



# CITYSLICKER FARMS



GROWING AND COLLABORATING SINCE 2001

## Commitments

### Food Justice

- Monthly staff food justice discussions
- Continuous evaluation of food growing & distribution processes

### Diversity, Equity & Inclusion

- Monthly Board-led learning series on food, environmental, social and racial justice issues
- Staff book club on leading topics in social justice
- 75% of Farm Park events will be lead by or for BIPOC

### Health & Well-Being

- Increase opportunities for movement, relaxation and support for mental health for CSF team and community



This is Iris and she has been a part of our garden program since 2013! We repaired her garden and supplied her with plants grown in our Greenhouse.

## 2022 Goals

- ★ Finalize the community design and build our new Children's Garden; kick off new youth programming
- ★ Maintain and expand support for our Backyard Gardeners with seedlings, compost, new gardens, and mentorship
- ★ Increase support for our volunteers and staff
- ★ Increase community events by 25%



"I joined City Slicker Farms as a volunteer earlier this year... I greatly appreciate the opportunity to help folks in my city access healthy food, and to contribute to an organization that educates and inspires the community about sustainable and just land use and food systems. Seeing the incredible amount of fresh produce harvested in the summer and fall has been truly inspiring." - Aminy Ostfeld

Dear Friend,

The air is getting colder and we are planting cabbage and hearty greens for warm winter soups. As 2022 draws closer, we wanted to say thank you for an impressive year (all things considered!) and ask for your help.

**Can you give a gift to support food justice? We are building on our momentum from this year and need your help!**

We not only met but exceeded our goals in 2021. We cultivated over 20,000 plants that we provided for free to our Backyard Gardeners, West Oakland residents, or planted in our Farm. This year we grew almost 4,500 pounds of food that we gave away to the community (that's half a ton more than last year!). And we built 12 new backyard gardens (two more than our goal). Check out more of our highlights on the next page!

The past month has been such a gift of energy and momentum at City Slicker Farms: we finished up our final Backyard Garden builds and brought on new members; our volunteer workdays are booming once again; we've brought joy to kids and families painting pumpkins and meeting our new chickens; old friends are stopping by to bask in the magic of the season amid all the new growth; and new partners are discovering the charm of the Farm Park for the first time. With your help, we can continue to build upon this spirit of positive transformation in 2022!

Next year we are excited to finalize our new Children's Garden at the Farm Park--with the input of local families and community members--and expand children and youth programming; continue our yearly goal of building 10 new gardens a year and supporting hundreds of gardeners; grow and give away at least 5,000 pounds of food. In January, we are kicking off an evaluation process and reaching out to Backyard Gardens members to learn more about how we can better support them. We are also excited to continue to integrate our values of food justice and equity into how we work as a team and into our plan for expanding community partnerships.

But we can't do this all without your help! **And from now through the end of the year, our Board of Directors will match your gift dollar-for-dollar up to \$40,000! This is a great opportunity to double your impact; your gift today can make such a difference.** Your donation will help us realize our vision of a world where all communities are nourished and have access to healthy, high-quality, and culturally celebrated food in their community.

Please consider giving the gift of health and wellness today.

With gratitude,

Kelly ErnstFriedman, Executive Director  
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SCAN ME



OR TEXT "GIVE" TO  
(510) 588-7179  
TO DONATE

# 2021 Highlights

We grew and gave out over 4,500 pounds of farm fresh produce and 22,000 plants; built 12 new gardens and supported over 400 gardeners, and worked with more than 250 volunteers!



## Founded the Community Council & expanded the Board

This year we created a Community Council to advise on programming, policies and partnerships. We also grew from four board members to 11!

## Increased Partnerships with Youth-Serving Groups

We hosted youth at the Farm Park from DeFremery Park, Willie Keyes and the Contra Costa and San Jose chapters of Jack and Jill of America, and more!



## West Oakland Plant Giveaways

Thanks to funding from Alameda County Health Department, we grew and gave away over 500 plants to West Oakland residents at events at the West Oakland Library and Community Foods Markets.

## Designed and Installed Info Kiosk at Farm Park

One of our goals this year was to increase signage and information about food justice at the Farm Park and we are so excited about our new kiosk that tells our history, programs and provides space for community announcements.



## Expanded Community Garden and Farm Rows

Our veteran volunteers and Laney College helped expand our community garden, increasing the amount of families able to grow fresh food. We also lengthened our farm rows and installed low tunnels to help us grow more food during the winter.

## Celebrated One Year of Partnership with Town Fridge

As part of the network, we stock the fridge with fresh produce we've grown, as well as contribute space and electricity for the fridge at the Farm Park.



## Increased Online Gardening Resources

To help our Backyard Gardeners access gardening information remotely, we created a Garden Resources page on our website with a planting and harvesting guide, information on dealing with garden pests, and growing during wildfire season.

## Yoga Brunch at the Farm Park

Led by West Oakland-based YogaLove, we hosted three outdoor Yoga Brunch events and hope to do more!



## Hosting Weekly LavaMaeX Shower Service

In August, we hosted a LavaMaeX pop up event for unhoused neighbors and in October the Farm Park became a site for weekly shower and hygiene services.



## Fall Family Day at the Farm Park

We partnered with the West Oakland Public Library to encourage youth and their families to engage with reading and the outdoors. We were able to get feedback from local youth on their ideas as we develop our new children's garden.

## Built a 2nd Chicken Coop and Welcomed 40 New Chickens!

Starting next spring, we'll be able to provide dozens more eggs to the community. And the new coop allows Park visitors to enjoy the chickens every day.