

URBAN ROOTS

2018 ANNUAL REPORT



A YEAR OF URBAN ROOTS

We cultivate and empower youth through nature, healthy food and community

61  **YOUTH**
Employed

800 
MILES BIKED
to Restoration Sites


1 Acre FARMED


 **14,000**
POUNDS
of Produce Grown in 40 Varieties

 **900** 
MEALS SERVED
using Urban Roots produce

9 
ACRES of
HABITAT RESTORATION
Invasive Removal and Planting

52

4,500 
NATIVE TREES, SHRUBS
& FLOWERS Planted

320 *Volunteers*   

460 *Service Learners*

POUNDS of
Honey Harvested

42  **CSA Members,**
3 HUNGER RELIEF
PARTNERS

5100 **COMMUNITY**
MEMBERS Engaged

20 **CHEF-LEAD**
Meals Prepared



50 **CELEBRATE**
URBAN ROOTS
1969-2019



Check out more of our accomplishments
on our website: www.urbanrootsmn.org

PROGRAMS, ACTIVITIES, GOALS, AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Urban Roots is a St. Paul organization whose mission is to cultivate and empower youth through nature, healthy food, and community. Our programs are focused on the East Side of St. Paul. Our vision is a world where all communities have unlimited access to healthy food and nature. We place the tools of personal and community development in the hands of young people and families. The following values guide our work: Collaboration: Together we can achieve more than acting alone, Inclusivity: Diversity and inclusivity strengthen every aspect of our organization/work, Stewardship: Communities will be healthy when we inspire residents to understand, respect and conserve their natural environment, Opportunity: Youth and community members will thrive when they have opportunities to learn, lead and contribute, and Discovery: Opportunities for discovery will help youth and communities engage and grow.

Our work is focused on St. Paul's East Side. In terms of economic security and employment, the East Side of St. Paul still lags behind most other areas of the Twin Cities. Specifically, in the Dayton's Bluff area:

- 34% of households live below poverty line with 46% residents reporting income under \$35,000 in comparison to 37% of the households in greater St. Paul.
- 64% of residents are of color and 36% are white vs. 54% being of color and 46% being white in St. Paul.
- 57% of public school students qualify for free or reduced lunches compared to 51% of other Ramsey County residents.
- Nearly 48% of children age 12-17 live below the poverty line vs. 30.6% of the same age group in St. Paul.

In 2018, the demographics of the 60 youth interns were: Asian 34, Black or African American 17, Latinx 5, Caucasian 1, Multiethnic 3.55% of the interns were female and 45% male.



Urban Roots provides holistic, paid youth internships to 60 diverse, under-served teens on the East Side of St. Paul. Our internships (in Market Garden, Cook Fresh and Conservation programs) increase their work and life skills through career exploration and training in local food production, entrepreneurship, cooking, and conservation. All interns are eligible for free and reduced school meals, and through on-going employment (\$9.85-\$11.00/hr.), are able to contribute to their family income. All interns are given the opportunity to present their work in public venues, such as markets, restaurant sales, presentations to visiting groups, and tours in both summer and academic sessions. Youth interns engage in our progressive program model through placement in one of 4 tiers based on their experience, each year gaining new skills through increased hours and opportunities for leadership. We have also developed an intern-alum staff tier that engages youth out of high-school in summer employment as leads for our programming. In 2019 we will employ five intern alums in this position.

Youth engage in the following activities:

Cook Fresh interns learn about the food we grow and how to prepare it fresh from the garden, create seed-to-table meals for chef-lead lunches for summer programming, create healthy recipes for affordable meals, and help teach youth and family cooking classes. Youth prepare value-added products from our own garden harvest for market, such as chutneys, salsas, and sauces learning all aspects of an entrepreneurial enterprise.

Conservation youth interns support and improve green spaces around the East Side, and participate in the restoration of local parks through removal of invasive plant material, native seed collection and installation of native plants, learning hands-on skills through the installation and maintenance of rain and pollinator gardens. Youth also engage in citizen science projects, such as insect surveys, water sampling, and forest inventories.

Market Garden youth interns plant, maintain, and harvest small-scale crop production within our urban gardens. Youth interns also manage crops for distribution to community supported agriculture (CSA) shares, Farmers Market, program lunches, Roots for the Home Team, hunger relief efforts, youth families, restaurants and small-batch food preservation for seasonal sales. Program participants are also involved in creating sales and marketing materials for the Farmer's Market and other retail outlets.

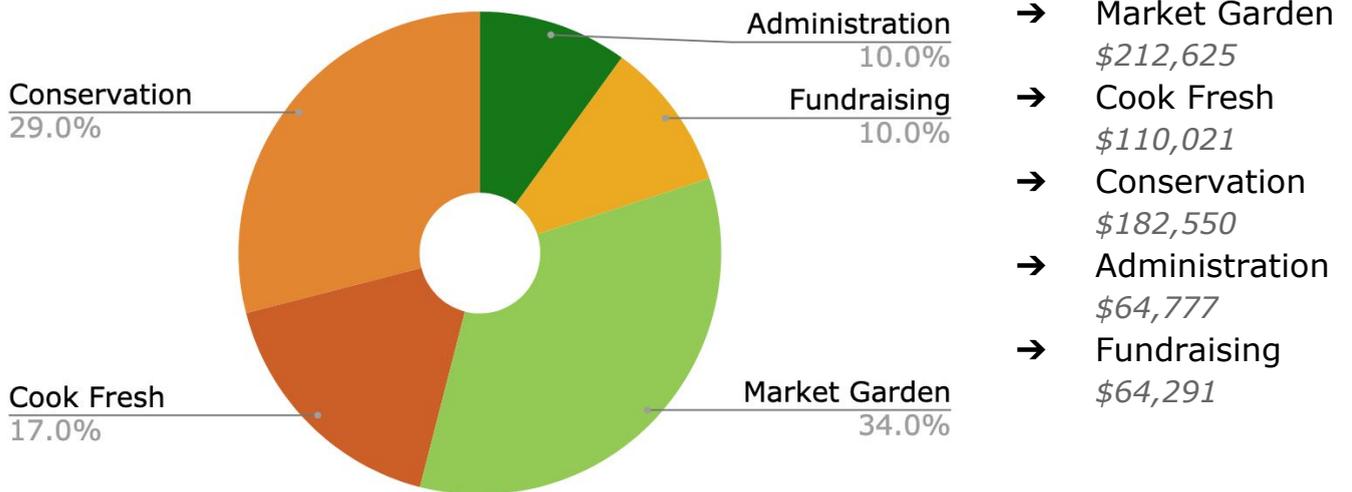
Each week, in the intensive summer program, the youth also participate in enrichment sessions where they learn 21st Century job skills (resume writing, interviewing), teamwork, attendance, public speaking, and interact with professionals in the community and on our career day to discuss job requirements. Returning youth engage in an 8-week Active Citizen project, identifying a need in their community and developing potential solutions. The enrichment sessions provide youth with skills they need to obtain for work as they transition from high school to college or employment. Upper tier participants may engage in the Youth Council, developing community projects that they have selected, including community murals and designing and implementing a community garden.

Program Goals and Outcomes for 2018

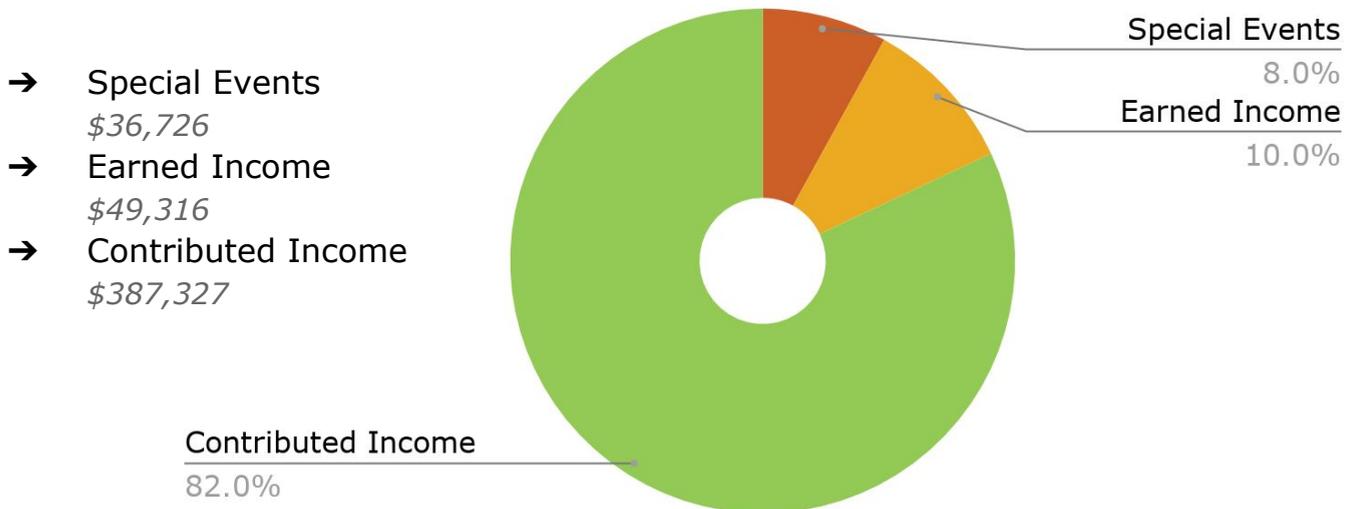
1. Youth gain 21st Century work-skills and life-skills-problem-solving, critical thinking, initiative, communication, collaboration. 84% of the youth demonstrated an increase in problem solving and critical thinking skills, 86% the ability to take initiative on the job, 92% an increase in communication skills and 93% a collaborative approach to their work.
2. Content Knowledge and Career Pathways. Youth participants increased their skills and knowledge through experiential learning, specifically in content areas conservation, ecology, market gardening and cooking, increased their awareness of opportunities for educational and professional development in program related fields. 87% of the youth demonstrated increased knowledge and skills as per their content field and 88% were able to identify at least three career opportunities.
3. Community Connections and Impact. Youth contributed to their community, felt connected to their community and are aware of their impact on the community. Youth became stewards of the environment and their community. Youth conducted community tours, classes, engaged in service-learning projects, engaged in enrichment activities. 96% of the youth reported that they feel more connected to their community and 100% could identify the positive impact of their work in the community.

BY THE NUMBERS

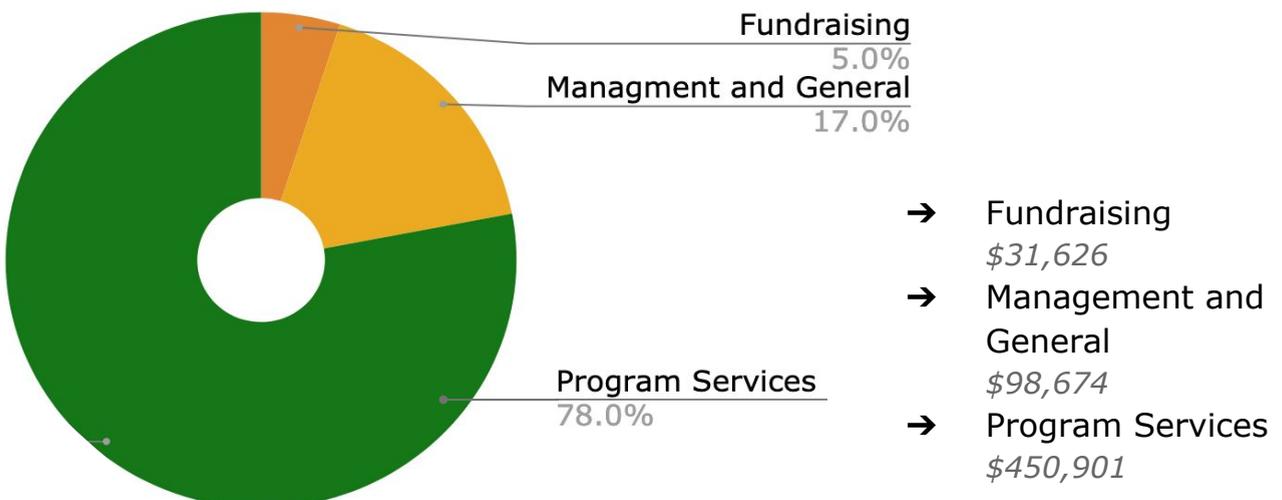
2018 Expenses by Program



2018 Support and Revenue



2018 Total Expenses



FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear friends and supporters of Urban Roots,

Thank you!

2018 was a year full of exciting success stories at Urban Roots. We celebrated the grand opening of our Rivoli Bluffs urban farm site and had a ribbon cutting for the new high tunnel with local media and dignitaries in attendance, including the mayor. Our Conservation program was awarded its first national grant, and Cook Fresh launched a program aimed at collecting family recipes from our youth and working with them to incorporate healthy, local, and seasonal ingredients.

We continue to be dedicated to our progressive program model in which youth who return to Urban Roots each year take on greater responsibilities. We added a third tier to our youth internships, continued to hire youth alumni as seasonal staff, and added a youth alumni position to our board of directors. In this same vein, we also promoted several staff members, creating of the Education Manager position and establishing our first Conservation Program Director.

Urban Roots endures as a place where young people flourish and apply their passion and energy to making their communities healthy, vibrant, and sustainable. The future belongs to our youth, and it is bright indeed!

Thank you for supporting Urban Roots and the amazing young people we serve!



Leif Masrud

President, Board of Directors

BOARD AND STAFF MEMBERS

- Leif Masrud, *President*
- Julie Seiber, *Vice-President*
- Megan Wickmann, *Secretary*
- Tim Dykstal, *Treasurer*
- Shonda Craft
- Catherine Downey
- Kat Facklam
- Daniel Grundtner
- Stephanie Harr
- Dan King
- Trudy Ohnsorg
- Pleasant Radford
- Sri Siddabathuni

- Saba Andualem, *Cook Fresh Program Coordinator*
- Summer Badawi, *Marketing & Events Director*
- Sydney Davis, *Market Garden Program Manager*
- Jaclyne Jandro, *Market Garden Program Coordinator*
- Patsy Noble, *Executive Director*
- David Woods, *Conservation Program Manager*
- May Vang, *Seasonal Conservation Program Coordinator*
- Kat Facklam, *Alumni Conservation Lead*
- Imogene Silver, *Alumni Cook Fresh Lead*

**Urban Roots MN
Balance Sheet
December 31, 2018**

	<u>12/31/2018</u>	<u>12/31/2017</u>	<u>12/31/2017</u>
Current Assets			
Cash	\$78,417	\$136,317	\$136,317
Investments (CD's / Money Market)	\$19,645	\$14,534	\$14,534
Grants Receivable	\$31,305	\$67,000	\$67,000
Accounts Receivable	\$24,737	\$5,014	\$5,014
Interest Receivable	\$0	\$0	\$0
Prepaid Expenses	\$4,423	\$4,277	\$4,277
Total Current Assets	\$158,526	\$227,142	\$227,142
Fixed Assets			
Equipment	\$71,995	\$71,995	\$71,995
New Assets / Leasehold Improvements	\$47,381	\$47,381	\$47,381
Less Accumulated Depreciation	(\$98,152)	(\$79,382)	(\$79,382)
Total Fixed Assets	\$21,224	\$39,994	\$39,994
Other Assets			
Investments	\$9,430	\$13,334	\$13,334
Deposits	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Other Assets	\$9,430	\$13,334	\$13,334
Total Assets	\$189,180	\$280,471	\$280,471
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable	\$2,351	\$3,719	\$3,719
Accrued Salaries	\$5,657	\$5,815	\$5,815
Accrued Vacation	\$14,583	\$17,136	\$17,136
Van Loan Payable	\$0	\$2,931	\$2,931
STAR Loan Payable	\$911	\$884	\$884
Accrued Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0
Deferred Revenue	\$0	\$500	\$500
Total Current Liabilities	\$23,502	\$30,985	\$30,985
Long-Term Liabilities			
Van Loan Payable	\$0	\$1,247	\$1,247
STAR Loan Payable	\$10,574	\$11,485	\$11,485
Total Long-Term Liabilities	\$10,574	\$12,731	\$12,731
Total Liabilities	\$34,076	\$43,715	\$43,717
Net Assets			
Without Donor Restrictions	\$104,690	\$159,290	\$159,290
Board Designated	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Net Assets Without Donor Restrictions	\$104,690	\$159,290	\$159,290
Net Assets with Donor Restrictions	\$50,417	\$77,466	\$77,466
Total Net Assets	\$155,107	\$236,755	\$236,755
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$189,180	\$280,471	\$280,471