	\$48,908	\$19,969
Net Assets Released from Restrictions:		
Satisfaction of Purpose & Time Restrictions	--	--
Total Support and Revenue	\$1,011,402	\$1,148,117
Expense:		
Program Services	\$932,250	\$618,498
Support Services:		
Management and General	\$219,660	\$164,353
Fundraising	\$57,865	\$51,813
Total Support Services	\$277,525	\$216,166
Total Expense	\$1,209,775	\$834,664
Changes in Net Assets:	(\$198,373)	\$313,453
Net Assets - Beginning of Year	\$625,914	\$312,461
Net Assets - End of Year	\$427,541	\$625,914

FY 2022 Support + Revenue



FY 2022 Expenses



Volunteers and Service Learning Groups

Individual volunteers, volunteer groups, and service learning groups collectively contributed 4,363 hours of work in 2022. The value of volunteer time in Minnesota in 2022 is \$34.47 per hour¹, which translates into a contribution of \$150,392.61 to Urban Roots. As stated by Independent Sector, the value of volunteer time estimates “do not consider the many intangible benefits provided by volunteers that cannot be easily quantified. Volunteers often experience personal benefits from the satisfaction of helping others; in addition, they can increase the capacity and efficiency of service-providing organizations beyond the value of the work they do, which can help these organizations produce greater value to their communities.”²

We are so grateful for both the quantifiable and unquantifiable ways our volunteers and service learning groups play a role in growing healthy communities!

3M
Affinity Plus
Augurian
Hannah Bassewitz
Bauer Design Build
Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Minnesota
Camp Wapo Youth Group
Capella University
Cardiovascular Systems Inc.
Moriah Cebulla
Como Senior High English Language Learners
Community of Peace Academy
Dio Cramer
Dayton’s Bluff Elementary School
ECMC Group
Emergency Care Consultants
Fred Wells Tennis
Highland Park Climate Group
Hiway Credit Union
Emma Hubler
Karen Organization of Minnesota
Laura L.
Land O’ Lakes Young Professionals Network
Aly Longendyke
Macalester College
Genna Mastellone
Medtronic

Metro Deaf School
Metro State University
Modern Hire
Mounds Park Academy
Nestle
Planned Parenthood
Reve Consulting
RSP Architects
Shelby Rutzick
Saint Paul Academy
School of Environmental Studies
Nick Shillingford
St. Stephen’s Lutheran Church Youth Group
Sunny Hollow Montessori School
Target
Traia Thiel
Mary Traxler
Twin Cities Academy National Honor Society
University of Minnesota Medical Students
University of Minnesota Youth Studies Class
Ultieg Engineering
UnitedHealthcare
Washington Tech Summer School
Winslow Capital
Wolters Kluwer
Women’s Environmental Network
Xcel Energy
YWCA

¹ <https://independentsector.org/resource/value-of-volunteer-time/>

² <https://independentsector.org/sector-health/value-of-volunteer-time-methodology/>



Foundation, Business, and Corporate Support

3M

Abbott Laboratories

AgriBank

Allina Health Systems

Amazon Smile

Anonymous (2)

AT&T Minnesota

Beim Foundation

F. R. Bigelow Foundation

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Minnesota

Boeing Corporation

Bremer Bank

Otto Bremer Trust

Brunson's Pub

Cargill Corporation

Margaret A. Cargill Foundation

Choice Bank

Compeer Financial

Delta Dental of Minnesota

Eat The Change

ECMC Shared Services Company, LLC

H.B. Fuller Company Foundation

Freewheel Bike

General Dynamics

GiveMN

Greater Horizons

Greater Twin Cities United Way

Hardenbergh Foundation

Hiway Credit Union Foundation Inc

HRK Foundation

Jamf Software

Land O'Lakes Foundation

Land O'Lakes Young Professionals Network

Les Dames d' Escoffier

M Health Fairview

Macalester College

Marsh & McLennan Companies

Scott and Holly Martin Family Foundation

Alice Greene and E. Kirk McKinney, Jr. Fund, a fund
of Central Indiana Community Foundation

McNeely Foundation

Metropolitan State University

Mill City Farmers Market

Minnesota Association of Family and Consumer
Sciences

Minnesota Department of Agriculture

Minnesota Department of Natural Resources

Minnesota State Agricultural Society

Mississippi Market Cooperative

Mortenson Family Foundation

Mount Calvary Lutheran Church Foundation

J. Thomas and Janet Rajala Nelson Fund of the Saint
Paul & Minnesota Foundation

Nicholson Family Foundation

Nuveen Community Grants

NVIDIA Corporation

Patagonia Saint Paul

PayPal Giving Fund

Polaris

Ramsey County Public Health

Sahan Journal

Saint Paul Foundation

Saint Paul Garden Club

Richard M. Schulze Family Foundation

Seremet Family Foundation

Smiling Tree Toys and Corporate Gifts

Sundance Family Foundation

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UnitedHealthcare

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Workday

Xcel Energy

Xcel Energy Foundation

Youthprise



Community Partners

30,000 Feet
American Indian Family Center
Colin Anderson
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Big River Farms
Jenny Breen
Bruce Vento Elementary
Capital Region Watershed District
Center for Energy and the Environment (CEE)
City Academy
City of Maplewood
City of St. Paul Housing and Redevelopment Authority
City of St. Paul Parks and Recreation
CLUES
Community of Peace Academy
Community Stabilization Project
Como Park High School
Cornerstone Montessori Elementary School
Lachelle Cunningham
Dayton's Bluff Community Council
Dayton's Bluff Elementary School
Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services
Dellwood Gardens Assisted Living
Delta Tau-Hamline University
East Side Area Business Association
East Side Employment xChange
East Side Freedom Library
East Side Health & Wellness Collaborative - East Side Table
Farnsworth Aerospace Middle School
First Covenant Church
First Lutheran Church
Free Bikes 4 Kidz
Friends of Swede Hollow
Friends of the Mississippi River
Frogtown Green
Hamline University
HandsOn Twin Cities
Harding High School
Healthy Roots Institute - Lachelle Cunningham
Hmong American Partnership
Hmong College Prep Academy
HOPE Community Academy
Hunger Solutions
Zachary Hurdle
Indigenous Roots
J.J. Hill Montessori School
Johnson High School
Junior Achievement
Karen Organization of Minnesota
Lakewinds Co-op
Macalester College
Metro Food Justice Network
Metropolitan State University
Mill City Farmers Market
Minnesota Audubon Society
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Minnesota Land Trust
Minnesota State Horticultural Society MN SEED Project
Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge
Mississippi Market
Mississippi Park Connection
Mississippi Watershed Management Organization
National Park Service
Neighborhood Development Center
Northeast Metro 916
Northland College
Payne-Phalen Community Council
Pollinate Minnesota
Railroad Island Neighborhood Group (RING)
Ramsey County Corrections
Ramsey County Department of Recycling and Energy
Ramsey County Statewide Health Improvement Plan
Ramsey Washington Metro Watershed District
Ramsey/Washington County Recycling and Energy
Jametia Raspberry
River's Edge Academy
Rolling Regenerative
Roots for the Home Team
Saint Paul Public Library
Saint Paul Public Schools
Sprockets
St. Paul Central High School
St. Paul College
SunRay Library
SunRay Library Young Mentors Group
Swede Hollow Cafe
The Good Acre
The Nature Conservancy
Twin Cities Academy
Twin Cities Community Agricultural Land Trust
United States Department of Agriculture
United States Forest Service
University of Minnesota Bee Lab
University of Minnesota College of Food, Agriculture, and
Natural Resource Sciences
University of Minnesota Ecology Lab
University of Minnesota Healthy Food Healthy Lives
University of Minnesota Landscape Arboretum
University of Minnesota School of Public Health
University of Minnesota Soils Lab
Urban Farm and Garden Alliance
VANTAGE Minnetonka
Blong Vang
VocalPoint Chorus
Wakan Tipi Awanyankapi (formerly Lower Phalen Creek
Project)
YMCA
Youth Farm

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YMCA Camp St. Croix

Community-Supported Agriculture (CSA)

Share Members

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Carlajoy Strand
Victor Tonelli
Becca Wells
Michelle West Lenhart
Hanan Zavala
Amy Zier



Staff - GROWING UP

In solidarity with our high school-age interns, we're sharing photos of our year-round staff both now and in their high school days. We hope you enjoy the Urban Roots time machine!

Conservation



David Woods
CONSERVATION PROGRAM DIRECTOR



Thia Xiong
CONSERVATION PROGRAM MANAGER

Market Garden



Alfredo Alvarado
MARKET GARDEN MOBILE MARKET COORDINATOR



Marcos Giossi
MARKET GARDEN FARM COORDINATOR



Skyler Hawkins
MARKET GARDEN FARM MANAGER



Jaclyne Jandro
MARKET GARDEN EDUCATION MANAGER

Cook Fresh



Astrid Berger

COOK FRESH PROGRAM COORDINATOR



Elżbieta Martínez-Kukowski

COOK FRESH PROGRAM MANAGER



Saba Andualem (R) +Judy

Nguyen (L)

FORMER MANAGER + COORDINATOR

Administration



Hayley Ball

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Sara Johnson

DEVELOPMENT AND EVENTS MANAGER



Zarea Mobley

OFFICE MANAGER



Imogene Silver

COMMUNICATIONS ASSISTANT

Seasonal Staff

We appreciate and cannot do our work without our seasonal staff!



Jeremy Alsaker
CONSERVATION PROGRAM COORDINATOR



Paloma Cardoza
MARKET GARDEN YOUTH PROGRAM
COORDINATOR



Michael Vang
COOK FRESH PROGRAM CREW LEAD



Willie Yang
CONSERVATION PROGRAM CREW LEAD





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