2022 IMPACT REPORT

GROWING HEALTHY FOOD, KIDS, AND COMMUNITY SINCE 1996.
In 2022, YGP surpassed 26 years of growing food, kids, and community, and 22 years of stewarding land next to Grand County High School. In some ways it was a surprising year: two major wind storms and a flood left some growing spaces and greenhouses damaged (more on that later). Mostly, though, we were up to our elbows in acts of caretaking: of the land, our fragile local food system, and of the minds, hearts, and bodies of our young gardeners.

Gardens are terrific places to practice the ethic of caretaking. They provide many chances for developing social and emotional intelligence. Nurturing an abundant, biodiverse garden is also one tangible way we humans can care for this beautiful place we get to call home. These reasons are why we empower people of all ages to give gardening a try, and provide them as best we can with the knowledge, resources, and confidence to succeed.
As one of my favorite authors, Robin Wall Kimmerer writes, gardening “is good for the health of the earth and it’s good for the health of people.” Every day that we are able to show up and care for the food, kids, and community growing here, we have YOU to thank for showing up for us. I am deeply grateful for your advocacy, and for the generosity you showed to this magical space in 2022.

See you in the garden!

Emily Roberson
YGP Executive Director
#1 - A GREENER GREENHOUSE

When an especially gusty spring day caused wind damage to our strawbale greenhouse’s roof, we took it as a sign to show it some love. Thanks to funding from the Grand Conservation District, YGP’s greenhouse got a new look this year!

Thanks to our grant pals at Slow Food Utah, we were also able to replace our old fluorescent grow lights with new, more energy efficient LED bulbs. Our electric bill showed a marked decrease from the spring before, a win for sustainability!

#2 - SUN & SEGO & YOUTH ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Local teens that participated in YGP’s summer youth development program—“Seed Crew”—had the opportunity to become entrepreneurs! Students learned what it takes to start a small food-based business, and began selling products made with dried herbs from the YGP campus, including such items as rosemary scone baking kits and mint tea blends.
#3 - AUGUST 20TH FLOOD

After a major August flood devastated many beloved parts of Moab, including at the garden, YGP said farewell to the fenced-in Sensory Garden that many young people grew and tended with care over the years. We were lucky to snap a photo of it right before it was washed away, which is featured on the front cover of this publication. The flood also left a thick layer of dirt over the Nibble Garden, and creekside of the Mill Creek Parkway. In the following days, 237 volunteers showed up to save harvestable veggies, and clean up debris!

In 2023, with flood relief funding from Grand County and generous donors, we are bringing the Nibble Garden back to life. We are also building raised beds for a sensory garden in a new location at the YGP campus. Disasters happen, but we truly saw the results of the "community coming together" here at the garden.
“Every time my kids spend time at YGP they come home wanting to do more outdoors”
"[Joining Seed Crew] gave me the chance to meet and work with so many incredible people in my community and witness how they play a part in making Moab into the place it is."

1190 children and youth participated in an in- or out-of-school program. That is approximately 79% of Grand County’s total K-12 enrollment.

3 teen Seed Crew members completed 702 paid hours of entrepreneurial, agricultural, and employment skill building.

YGP’s Harvest of the Month program visited each school lunchroom in Grand County 6 times, bringing veggies such as spinach, tomatoes, and carrots for taste testing.

81 children from 56 families were able to access affordable out-of-school child care at YGP’s day camps.
COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

YGP hosted 3 free community events in 2022 that celebrated food, community, and the care it takes to grow and nourish both.

35 volunteer chefs (ranging from talented home cooks to culinary school graduates) designed beautiful, seasonally-inspired meals over the course of many Weed 'n' Feed volunteer nights and Garden Dinner fundraising events.

451 youth and adults volunteered at the garden. That's 8.5% of Moab's population!
50 deliveries totaling 600 pounds of fresh produce were donated to local food pantry partners.

4,000+ flower, vegetable, and herb starts were sold to local gardeners at YGP’s spring plant sale.

WHERE DID YGP PRODUCE END UP?

- CSA Members: 48%
- Direct Sales: 17%
- Donations: 19%
- Youth Programs: 13%
- YGP Events: 3%

"[Our] client . . . has had some medical incidents recently, and has had to make some major dietary changes. These have been difficult and costly for her, and she was OVER THE MOON to receive beautiful veggies from YGP."

-Food pantry client advocate
2022 Financials

Revenue: $438,325

- 70.5% Contributions & Grants
- 12.5% Events
- 9% Programs
- 1.5% Other

Expenses: $461,810

- 32.5% Administration
- 2.5% Fundraising
- 10% Capital Expenses
- 61% Programs

2022 financial data have not been audited.

*Includes major repairs to the greenhouse and historic office building, paid for with organizational reserves.
2022 YG-PEOPLE

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2022 CORPORATE & FOUNDATION GRANTORS

AARP Livable Communities
Big Green DAO
City of Moab
Dominion Energy Charitable Foundation
George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation
Grand Conservation District
Grand County Economic Development
Grand County Education Foundation
Grand County Recreation SSD#1
Hogan & Associates Construction
Janet Q. Lawson Foundation
Larry H. Miller Charities
Moab Regional Hospital
Rocky Mountain Power Foundation
Slow Food Utah
Sorenson Legacy Foundation
Taddonio Family Foundation
University of Utah RUUTE
Utah DWS Office of Child Care
Val A. Browning Foundation
Zuckerman Community Empowerment Foundation

HARVEST FESTIVAL “CORNUCOPIA COMRADE" SPONSORS
2022 PROGRAM PARTNERS

BEACON Afterschool Program
Canyon Nursery
Canyonlands Field Institute
City of Moab
Community Rebuilds
Full Circle Intertribal Center
Grand County School District
Moab Barkery
Moab Charter School
Moab Museum
Moab Valley Multicultural Center
Moonflower Community Cooperative
Rock Tots Preschool
Seekhaven Family Crisis & Resource Center
Utah 7th District Juvenile Court
WabiSabi Moab
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The Youth Garden Project (YGP) is a 501(c)3 garden-based education nonprofit. YGP was founded in 1996.