

G.I.V.E Garden Impact Report April 2023-April 2024

MISSION AND IMPACT

Making healthy, local food more accessible to all!
We strive to do this by teaching people to make and maintain food gardens in underserved communities. Through the G.I.V.E Gardens program, starter gardens are built for families in need at a pay what you can basis creating affordable access to gardens and breaking down the barriers to access to fresh produce and green spaces

HISTORY OF PROGRAM

G.I.V.E. gardens began in April 2009 when a family living in a food desert wanted Urban Oasis to teach them how to make a food garden. The mother had a new baby on the way, the father was working long hours in retail, and the 4-year-old daughter was very excited to grow vegetables to eat. Their learning time was limited, and instead of teaching with just words and diagrams, we decided the best way to learn was by practice.

With a handful of volunteers and donated materials, the first G.I.V.E. garden was planted with a lot of hands-on learning for the recipient family.

After a hiatus in 2022 the G.I.V.E Gardens program was restarted in April of 2023 and worked to complete the mission of local food for all.

2023 IMPACT SNAPSHOT

3

Community Gardens Built

40

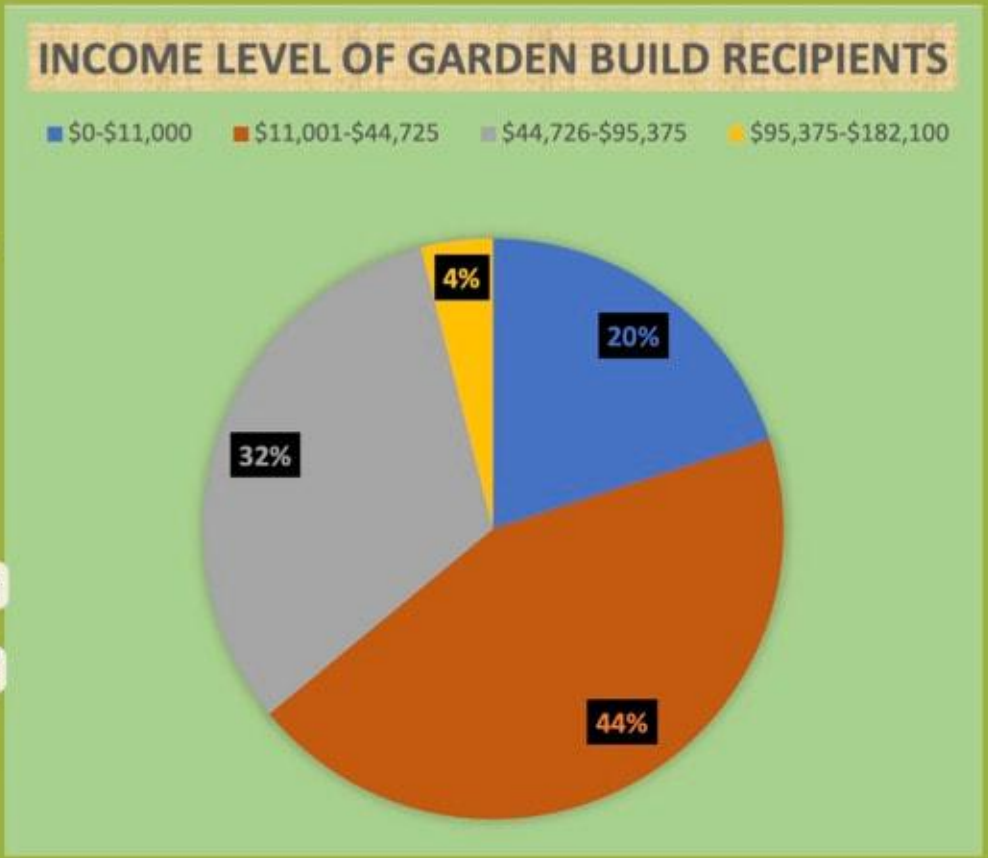
Home Gardens Built

500

Vegtables Planted



In the past year, 64% of G.I.V.E Garden recipents earned less than $44,725 annually. With similar-sized garden beds typically costing between $300 and $800, the G.I.V.E Gardens Program aims to make gardening more accessible and its benefits available to a broader community.



BENEFITS

Mental health	Multiple studies have found that gardening has a multitude of benefits for mental well being. This includes a reduction of symtoms of anxiety and depression to reducing the effects of dementia.
Physical health	Gardening provides a number of ways to benefit physical health. Access to healthy food, boosts of vitamin D, and of course the physical movement that comes with gardening.
Community health	Often the G.I.V.E Garden beds produce more vegetables than one family consumes. This has lead to many of our recipents giving away food to neighbors. Our recipents have also been inspired by the program to volunteer with community gardens and farmers markets.

Plans for the next year



After a successful year we have a long list to expand and improve the program.

- Summer refresh of existing garden and improved supports for families
- Expand resources and education on gardening

and of course
Planting many more G.I.V.E Gardens

Inspired to G.I.V.E a Garden?

Donate

Apply to receive your own Garden

Application