

2015 ANNUAL REPORT



CELEBRATING 20 YEARS

Founded in 1995, City Sprouts is Omaha's first community garden



Then and Now

*Entering the community garden
shortly after the redesign in 2005
and again in 2014*



CITY SPROUTS 2015 BOARD

Support from our board helps to grow our capacity and reach a greater Omaha community



Board Members Pictured (Left to Right):

Clayton Chapman, Grey Plume

Albert Varas, Board President, Avenue Scholars

Kirby Simmering, Nebraska Cancer Coalition

Jack Round, Nebraska Children and Families Foundation

Jo Ann Garvey, Metropolitan Community College

Megan Thom, First National Bank

Kristie Willis, Community Volunteer

Kelly Bouxsein, Live Well Omaha Kids

Roxanne Williams Draper, Executive Director, City Sprouts

Not Pictured:

Ellen Duysen, Secretary, UNMC

David Klitz, Treasurer, Habitat for Humanity Restore

Shonna Dorsey, Interface Web School

OUR GOALS

- To increase availability of fresh, locally grown produce
- To provide employment opportunities

- To educate the community about gardening and sustainability
- To empower communities to make healthy lifestyle choices

Donate to help us grow

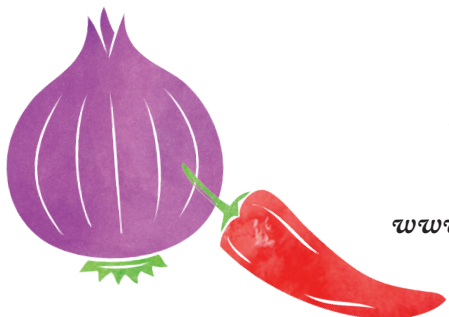
City Sprouts is a 501(c)3 and all donations are tax deductible.

Donations may be made on our website at www.omahasprouts.org

or mailed to: **City Sprouts, P.O. Box 31593, Omaha, NE 68131**

www.OmahaSprouts.org | 4002 Seward Street, Omaha, Nebraska 68111

Roxanne Williams Draper, Executive Director
director@omahasprouts.org | 402-216-9616



CITY SPROUTS

2015: A Year in Review

It is so amazing to reflect on City Sprouts' rich 20 year history. Founded as a grassroots organization in 1995, we have grown to become a reliable resource, impacting Omaha and the surrounding community. We have grown from small in-ground plots to support a Community Garden with 45 raised beds that we share with our neighbors, providing seeds, plants, water, education and encouragement to help them grow fresh food for their families. In 2005, a generous donation provided us with our Education Center, where we are able to offer a wide variety of workshops for all ages, host volunteer groups and community events. The Decatur Urban Farm, comprised of 3 city lots at 40th and Decatur Streets, was purchased in 2011 and has grown into a valuable asset. Our Urban Farming Interns plant, maintain and harvest fruits and vegetables at the Urban Farm, which they then sell on-site at our weekly Farm Stand, cultivating ownership and workforce readiness skills. Our staff has grown from 2 part-time seasonal employees, to a full-time year-round Executive Director, a Community Garden Manager and an Urban Farm Manager. The future plans include expanding our staff as we continue to grow to support our efforts at Sustaining Community Through Gardening. This is all made possible through the generosity of our community and the many volunteers who offer their time and talent.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT,

Roxanne Williams Draper, Executive Director

A happy gardener at Rose Hill Elementary School, where we installed raised beds in Spring 2015, to support their garden club!



GROWING WITH SCHOOLS

Strengthening our partnerships with Franklin, Rose Hill and Walnut Hill Elementary Schools has helped us to engage with many more youth at our garden!

300+
youth visited our campus in 2015

Participants at our Cover Crop workshop sow seeds at Big Muddy Urban Farm



Truck Farm Omaha visits City Sprouts for our end of season Fall Festival!



COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Working together to Sustain Communities Through Gardening

Creighton
UNIVERSITY



NE SCIFEST

live well
omaha kids

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Omaha



avenue
scholars
foundation

Additional Outreach:

- Presenter at annual Community Gardening 101 training; Douglas County Extension Office
- Upward Bound Explorer Post partner organization
- Tour de Garden, garden host
- Community Seed Swaps
- Earth Day Omaha and Food Day Omaha participant

LEARNING IN THE GARDEN

We provide a variety of educational opportunities on-site, from Little Sprouts, to Urban Farming Internship and the Growing Gardeners Workshop Series

50
workshops co-hosted with the Big Garden, Growing Gardeners Workshop Series; a 66% increase over 2014

14
youth completed our 2015 Urban Farm Internship



2015 FUNDERS

... A season of great support

\$15,000+

Sherwood Foundation
United Way of the Midlands
William & Ruth Scott Family Foundation

\$10,000+

Amis Family Foundation
Omaha Gives
Weitz Family Foundation

\$5,000+

City of Omaha Mayor's Grant
Cox Charities
Faith Charitable Trust
Mulhall's Nursery

\$2,500+

Bill Minier & Becky Anderson
Lozier Foundation
Minier Family Foundation
Robbins Family Foundation

OUR ROOTS RUN DEEP

20 Years of City Sprouts, supported by our community

- During Omaha Gives, we raised over \$12,000 from nearly 200 unique donors, in May 2015; a 40% increase in funds raised over 2014
- At our Grow With Us Gala in August, we raised over \$25,000 to support our programming; a 66% increase over 2014

A special thanks to the individuals who donated throughout the year!

