

IMPACT  
REPORT  
2017-18



REAP LIFE

DIG

DEVELOPMENT IN GARDENING



# OUR VISION

We envision communities that are healthy and resilient working together to preserve and protect their environment.

# OUR MISSION

Development in Gardening's projects enable vulnerable and HIV-affected communities to meet their own needs and improve their well-being through nutrition-sensitive and sustainable agriculture.

# DEAR FRIENDS,

In 2005, when we built our first garden in Senegal, DIG's goal was to bolster the meals of hospital patients with fresh vegetables. At that time, we could barely see one step ahead. We learned as we went, listening to the patients' needs then responding to them as quickly as possible, constantly adjusting. As those patients thrived, we were encouraged.

Now, thousands of gardens later, DIG has become more than an agriculture organization looking to increase yields. We've seen our work in the gardens not only feed, but guide, teach, and affect transformative social change.

Today, we target communities with a variety of unique nutritional challenges, all of which require equally unique responses. We've learned the importance of activating communities to take ownership of the projects and to plan for long-term sustainability, addressing the root causes of their specific challenges.

We commit to understanding local communities and how an agriculture program can sustainably address many of their challenges: gender inequality; social stigma and hopelessness; climate insecurity; conservation politics; and trauma.

Each iteration of the DIG program seeks to serve the community's unique challenges and centers them in their own solution-building. Through DIG's process, communities are

able to address their immediate needs for food security and nutrition, as well as the long-term needs for income, climate resilience and, ultimately, a lifetime of hope, empowerment, agency, and social capital.

For me, the most significant aspect of DIG's approach is our insistence on giving complete independence and self-control to the people with whom we work. This means that from the very beginning of every project, we look to see the end. The gardens are not 'DIG Gardens,' they are the farmers' gardens. Seeing the vision from beginning to end, holistically, make the journey to real change possible.

Thank you for being part of this journey.



**SARAH KOCH,**  
CO-FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

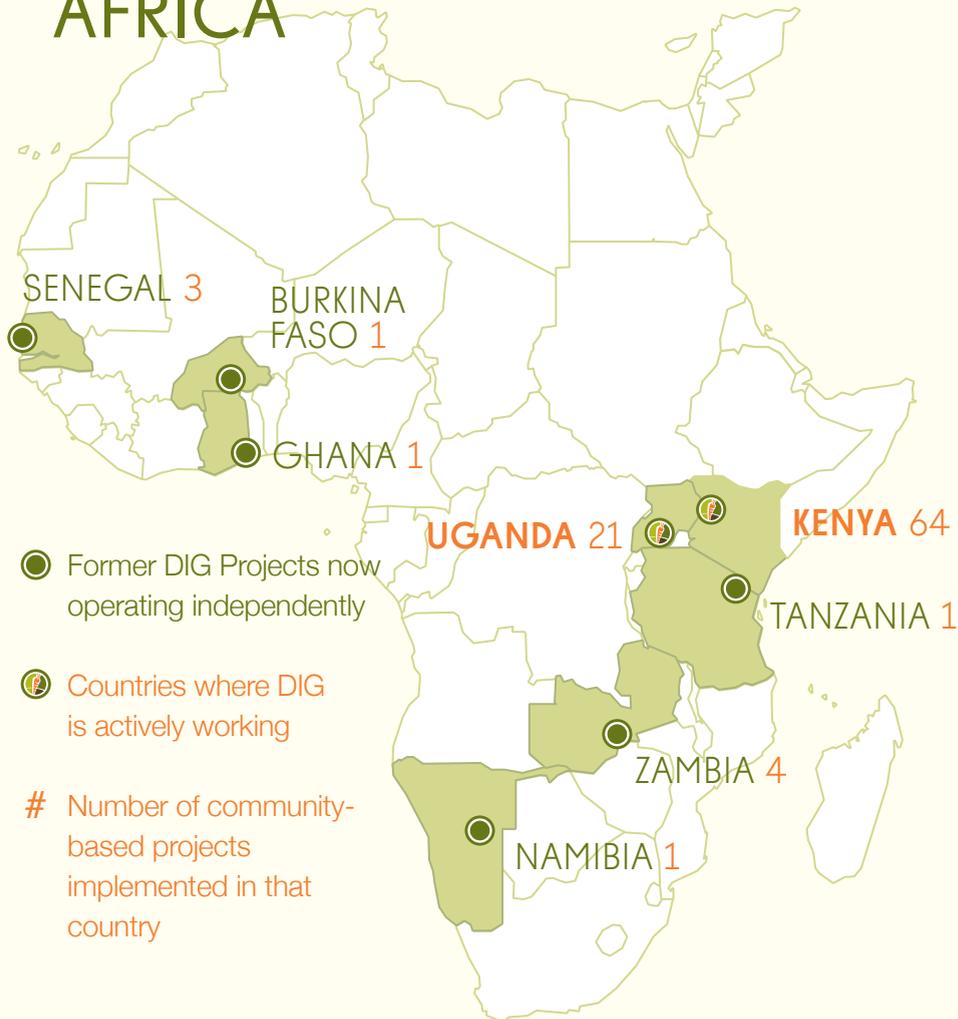
**Sarah with DIG's East  
Africa Director,  
Olivia Nyaidho**



# WHAT WE REAPED

# IN 2017 / 2018

## AFRICA



● Former DIG Projects now operating independently

● Countries where DIG is actively working

# Number of community-based projects implemented in that country

## Hunger is the world's greatest solvable problem



This past year, DIG's sustainable garden approach nourished 26 vulnerable communities and 2,000 people, one seed at a time.



● Half the world's hungry are smallholder farmers

DIG Farmers source **3 additional meals a week from their gardens** and consume a larger variety of vegetables, increasing their nutritional diversity, and improving health and growth.



● **7 out of the 10 countries most threatened by climate change are in Africa**

**90% of DIG Farmers** adopt climate-resilient agriculture practices.



● Poverty is the principal cause of hunger in Africa

DIG Farmers increase their **garden-sourced income by 3½ times**. This enables them to invest more in education, healthcare, other business opportunities, & home improvements.



● If women farmers had the same access to resources as men, global hunger could be reduced by 150 million people

**83% of DIG farmers are women**; DIG provides resources and skills to support their gardens and families.



● DIG Farmers **reduce their household food expenses from \$4 a week to 40¢ a week** and triple the variety of vegetables grown in their home gardens.



# KENYA PROGRAM STAYING POWER

2018 marks DIG's 8th year of continued growth in Kenya. In our effort to strengthen communities in their sustainable agriculture, nutrition and small agribusiness practices, we have partnered with many local organizations and institutions, international non-profits, and Kenyan government ministries.

Recently, DIG expanded its outreach in Nyanza Province reaching new areas. For many communities, accessing programs like DIG's is not possible because of high transportation costs. Since 80% of DIG farmers are women, many are unable to hand over their daily activities to someone else in order to travel to training centers.

Our **Mobile Farmer Field School** (MFFS) initiative is a 5-month, hands-on training that uses remote community plots to reduce these roadblocks and exponentially expand our reach. By taking our program directly to the communities it is meant to serve, DIG is able to ensure access to the farmers who need it most. Clients

learn produce diversification, home garden production, water and resource conservation, soil fertility, farm management, and small agribusiness skills. DIG's data indicates that group and gender dynamics at the household and community levels improve too.

Of the 252 farmers DIG engaged in this program in 2017, 90% are consistently practicing climate-smart and sustainable agriculture. Not only are these farmers more resilient to unpredictable weather patterns, they are more food-secure and nutritionally diverse. Before DIG's program, these farmers were spending an average of \$4 a week on food. Now, nearly a year after graduation, they are spending less than \$0.40 a week on food. That savings allows a family to invest in education, farm inputs, and other family needs.

Building on the momentum of the MFFS program, DIG's **Farmer Business School** (FBS) focuses on developing farmers' competencies in entrepreneurship and the management of smallholder agribusinesses. "If somebody has done it, it can be done. Never accept the idea that you can't make a decent, healthy living from a small farm," says Zipporah Atieno, a DIG FBS graduate who started a cilantro business. "I now make \$20 every week from selling cilantro. I used to make only \$30 a month. I can expand my farm and meet my family needs, before I could not."

On average, DIG farmers have been able to increase their farm income by 354%. **"To go from \$1.50 a week to earning over \$5 a week can have a major impact on a family,"** says Olivia Nyaidho, DIG's East Africa Director. **"Beyond the obvious benefits of additional cash for school fees, home improvements, and medicine, it also gives a woman a seat at the table, a new role within her family, and that is transformational."**

DIG's **Priority Households Program** is the smallest but probably most critical initiative. We partner with Marindi Hospital to tackle



cases of extreme malnutrition in children under the age of five. While the hospital provides ready-to-use therapeutic foods to address their immediate nutritional needs, DIG works with the families to design and implement home gardens to provide long term nutrition and food security.

Crops are selected based on the specific needs of the at-risk child, and the program includes cooking demonstrations and encouragement from DIG's **Mentor Mothers**, women who have previously graduated from DIG's program who have worked through similar challenges.

The program ensures the skills, knowledge, and resources required to maintain the gardens over time are successfully adopted by the families, and a sustainability strategy is in place before they exit the program.

"Nutritional diversity is probably the most critical element to a healthy diet, and our farmers get that. This improvement is especially significant for these vulnerable households," shares Nyaidho. "Across all our programs, our families increase their weekly dietary diversity from 3-5 types of food to upwards of 11. This is a huge boost to their nutritional well being. Additionally, they are sourcing 2-3 extra meals a week from their gardens, which means DIG farmers are not only more self-reliant but they've also become an important resource for their neighbors and the entire community."

"Requiring only \$25 per farmer annually, DIG's cost-effectiveness is exceptionally high and we are looking to scale our program in the years ahead. Having positively impacted the lives of over 1,250 people of our fellow Kenyans in 2017 alone, we are excited to see what we can accomplish in the future," beams Olivia Nyaidho.

## THE CUCUMBER EFFECT

# THOMAS OTIENO OLUNGA

## FARMER PROFILE

"DIG's Farmer Business School opened my eyes" says Thomas Otiemo Olunga. "Before DIG, I only grew maize and beans, and last year, my maize harvest was hardly enough to feed my family for three months. The situation was made worse by a Fall Armyworm attack."

Fall Armyworm (FAW) is a devastating invasive pest which has wreaked havoc on Kenya's maize and corn crops. FAW invaded Kenya in March 2017 and affected nearly 250,000 hectares of maize. Climate change is likely a factor in the Armyworm's rapid spread across the African continent. DIG has been partnering with the FAO, AGRISS, and other resource organizations to help our farmers like Thomas implement strategies to fight the spread and impact of FAW.



"After the Fall Armyworm attack, my maize harvest did not even last my family a month. DIG helped me realize I could grow more varieties of crops in my farm so my family would be ok. From the Field School I learned about farming as a business, farm record keeping, and different vegetable enterprises. Among the many crops we learned to grow in our demonstration farm, I chose cucumber. I found a market link in Kisumu with a lady who supplies hotels."

Thomas continued down the path of an entrepreneur, "I bought seeds and grew the cucumbers on my 1/8-acre land. My family had never seen cucumbers grow before but they were very helpful working on the farm with me. In two months I

started to harvest. I sold cucumbers worth Ksh. 3000 (\$30) every week for two months to my market link in Kisumu and some few to my neighbors. I got a total of Ksh. 45,000 (\$450) from my cucumber crop."

"From my sales I bought my family enough maize for the whole year and even paid school fees for my son who is in college. I have continued to plant cucumbers again this season in a different section of my farm. With my earnings I hope to finish paying my son's school fees as he has worked so hard helping me in the farm."



## FAO PARTNERSHIP

In 2010, Development in Gardening began to adopt FAO's Farmer Field School (FFS) approach as way to best meet the needs of the local farmers. At the core of the FFS is an approach based on people-centered learning and participatory methods that creates an environment conducive to learning, which aligned perfectly to DIG's development ethos.

In 2014, Olivia Nyaidho, DIG's East Africa Director, was introduced to FAO's East Africa Region FFS Director who was impressed with DIG's work in Western Kenya. Then in 2017, DIG joined as a partner with FAO through their Global Farmer Field School Platform. DIG has participated and presented in several conferences with FAO including the East Africa Region FFS Conference and an emergency Fall Armyworm Conference. The FAO has been a great resource for DIG and we are looking forward to future collaborations.

A PUSH TO HEALTH

# ASHLEY ACHIENG

## CLIENT PROFILE

At seven months old, Ashley Achieng weighed just 7lbs (3.1kg). Diagnosed with Severe Acute Malnutrition, one of the most devastating forms of malnutrition, Ashley was in a fight for her life. Both of Ashley's parents are HIV positive.

Through implementing high-yield, nutrient-dense, sustainable vegetable gardens, customized to each child's needs, DIG's Priority Household Program seeks to address the most challenging cases of childhood malnutrition. To do this for Ashley, our Kenya team sought to learn as much as they could about the factors which brought her to this point, and what her body needed to heal.

When DIG entered her home, Ashley's mother, Immaculate, was so sick she couldn't get out of bed to greet the team of doctors and DIG staff. With her mother's milk gone, Ashley would go days without food and was being given water from the nearest well. The doctors and the DIG team were concerned, however, that Immaculate was not healthy enough to cultivate a garden to feed her children, and genuinely feared Ashley might not survive to the end of the month.

The DIG team quickly began designing a garden to meet Ashley's nutritional needs. "Proteins were critical for Ashley's immediate and long-term nutritional plan," recalls Olivia Nyaidho, DIG's East Africa Director. "We integrated a lot of legumes, in addition

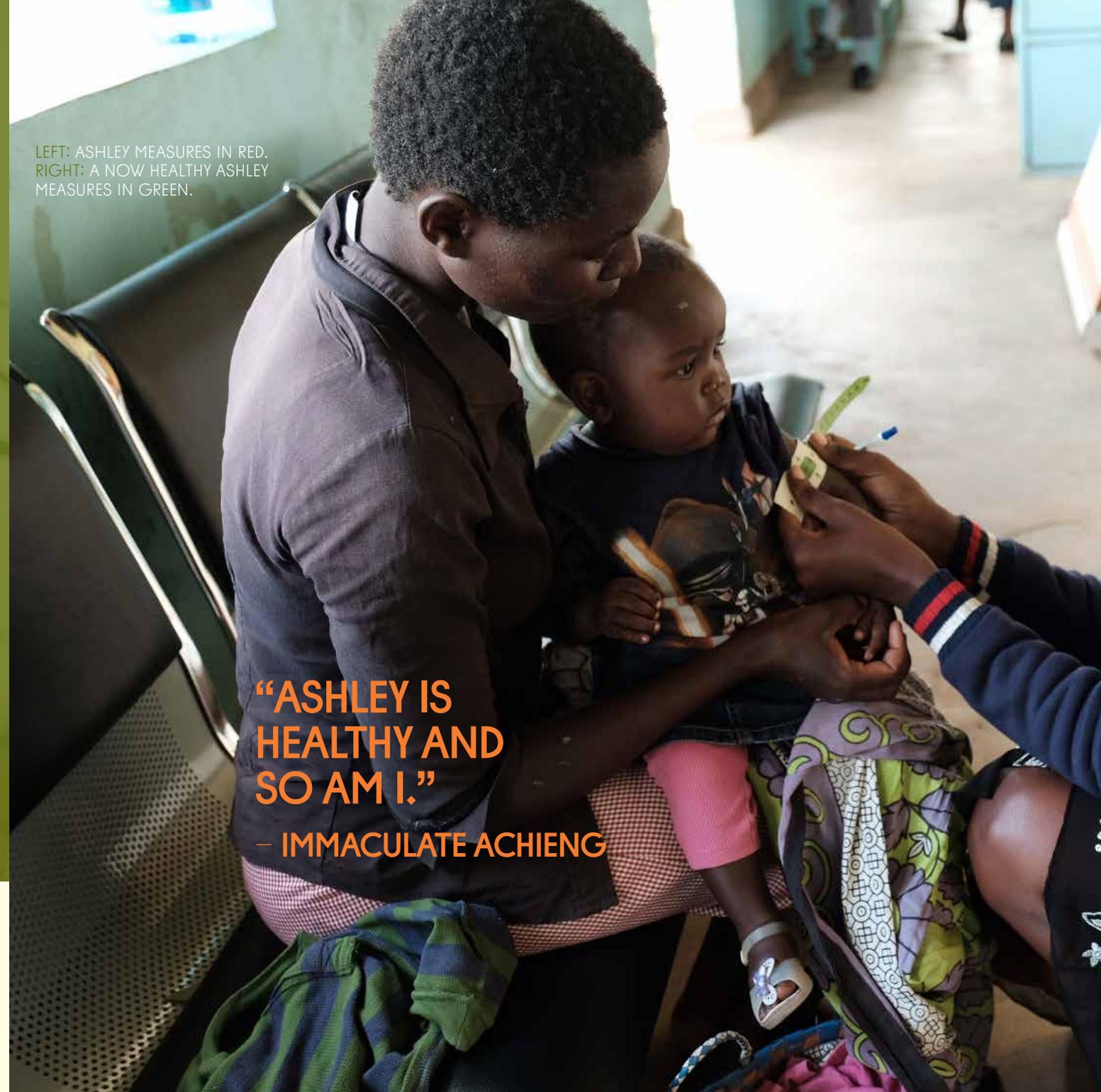
to the local fruits and vegetables. Meanwhile, our local facilitators and teams of Mentor Mothers came together to plant Immaculate's garden. While we waited for her garden to begin producing, we supplied fresh eggs and produce from DIG's office farm while Marindi hospital provided ready-to-use therapeutic foods (RUTF) and supplements for 3 months. It was incredible to see everyone fight for Ashley's survival. We knew this garden would work if we could just push through together."



Speaking recently, Immaculate recalled, "I remember DIG started to work with me in 2017 when I had just recovered from illness. Not only was I weak from my illness but I also lacked food in the house." Within 3 months, Immaculate's garden was producing a consistent supply of high-quality produce such as beets, cow peas, spinach, moringa, butternut, hibiscus, and more.

Today, Immaculate is working with DIG, mentoring other mothers like her. She even built a farm-stand on the road near her home, earning a small income selling her excess produce. She likes sharing her all-too-common story and how she was able to change the ending. "Ashley is two-years old now. She is stronger, happier, and runs around my home. She is my joy. Undernutrition in children is so devastating and I never wish to see this happen to any mother. I have seen big improvements since I joined DIG, and I'll never find myself in that bad situation again," she says, breaking into a wide smile.

LEFT: ASHLEY MEASURES IN RED.  
RIGHT: A NOW HEALTHY ASHLEY  
MEASURES IN GREEN.



**"ASHLEY IS  
HEALTHY AND  
SO AM I."**

**— IMMACULATE ACHIENG**

SEVERE ACUTE  
MALNUTRITION

Children with Severe Acute Malnutrition (SAM) have very low weight for their height and severe muscle wasting. The troubling reality is that children with SAM are nine times more likely to die than well-nourished kids. Sadly, Ashley's case is not unusual, with an estimated 16 million children under the age of 5 affected by this form of malnutrition worldwide, one third of those in Africa. In Nyanza Province, Kenya, where Ashley is from, 1 in 4 children under five are stunted and 14% suffer from Moderate to Severe Acute Malnutrition. The good news is that it is completely preventable when immediate treatment is coupled with long-term solutions.

## MOTHER TO MOTHER

# MONICA MBOYA

### STAFF PROFILE

Incorporating DIG farmers into the leadership of our programs is central to our operations. Every garden project is led by a full-time Local Facilitator, one who speaks the language, has experience in DIG's model, knows the community, and understands the traditional customs. These leaders help inform, guide, and carry out our work.

In 2017, DIG began the **Mentor Mothers Program**, a unique and focused team of women facilitators to work with our **Priority Household** families in Kenya. These families have a child under the age of five who has been clinically diagnosed as malnourished. Malnutrition in children this young has a devastating impact, not

only on their immediate health and survival but also on their long-term growth and cognitive ability. In Nyanza Province, 15% of children under the age of 5 suffer from Moderate to Severe Acute Malnutrition. DIG's Mentor Mothers provide these families with needed one-on-one attention and extra encouragement. They make frequent home visits and work alongside the families in their gardens, helping to ensure success.

Monica Mboya, 42, became one of our very first Mentor Mothers in Kenya after graduating from DIG's Farmer Field School program in Homa Bay. While in the program, she proved to be an enthusiastic student and a fiercely committed worker, both in her home garden and the larger community gardens. Eager to learn all she could, Monica would often stay behind to help the Local Facilitators get things done, discuss lessons and concepts further, and experiment with new vegetable varieties. Monica developed a robust and diverse home garden, which she uses to feed her six children and generate additional income.

Monica is proud of what she has accomplished in her personal garden, but is even more proud of her work as a Mentor Mother.

**“AS A DIG MENTOR MOTHER, I ENJOY WORKING WITH FAMILIES THAT HAVE CHILDREN WHO, FOR SO MANY REASON DON'T HAVE ENOUGH FOOD. I CAN SHOW THEIR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS HOW TO GROW DIFFERENT VEGETABLES IN THEIR OWN GARDEN USING LOCALLY AVAILABLE RESOURCES. NOW MY JOY IS SEEING THESE FAMILIES EAT HEALTHY FROM THEIR GARDENS AND WATCHING AS THEIR CHILDREN RECOVER AND RETURN TO NORMAL.**

**EVERY CHILD DESERVES TO CELEBRATE HIS OR HER FIFTH BIRTHDAY. WHEN CHILDREN ARE EXPOSED TO UNDERNUTRITION IT REDUCES THEIR CHANCE OF SURVIVAL, AND NO ONE SHOULD SUFFER FROM SOMETHING SO PREVENTABLE.”**

– MONICA MBOYA



Monica taking Baby, Hillary under her wing.



Moses Otieno measuring green.

Being a Mentor Mother has helped Monica expand her focus from one of self-preservation to helping her community.

### Let's Meet Moses

One child who has benefited from Monica's passion and commitment is Moses Otieno. Moses was prescribed the DIG program at 11-months old. Weighing only 14 lbs, Moses suffered from Moderate Acute Malnutrition. Monica helped Moses' mother, Pamela, develop a garden and educated her on the nutritional needs of her son. At first Pamela was reluctant to start a vegetable garden; maize and sugarcane are the area's traditional cash crops. She was unfamiliar with growing anything else, and she had come to expect hand-outs from various charities. But Monica persisted and helped the family develop a garden to meet Moses' needs. Soon, the garden was flourishing with carrots, zucchini, beets, greens and other locally-sourced, high-nutrient vegetables.

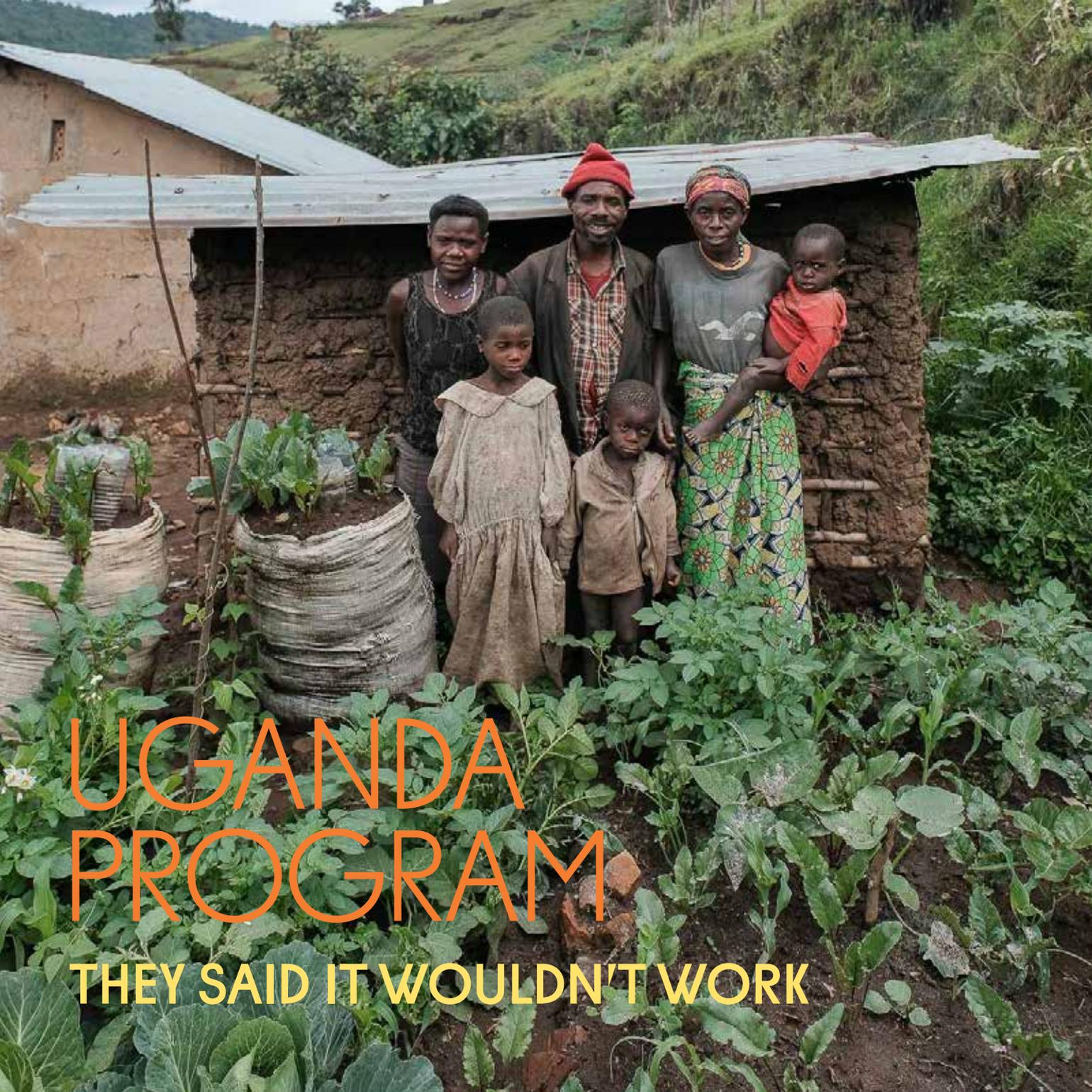
Soon, the family's garden was abundant enough that they were able to sell some of their extra produce, offering them much needed income between cash-crop harvests. They used this income to buy other important foods - milk, eggs, and avocado, to help Moses heal.

“Moses' life has really changed since Monica came,” Pamela says with an empowered smile. “I was worried about his development milestones, but he has finally started to crawl at 1 year 8 months. The doctors and I see he is getting back on track.”

Marindi hospital has reported Moses as no longer malnourished but will continue to monitor his development. “I now understand that vitamins from vegetables help in protecting the body against diseases,” says Pamela. “My life and my family members lives have improved so much since DIG. My whole family now feeds well, eats balanced meals and we always get a lot of vegetables from our garden. Thanks to my friend, Monica. Thanks to DIG.”

Sarah Koch, DIG's Executive Director, explains the power behind the program's effectiveness, “Our Mentor Mothers have walked the same path as these women, and they have overcome. That's why they are so effective. They are realistic, positive, and natural problem-solvers, now armed with important information. They are a huge inspiration to our families, and to us. What I love most about these women is their drive to have a positive effect on their fellow farmers. When their neighbors succeed, our Mentor Mothers feel like they are winning all over again. They are community gardeners in the fullest sense.”





# UGANDA PROGRAM

## THEY SAID IT WOULDN'T WORK

Designing interventions that appropriately address the unique needs of each community we serve is the secret to success for every DIG program. There is, perhaps, no program where this intimate approach is more necessary than in our work with the Batwa of Southern Uganda. Formerly referred to as 'Pygmies,' DIG began working with the Batwa in 2016.

In an effort to protect the endangered Mountain Gorillas, the Batwa were evicted from their ancestral home in the early 1990s. As the first human inhabitants of the equatorial rainforests of central Africa, the Batwa survived as traditional hunters and gatherers. However, due to ecological stress, population growth and the illegal poaching of the Mountain Gorillas by poachers, the international community intervened to protect the remaining forests and their endangered great apes.

The Batwa were forcibly evicted from the Bwindi Forest where they had lived in harmony with the apes for millennia. Sadly, no meaningful efforts have been made by the government to accommodate their relocation, in spite of the many promises. Still today, they alone are forbidden to re-enter the forest without special permission from the Ugandan Wildlife Authority, and can be arrested, fined, or even killed if found trespassing. Today there are fewer than 6,700 Batwa left, just 0.3% of the total Ugandan population. They are stigmatized, marginalized, fetishized, and have no representation in the Ugandan government.

With little economic opportunity, the Batwa often risk their lives trespassing into the forest to harvest green bamboo and other illegal products for trade on the local black market. They endure physical and emotional abuse, and suffer from high rates of alcoholism. While never a direct threat to the gorillas, the Batwa's traditional forms of trapping small game can inadvertently injure



the gorillas and other wildlife, thus positioning them as adversarial in the eyes of many conservation groups.

Before starting this work, many regional organizations warned DIG of the unique challenges of partnering with the Batwa. They said it wouldn't work, citing previous failed projects and "an unmotivated people." Many prior initiatives - health, educational, evangelical and agricultural - had caused more harm than good, and have left the Batwa deeply distrusting of outsiders.

However, DIG has had a different and wholly encouraging experience. We employ Batwa men and women on staff, we value the community's interests and needs, and adjust our design accordingly. DIG's intimate grassroots approach shines.

Since the start of our pilot intervention, our Batwa farmers are feeding their families a more nutrient-dense and diverse diet, and are becoming known to have skills and knowledge that other Ugandans value. They are entering and pillaging the forest less, and gaining valuable livelihood and agriculture skills. Proudly, 97%

of our Batwa farmers continue to implement conservation agriculture methods with climate-smart practices in their DIG gardens. This has already proven effective, helping them withstand droughts and flooding which devastated many of their neighbors' farms in 2018.

Because of the growing success of our program, DIG is committed to a three-year expansion in the region. We will continue our work with the vulnerable Batwa, while also partnering with people living with physical disabilities in the community. These individuals are

equally marginalized and extremely physically disadvantaged in this mountainous region and have expressed an eagerness to participate.

DIG is constantly evolving its programs as we grow with our clients. We are eager to take the lessons learned in Uganda and adapt them to further enhance current and future gardens. We believe that when we design projects tailored to each person's needs, all people have an opportunity to thrive and grow.



## BATWA BEET COLLECTIVE

Two of DIG's Batwa groups, Mumudugu and Kitoma, have begun collectively marketing their beetroots to a local chapter of Compassion International. Despite the high nutritional value of beetroot and its ability to thrive in the regional climate, it is rarely eaten in Uganda. "We used to think we couldn't eat beetroot because of the blood color they produced, we were afraid," DIG group member, Maria Edridabut, said. "When DIG showed us how to cook them during a demonstration, we thought they were so sweet. DIG taught us they are so very healthy and can make us stronger so we started planting them."

Compassion International was looking for nutrient-dense vegetables to supply to their local orphanage so DIG linked them with the Batwa Beet Collective. Farmers from these DIG groups would make over three times their average monthly income in just one sale. Through DIG's Seed Sales initiative, they were able to take a portion of their profits and reinvest in seeds. "People are so surprised when they see Batwa selling food," says Sarah Mwekyeshimana, another group member. "I've gained respect in my community, and other people are starting to see that we are just like them." This project is breaking the cycles of food-insecurity and poverty, and also discrimination.



**“OTHER PEOPLE ARE STARTING TO SEE THAT WE ARE JUST LIKE THEM.”**

— SARAH MWEKYE SHIMANA



“CHEFS ARE MORE  
ATTUNED TO FOOD WASTE  
THAN MOST OF US,  
THEIR BOTTOM LINE  
DEPENDS ON IT.”

# COCKTAILS & CASTOFFS

WE CAN ALL DIG AT HOME

## A KITCHEN CALL TO ACTION

DIG's impact goes beyond gardens and villages in Africa. Here in the USA, our work helps us to understand the connective thread between domestic food waste and global food loss, while inspiring us to become better stewards of the earth and activists in our own kitchens.

Many of us remember our parents coaxing us to finish our dinner by reminding us that there were “starving kids in Africa.” While we’ve known all along that the food we left on our plates didn’t literally go to feed those kids, as our mothers shamed us to believe, there is more truth in this old adage than we may realize:

- In the U.S., a staggering 30 to 40 percent of our nation’s food supply gets trashed.
- A typical family of four in America throws out roughly \$1,300-\$2,200 of food every year. Yet one in nine people globally remain malnourished.
- Food sent to the landfill releases methane, which is 20 times more potent than CO<sub>2</sub> – significantly impacting climate change and affecting crop yields around the world.
- The energy needed to produce and deliver excess food leads to more waste – of fuel, water, land, agricultural chemicals, and labor — driving up global food costs and depleting natural resources.
- If we could save a quarter of the food that we waste, we could feed an additional 870 million hungry people.

In DIG’s communities, food waste isn’t an option. Everything is grown with the intention of drying and preserving or selling if it’s not eaten immediately. If food is lost after a harvest because it wasn’t stored properly, or poor roads prevented it from getting to the market, the sense of loss within the community is profound.

In 2014, DIG brought this message to the masses by challenging a diverse group of Atlanta’s top chefs and a mixologist – all committed to sustainability -- to inspire us to think differently about our own cooking and eating habits, while supporting DIG’s farmers abroad. Each was asked to produce a creative dish or drink leaving little to no waste for a fundraiser we called Cocktails & Castoffs. DIG encouraged them to incorporate items grown both locally and in Africa to further help show the commonality between the two worlds. Chefs are more attuned to food waste than most of us, their bottom line depends on it.

When invited to take part in Cocktails and Castoffs, James Beard award-winning chef Steven Satterfield of Atlanta’s Miller Union -- an outspoken supporter of local farmers whose cookbook, *Root To Leaf*, stresses using every edible part of the plant -- obliged by serving a dish using both the seeds and strands from roasted spaghetti squash. Georgia Grown executive chef and cookbook author Jennifer Booker took the challenge by roasting and pureeing the bulbs of beets into hummus, tossing the leaves in a salad, and juicing the stems into a refreshing crimson drink. Squash and beets both grow well in Africa and are loaded with important hunger- and disease-fighting nutrients.

Through these and other Cocktails and Castoffs chefs’ efforts of bending the line between here and there with their creative dishes, the connection between “hungry kids in Africa” and the scraps on our kitchen table doesn’t seem like such a stretch after all.

“As a longtime food writer in Atlanta, it is so inspiring to help plan DIG’s annual Cocktails & Castoffs and see how each chef uses his or her talents and creativity to devise a no-waste dish that advances the mission of this amazing group. It’s especially gratifying when attendees tell us how the event has inspired them to make changes in their own kitchen habits that help them reduce waste, eat better, and save money. Best of all, I love knowing that every penny raised goes directly toward the building of another garden designed to sustain entire communities for years to come.”

- Susan Puckett

## TESTING OUR STRATEGIES FOR SCALE

# HAITI

In the spring of 2018, DIG held a Leadership Exchange Agriculture Program (LEAP) workshop in Jeannette, Haiti, in collaboration with Creative Exchange Initiatives (CEI) and Project Redwood Foundation (PRW). The exchange focused on both theoretical and experiential sustainable agriculture techniques to build capacity in food security and income generation. 54 community-farm leaders from 15 municipalities, 6 non-profits and 2 governmental organizations were hosted. In conjunction with experienced Haitian experts, the workshop shared best practices gleaned from DIG's 12 years working in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Because DIG is passionate about centering communities in their own solution-building, DIG knew it was critical to find a partner who had similar values and was deeply rooted in the Haitian community. DIG found such a partner with CEI. "We were so pleased to introduce DIG to Haiti," says CEI Director, Cathy Parrill. "What DIG taught was so practical and needed by our farmers: how to improve soil fertility, reduce water use, and grow a greater variety of crops."

Elie Lafortune, the Senior Director of Operations and Capacity Development at Haiti Development Institute also shared, "The

LEAP Workshop was truly holistic. It convened experts in local agriculture, land rights, and more. By offering farming leaders both important information and readily applied skills, the farmers were able to immediately adopt lessons learned in their home gardens."

"We were so excited when Project Redwood gave us the opportunity to pilot a Leadership Workshop in Haiti," says Noah Derman, DIG's Deputy Director. "We receive so many requests to work in countries outside of Africa but due to the size of our organization, we've not be able to take on these requests in any meaningful way. It's an honor to discover that our model and experience alone can be a great resource to other organizations. I'm hopeful that the initial success of this workshop might be a step towards scaling our reach."

DIG hopes to engage in similar workshops in the future. To better understand what kind of sustained impact the Haiti workshop had, we have plans to visit again in the coming year. "We want to explore the workshop's viability for scale, how to strengthen its impact and the kind of partnerships required for success," reports Derman. "If we look at DIG as a franchisable model, these kinds of interventions may be a way to reach a larger audience. Already, the Haitian farmers have adopted many of the practices from the workshop and are reporting back many benefits in their harvests. As for us at DIG, it is very affirming that the lessons we have learned from 12 years in Africa are applicable and valuable elsewhere in the world."

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## ALISHA VIRANI

## BILL WATTS

## BILL WESTWOOD





# SUPPORT & REVENUE\*

Contributions | \$380,518

In Kind Contributions | \$8,982

Other Revenue | \$192

**TOTAL SUPPORT | \$389,692**

# EXPENSES

Program | \$235,854

General & Administration | \$77,256

Development | \$17,940

**TOTAL EXPENSES | \$331,050**

Change in Net Assets | \$58,642

Net Assets, Beginning of Year | \$179,086

Net Assets, End of Year | \$237,728

\*Audited finances year ending December 31, 2017

# 2017 & 2018\* DIGNITARIES

## FOUNDATION & CORPORATE PARTNERS

Aid for Africa  
Clif Bar Family Foundation  
Dining for Women  
First Presbyterian Church  
Johnstown PA and Libertyville IL  
Foundation Beyond Belief  
Foundation for Sustainability & Innovation  
Google  
Joseph Tse Charitable Works  
Kairos Church Atlanta  
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Presbyterian Hunger Program  
Project Redwood Foundation  
Saint Louis University  
South Highland Presbyterian Church  
Birmingham, AL  
The Medalist Club  
Tio Foods  
Westmont Church of the Brethren  
Johnstown, PA

## CHAMPION GARDENERS \$5,000+

Axelrod, Andrew  
Bartlein, Becky & Carl Petrillo  
Besta, Milos  
Bogdan, Greg & Tony Vigil  
Carino, Anthony & Jami  
Carino, Scott & Will Mallari  
Carlson, Brad  
Dannhauser, Stephen & Beth  
Dempcy, John

Earhart, Analia & John  
Endahl, Eric & Brent Soper  
Ginanni, Katy  
Heskel, Dennis & Tricia May  
Bowdidge  
Hesterberg, Tim & Bev  
Horan, Mark  
Laney, Bryant  
Lelis, Rodrigo  
McGuire, Tom, Chris & Family  
Mebine, Patrick & Jeff Hargreaves  
Mulhern, Rochelle  
Narum, Sara & Jese Hansen  
Nordholm, Tilden  
Parrott, Timothy  
Retief, Adrienne  
Smith O'Connor, Dianne M  
Tobin, William  
Voogd, Brian

## COMMUNITY GARDENERS \$2,500 – 5,000

Adams, Ron & Leah  
Anderson, Mitchell & Richie Arpino  
Barnes, Anita & Larry McGill  
Colvin, Mark  
Davies, Cynthia  
Dunn, Mary Rulon & Don  
Durrett, Mac & Amy  
Edwards, Lonnie & Craig  
Gaye, Pape  
Kaplan, Stephanie & Mike  
Mendoza, Chad  
Pann, Beth  
Sapp, Anne & David

## HOME GARDENERS \$1,000 – 2,500

Behrstock, Robin  
Bell, Stephanie  
Benzie, Bill  
Blade, Kent  
Cleary, Jack & Kevin Holleman  
Coppoletti, Adam  
Crane, Esther & Chris  
Cunningham, Amy & Joel  
Dana, Gregg & Anne  
De Pauw, Wim  
Draluck, Enid & Jerry  
Fisher, Ruth  
Foushee, Neal & Meredith  
Genoni, Liane  
Gray, Barry  
Johnson, Stuart & Elizabeth Finn  
Kelly, Paige  
King, Thad & Suzanne  
Lee, Tommy  
Mangone, Lindsey & Adam  
McCullough, Paul  
Pascual, Antonio  
Rogat, Jace & David Betty  
Schall, Jack  
Scharffenberger, George  
Schneider, John & David Auten  
Shearin, Eric  
Touster, David  
Watts, Bill & Erin  
Wheeler, Patti & Jim

## KITCHEN GARDENERS \$500 – 1,000

Allen, Donna & Harvey  
Anderson, Michael  
Ballew, Tyler  
Berger, Miles & John Snyder

Bryan, Lone  
Byrd, Josh & Renee  
Callahan, Tegan & Greg Kennedy  
Christine & Douglas Rohde  
Ciciora, Cindy & Jim  
Collison, Bill  
Cords, Don  
Cowger, Eric  
Dahle, Cheryl  
Dalany, Kim  
Dana & Steve Dojnik  
Davis, Rebecca  
Davis, Trudi  
Derman, Bill  
Hansen, Toni  
Hayden, Richard  
Hill, Kenan & Nick  
Johnson, Nick & Liz  
Jones, Cory  
Jumonville, Mark  
Kaplan, Gilla  
Koch, Don & Sue  
Kruper, Steve  
McCullough, Joe  
McDonagh, Evin  
Mcstay, Ann  
Millard, Darcy & Daniel  
Nichols, Paulette  
Nielsen, Therese  
Perkins, David & Carl Latkowski  
Phillips, William  
Poulos, Andy & Betsey  
Puckett, Susan & Ralph Ellis  
Rangel, Steven & Jim O'Brien  
Robbins, Betsy  
Sauer, Micki  
Slycke, Dana Van  
Snyder, David  
Stevens, Scott & Joe Barela  
Surry, Kirk Michael  
Walter, Dave  
Webster, Don & Cece

\*Donations received 1/1/2017 - 8/1/2018

# 2017 & 2018\* DIGNITARIES

## HERB GARDENERS

\$250 – 500

Bleecker, Harlan  
Bondurant, Kim  
Bonner, Jeffery & Catherine  
Dannhauser, Jess & Adrian  
Davis, Glenn & Christine  
Davis, Kurt  
Deadwyler, Kas  
Derma, Quess  
Dixon, Desiree  
Dorn, Emily & Ryan Kockler  
Doyle, Colleen & Ryan  
Exley, Barbara & Tim  
Gachuhi, Debbie  
Gilliom, John & Julie  
Gombar, Charlie & Felice  
Gray, Mitch  
Hogue, Matthew & Laura  
Hohl, Michael & Elana  
Iftner, George  
James, Chris & Meghan  
Kazani, Benoy  
Keisler, Lisa  
Klungler, Amy  
Koch, Brad  
Landa, Henar  
Lord, Jamie & Andy  
Markham, Richard  
Mbuvi, Wandia & Anthony  
McCullough, Edye  
Ngumbi, Esther  
O'Leary, Dave & Katya  
Paparella, Luke  
Perkell, Christine  
Podewils, Laura  
Regehr, Tracy

Reid-Vanas, Cory  
Robinson, Andrea  
Roper, Paula  
Rozell, Kara & Chris  
Shepherd, Kevin  
Starrett, Katherine & Stuart  
Thompson, Alison & DeWitt  
Tobin, Douglas & Theresa  
Tracy, Bess  
Troicki, Leah  
Van Damme, Lut  
Virani, Alisha  
Whitbeck, John & Teri  
Wolfe, Eliyahu & Brit  
Wolfe, Simmy

## SEED SOWERS

\$1 – 250

Abad, Neetu  
Acker, Katherine  
Allen, Kim  
Ammann, David  
Anderson, Peter & Sheila  
Angle, Dianna  
Arniotes, Francesca  
Atkinson, Scott  
Auchmutey, Pam & Jim  
Augustine, Paige  
Badynee, Chad  
Baker, Amanda & Heather  
Baker, Scott & Kate Pak  
Barrickman, Julie  
Basnaw, Rick  
Benton, Suzanne  
Bernstein, Danielle & Jason  
Berry, Malikah  
Besselink, Cassie

Beth & Joel Arogeti  
Bevers, Jack  
Biebl, Elisabeth  
Bolinger, Steve  
Brewster, David  
Brink, Katrina  
Brunett, Julie  
Burch, Alexa  
Butler, Kelly & Chase  
Buzza, Kay & John  
Call, Matthew  
Carey, Dan & Karen  
Carmean, Hamilton  
Carr, Eva  
Carr, Steven  
Carter, Anna  
Cea, Angela  
Celani, Vicki  
Chaplin, Sara & Jonathan  
Chicote, Elia Sanches  
Christopher, David & Connie  
Clark, Randy & Tom Maddox  
Cohen, Ilan  
Colf, Victoria  
Collins, Brooke  
Colvin, Ed & Memily  
Conlan, Dwight & Nancy  
Connally, Kara  
Contapay, Sam  
Counihan, Eileen  
Crocker, Scott & Nicole  
Croft, Valeri & John  
David, Bob & Linda  
Davidson, Sarah  
Deimler, Thomas  
Denman, Lindsay  
Derma, Judith  
Diane & Steve Weavers  
Dickison, William  
Ditzel, Jim & Jo  
Dreitlein, Janet  
Dunham, Terra  
Dunn, Carly  
Durrett, Will

Eastburn, Tori  
Ellis, Beverly Nagel  
Endahl, Barbara  
Enid & Gary Freund  
Faughnan, Tom  
Fielder, Ed  
Fink, Brian  
Finkelstein, Robert  
Fishbein, Robert & Susan  
Fisher, Carl & Rosemary  
Fitzsimmons, Matthew  
French, Bill & Jane  
Frey, Sarah  
Gachuhi, Noni  
Gadinsky, Liebe & Seth  
Gallarda, Jim  
Garinther, Alexander  
Garner, Margaret  
Garrett, Anthony  
Gayle, Lynne  
Gerdon, Aren  
Gheuens, Jan  
Ghezzi, Patti  
Giusti, Ada  
Goldman, Lynne  
Goodwin, Jan Perry  
Graham, Elizabeth  
Grant, Susan  
Grant, Tim  
Groppe, Claudia  
Gura, Maxim  
Harper, Larry & Lere  
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Hauswald, Stefan  
Hayden, Nancy & John Patrick  
Hemhill, Mike  
Hernandez, Kristi Smith  
High, Brad  
Hohl, Sarah  
Holz, Jonathan & Rebecca  
Howard, Emmy  
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Jacquemain, Paul Joseph  
Jain, Varsha  
Jennings, Tyler  
Johns, Myke  
Johnson, Emily  
Johnston, Mark & Maggie  
Jones, Scott  
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Juel, Ami & Matt  
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Levine, Allen

Lovely, Lesa  
Lubin, Myrna  
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Ma, Lyou-fu  
Maddy, David  
Maile, Melissa  
Manthei, Theresa  
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Marsters, Ted  
Martz, Cate  
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Mayotte, Grant  
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McGormley, Joel & Kate  
McGormley, Jon & Karen  
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Miele, Lenny & Stephanie  
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Miller, Paul  
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Percy, Susan  
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Petrillo, Greg & Linda  
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### Photo Credit:

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*Wild Grain Photography*

\*Donations received 1/1/2017 - 8/1/2018



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