

KGI ANNUAL REPORT 2014



Sow It Forward grantee: Huerto de la Familia project, Eugene, Oregon

Dear Kitchen Gardener,

In 2013, Kitchen Gardeners International (KGI) shifted its focus to providing financial and technical support to food garden projects serving vulnerable and disadvantaged populations through a mini-grants program called Sow It Forward. 2014 represented the second year of this new orientation and the KGI Board and I are very pleased to be able to share our results.

As you will see from the stats below, we were able to double our reach and our impacts compared to 2013 thanks to increased fundraising, investments in better technologies, and more effective outreach. I want to take this opportunity to thank our many individual and institutional donors that made this work possible. The real credit, however, goes to the thousands of selfless volunteers associated with these diverse projects who do the hard and often unglorious work of starting and maintaining these gardens for the benefit of others in their communities.

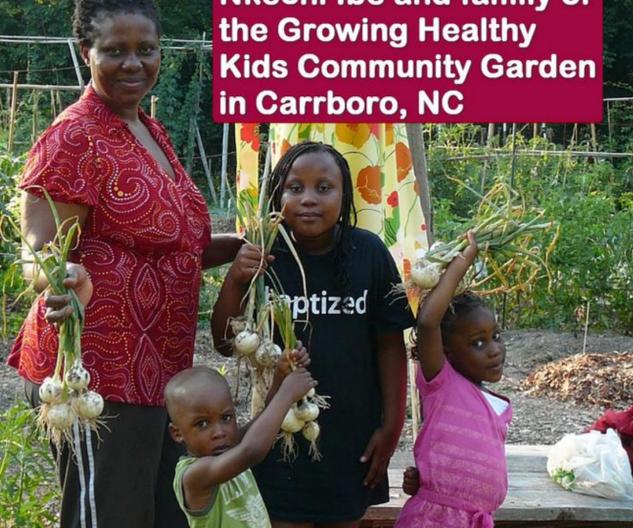
With sincere thanks,

Roger Doiron
Founding Director, KGI

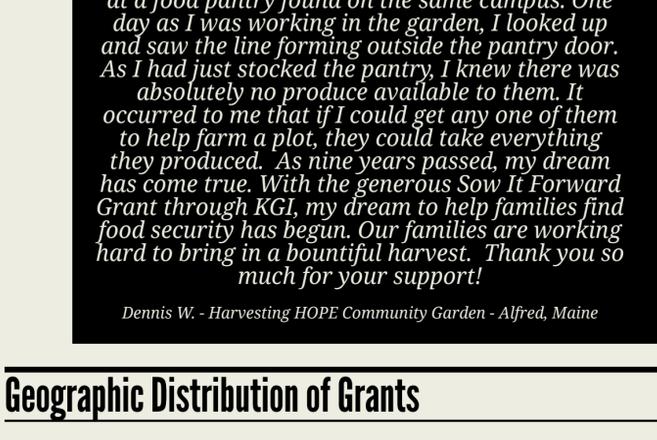
ACTIVITIES REPORT

KGI's Sow It Forward program offers mini-grants of cash, seeds, supplies and technical support to a wide variety of nonprofit causes to help them start and sustain food garden projects serving disadvantaged populations. Our grantees include food banks, homeless shelters, schools, community gardens, tribal organizations, libraries and prisons among others. We received 912 funding requests in 2014, up from 860 in 2013. From that pool, 160 projects were awarded grants.

Results Achieved



In considering stats like the ones above, it's important to remember that there are real people behind each of the projects KGI funded, real people like Nkechi Ibe and her three children Ogechi, Ikenna and Chesson. Nkechi immigrated to North Carolina from Nigeria 5 years ago looking for a healthy place to raise children. With no land to call her own, she joined a community garden so that she could feed her family healthy vegetables and give her kids an opportunity to learn how to garden.



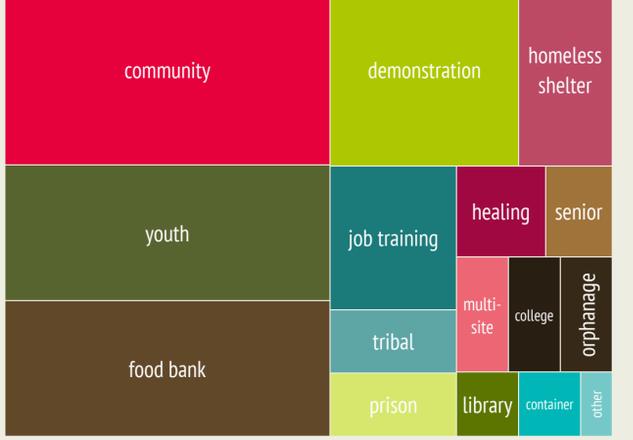
Grantee Testimonial: Gardens Change Lives!

In 2005, I was homeless and living at a shelter in Alfred, Maine, suffering from untreated mental illness and alcoholism. While there I volunteered at a food pantry found on the same campus. One day as I was working in the garden, I looked up and saw the line forming outside the pantry door. As I had just stocked the pantry, I knew there was absolutely no produce available to them. It occurred to me that if I could get any one of them to help farm a plot, they could take everything they produced. As nine years passed, my dream has come true. With the generous Sow It Forward Grant through KGI, my dream to help families find food security has begun. Our families are working hard to bring in a bountiful harvest. Thank you so much for your support!

Dennis W. - Harvesting HOPE Community Garden - Alfred, Maine

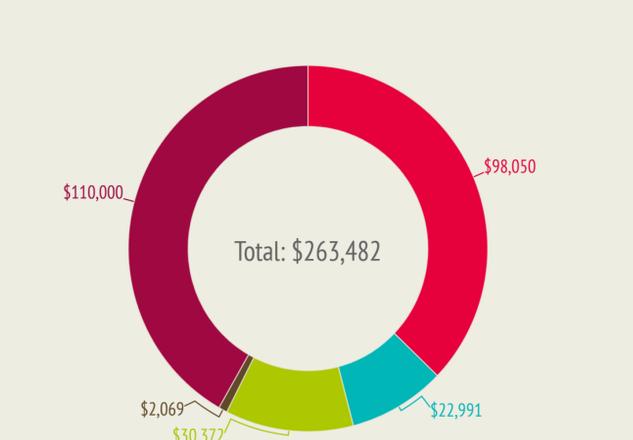
Geographic Distribution of Grants

Our 160 grantees for the year 2014 represented 37 US states and 16 countries. The state with the most grantees was Maine with 45 which reflects our commitment to our home state as well as the geographic interests of some of largest funders. Hover over the states and countries below to see how many grants were awarded in each place.



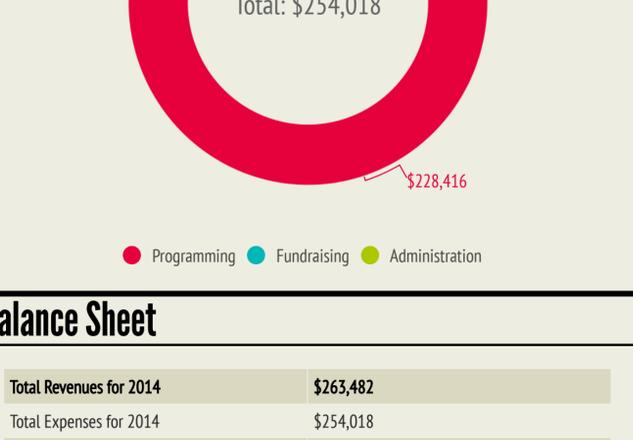
Grantee Types

In terms of the types of food garden projects that received grants, over half of our grantees were community, youth and food bank gardens.



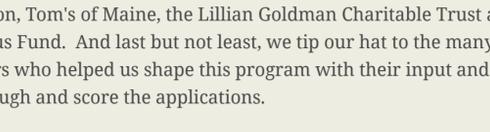
Main Beneficiaries

As part of our application process, we ask grant applicants to identify their projects' main beneficiaries. The three most important groups identified among our 2014 grantees were food insecure individuals, children and families.



FINANCIAL REPORT

Revenues



Expenses

Balance Sheet

Total Revenues for 2014	\$263,482
Total Expenses for 2014	\$254,018
Change in Net Assets	\$9,464
Net Assets Beginning of Year	\$68,923
Net Assets End of Year	\$78,387

THANKS!

These results would not be possible without the generous support of our many sponsors and individual donors. These include the Ark Institute, the Johnson Ohana Charitable Foundation, Gardeners Supply Co, Ogden Publications, the Well-Fed World Foundation, GrowVeg.com, the Horizon Foundation, the Elmina B. Sewall Foundation, the Better Neighbor Fund, the Quimby Family Foundation, the Leonard C. & Mildred F. Ferguson Foundation, Tom's of Maine, the Lillian Goldman Charitable Trust and the Helianthus Fund. And last but not least, we tip our hat to the many volunteers who helped us shape this program with their input and helped read through and score the applications.

