Growing Places' mission is to inspire and connect North Central Massachusetts residents to create equitable access to healthy food through education, collaboration and sustainable practices.

325 LINDELL AVENUE       LEOMINSTER, MA 01453
TEL: 978.598.3723      GROWINGPLACES.ORG

WHERE OUR MONEY COMES FROM

FY 2017

OPERATING INCOME
Foundations: 58%
Individuals: 20%
Government: 13%
Corporations: 3%
Earned Income: 6%

INCOME $322,718

GARDENS CHANGE LIVES

These figures are based on our internal accounting records and had not been reviewed by our accountants at the time of this printing. Our most recent 990s and a complete listing of the individuals, businesses, and foundations who donated to make this work possible, can be found on our website www.growingplaces.org.

Below is a partial list of our largest sponsors and grantors.

ASSETS
Total Current Assets $ 104,655
Total Fixed Assets $    26,056
Total Other Assets $    25,870
TOTAL ASSETS $ 156,581

LIABILITIES & EQUITY
Liabilities $     5,007
EQUITY:
Retained Earnings $107,456
Net income $ 44,108
Total Equity $ 151,564
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY $ 156,571

HOW WE SPEND OUR MONEY
FY 2017

PROGRAMS:
Administration / Management:
Fundraising:

EXPENSES $278,610

79%
11%
10%
GROWING PLACES ENVISIONS A SUSTAINABLE NORTH CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS COMPRISED OF HEALTHY PEOPLE AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES.

Our mission is to inspire and connect North Central MA residents to create equitable access to healthy food through education, collaboration and sustainable practices.

We promote healthy people and healthy communities by:

- Building backyard, school and community food gardens and supporting the gardeners who use them
- Teaching gardening and healthy eating skills to all ages
- Building social and community connections through volunteer and leadership opportunities
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- Teaching sustainable growing practices and encouraging environmental stewardship

ROOTED IN COMMUNITY
LEARNING AND GROWING

“It makes you feel empowered to be able to grow your own food!”

— Will рассматрива, Pilgrim husband teaching gardeners, Leominster

100% OF TEACHING GARDENERS CONSUME FRESH PRODUCE AT LEAST 3-4 TIMES PER WEEK, COMPARED TO ONLY 33% BEFORE PARTICIPATING IN GP PROGRAMS

“We are very happy to be able to build our own garden at home with your help. Thank you!”

— Giselle, teaching garden graduate, backyard gardener

“I love swiss chard! Can I have more!!?”

— Pilot youth program student, South Street Elementary School, Fitchburg

100% OF TEACHING GARDENERS TRIED NEW OR PREPARED FAMILIAR PRODUCE IN A NEW WAY

“I have a sense of confidence being able to grow something from seed. It has been so amazing. When you buy at the supermarket, it is not the same – the enhanced taste that you cannot buy anywhere, and the smell, the different colors and textures.”

— Brigidella, teaching garden graduate, Fitchburg

70% COOK OR PREPARE MEALS USING FRESH PRODUCE 3-7 TIMES PER WEEK

60% SAVED MONEY ON PRODUCE

SHARING AND CONNECTING

“Thank you for coming to Clinton! Such a great use of wasted space and so exciting to see plans for it to become a true community space coming to fruition!”

— Mary, Massachusetts community gardener, Clinton

70% REPORT BEING MORE KNOWLEDGEABLE OF THE CONNECTION BETWEEN FOOD AND HEALTH

“I shared my garden and seeds with my brother who visited from Philadelphia. He called me to say he had been able to plant his garden and that he harvested lots of peppers.”

— Laura, teaching garden graduate, Pierce Meadow community gardener, Leominster

63% MET NEW PEOPLE

70% FEEL AN IMPROVED SENSE OF MENTAL & EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING FROM SHARING PRODUCE WITH OTHER GARDENERS

“I am thankful that there are people like you that give us (the community) tools to improve our daily lives.”

— Maria, teaching garden graduate, volunteer translation editor, Fitchburg

62% OF PARTICIPANTS REPORTED THAT THEY AND THEIR CHILDREN SPEND MORE TIME OUTSIDE

70% HAVE ALREADY SHARED WHAT THEY LEARNED ABOUT GARDENING WITH OTHERS

LIVING HEALTHY

“Thank you for coming to Clinton! Such a great use of wasted space and so exciting to see plans for it to become a true community space coming to fruition!”

— Mary, Massachusetts community gardener, Clinton

66% FEEL CONFIDENT ABOUT PREPARING FRESH FOOD

“I’ve always loved gardening, but I was never able to grow a produce garden before due to lack of good soil or a sufficiently sunny location, so it is wonderful to be able to grow gardening and fresh food so important and I feel like because of Growing Places, so many more people in the area are starting to grow their own food and really enjoy it!”

— Stacey, Pierce Meadow community gardener, Leominster

60% DECREASED CONSUMPTION OF PRE-PACKAGED FOOD

“I asked my parents if we can garden at home now.”

— Pilot youth program student, South Street Elementary School, Fitchburg

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76% FEEL TENDING THEIR GARDEN OR SPENDING TIME ALONE AT THE GARDEN IMPROVES THEIR SENSE OF MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

68% OF PARTICIPANTS REPORTED THAT THEY AND THEIR CHILDREN SPEND MORE TIME OUTSIDE

62% HAVE ALREADY SHARED WHAT THEY LEARNED ABOUT GARDENING WITH OTHERS

Numerical data derived from direct gardener feedback via end-of-season survey.

Growing Places Envisions a sustainable north central Massachusetts comprised of healthy people and healthy communities. Our mission is to inspire and connect north central MA residents to create equitable access to healthy food through education, collaboration and sustainable practices. We promote healthy people and healthy communities by:

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200 low-income households used SNAP at the Fitchburg farmers market
780 shade trees planted in Leominster as part of the Greening the Gateway Cities program
17 new families used garden produce to support their ethnic or religious traditions
85 youth built skills around growing vegetables
190 individuals volunteered 634 hours of their time

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GROWING PLACES
GRATITUDE REPORT 2017
HEALTHY PEOPLE.
HEALTHY COMMUNITIES.

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