

824 S 400 W, STE B127 SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84101

801-359-2658 wasatchgardens.org



The mission of Wasatch Community Gardens is to empower people of all ages and incomes to grow and eat healthy, organic, local food.

Grow. Eat. Repeat.





# LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear friends,

It's been another busy year at Wasatch Community Gardens. Our 2016 list of major accomplishments is impressive to say the least!

- We started a new garden with Salt Lake City at 1700 S. and 700 E., which filled to capacity a few short days after it opened;
- We held our first "How to Start a School Garden" workshop to begin piloting the idea for our expanded School Garden Program;
- We created a demonstration garden at our flagship Grateful Tomato Garden to enhance our Community Education Program and make our workshops more hands-on;
- We placed a conservation easement on our Grateful Tomato Garden to protect it as agricultural open space in perpetuity;
- We started our new GREEN TEAM Farm, a 1.3 acre farm in the Depot District of Salt Lake City, that serves as a job training farm for a small group of women who are currently facing homelessness.

Yes – we've been busy! But with our increasing population and urbanism, the demand for garden education and space to grow on continues to increase in Salt Lake County. We continue to work hard through all of our programs to meet these needs.

We have a vision of an inclusive, robust, and vibrant community that is nourished by healthy and affordable food, and we made some real progress toward achieving that vision with

our new GREEN TEAM Farm. Not only are we teaching eight women how to grow fruits and vegetables on our small, urban farm, but we're selling the produce from the farm to Head Start at a subsidized price. By getting literally thousands of low-income kids to enjoy organically grown produce each day, we're expanding access to healthy, local food to more people. Although we can all agree that everyone deserves healthy food, unfortunately, many people simply can't afford it. All of our programs are working to improve that.

We continue to be awed by our volunteers and all of our program participants. In an age where we often don't know our neighbors, WCG encourages people from all ages, incomes, backgrounds, religions, and professions to come together through gardening and fresh food. Our 900 community gardeners span all incomes, and the melting pot that makes up a community garden allows people to get to know each other in a safe and inclusive space.

We've got more big plans in 2017, and with the help of our incredible community, we'll keep working to achieve our mission of empowering more people in our community to grow and eat healthy food. Thanks for your continued assistance and support of our work.

- Ashley Patterson Executive Director "Volunteering with WCG was an incredible experience... All of the volunteers and employees were wonderful, caring, intelligent people who were really excited to be there. My time with WCG encouraged me to pursue a career in environmental

finding valuable volunteer opportunities in

education and inspired me to continue

my community.'

 Sierra Adler, Volunteer, Youth Garden Program

"We support WCG because it addresses many things close to our hearts: helping others with a hand up; education for lasting impact; building community because we're stronger together; caring for our environment; and being committed to healthy, local, affordable food sources for all."

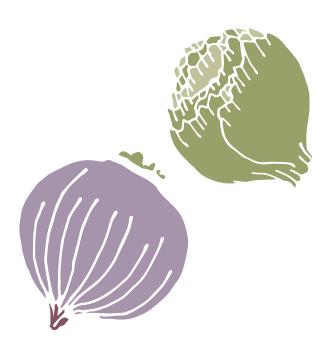
- Dave and Lori Lof, Longtime WCG Donors

### ABOUL US

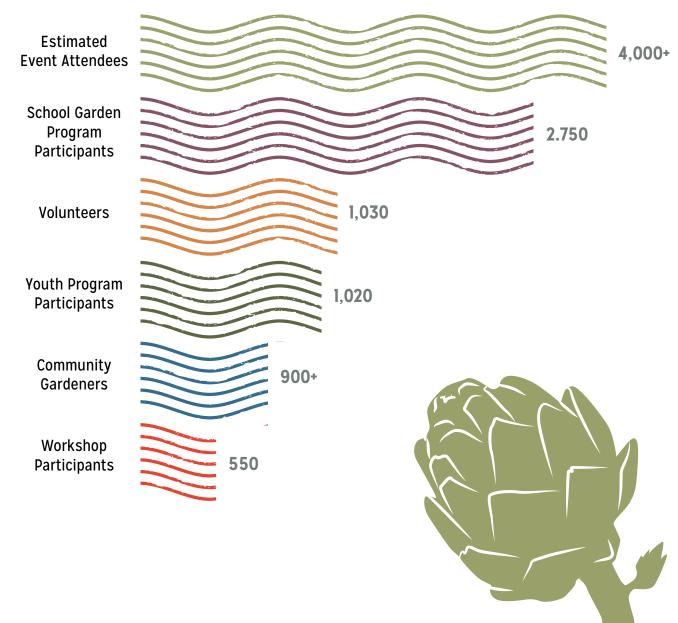
Wasatch Community Gardens has served Wasatch Front residents since 1989 with the belief that the quality of a community is directly related to the quality of its food.

WCG offers a spectrum of dynamic programs for youth and adults aimed at improving access to healthy, fresh food. We provide garden space where community members can grow their own organic produce, as well as educational workshops and community events to empower them to successfully grow, harvest, preserve, and prepare seasonal foods.

Volunteer support is critical to all of our programs. In 2016, volunteers contributed 9,623 hours helping with our events, office tasks, and garden projects. Community gardeners in our Network gardens contributed an additional 6.973 volunteer hours.



## WHO WE SERVE



# 2016 COMMUNITY GARDENS PROGRAMS





### SCHOOL GARDEN PROGRAM

### 2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- twice during the semester to grow and eat fresh
- Engaged 115 volunteers to assist with garden
- manage, run, and engage with a school garden to educators in the Salt Lake area who were not

"I have not tried pumpkin flesh. I loved it!!!"

– Neja, Fourth Grade Student, Mountain View Elementary School

### COMMUNITY EDUCATION PROGRAM

to help community members grow, preserve, and eat

#### 2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

"I learned more in the first five minutes than I've learned in any book! Wonderful presentation! I'm excited to get going!"

- Workshop Attendee 2016

### YOUTH GARDEN PROGRAM

The participants represent a diverse cross section of Salt Lake County residents with a wide variety of ethnic

#### 2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

"I can feel the energy tingling in my legs. It's from the kale in the rainbow smoothie!"

- Olivia, 6, YWCA Kindergarten





### GREEN TEAM FARM

### 2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- and productive urban farm.

- Engaged 200 volunteers to assist with farm

"The building of this farm community is bringing me a calming strength."

- Cherie Ewton, GREEN TEAM Farm participant

### COMMUNITY GARDEN PROGRAM

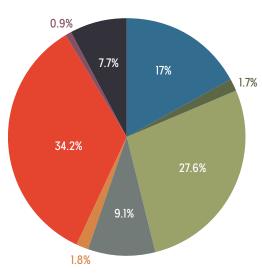
their own fresh, organic produce by providing garden County to provide residents access to community gardens

### 2016 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

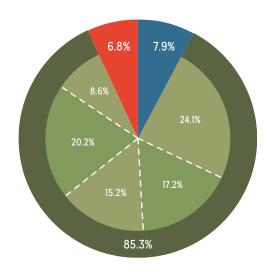
- Launched a new community garden, the Liberty Wells
- Supported 33 community gardens through our Network, refugee gardeners. Together, these gardens reported
- Distributed \$5,264 in mini-grants to community gardens which supports essential garden infrastructure

"I so enjoyed the community supporting the growing of a garden!! There is such joy in preparing meals for family and friends using the delicious produce grown in an energetically happy place. Thank you for creating this magical space!"

– Emily Drown, Community Gardener, Popperton Plots Community Garden



Individuals	\$154,670
Sponsorships	\$15,136
Grants	\$249,868
In-kind Donations	\$82,194
Investment Income	\$16,229
Program Services	\$309,737
Fundraisers	\$8,176
Capital Campaign Donations	\$69,537
Total	\$905,547





# CURRENT STAFF

Ashley Patterson

Community Garden Program Director

Van Hoover Green City Growers Community Garden Coordinator

Marybeth Janerich Community Education Program Director

Giles Larsen Parks for Produce Community Garden

James Loomis GREEN TEAM Farm Director Benjamin Luks-Morgan Volunteer and Outreach Director

Michelle Peacock Thompson Office Manager

Liz Pedersen School Garden Program Director

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#### \$10,000-24,999 Ally Bank

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XMission

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