



GROWING HIGH POINT

"WHAT'S GROWING ON?"
GHP'S 2022 ANNUAL REPORT



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DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

VISION, MISSION, TEAM, & BOARD MEMBERS

IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

GROWING ENTERPRISE AND ECONOMIC MOBILITY

VISION, MISSION, TEAM, & BOARD MEMBERS

GROWING THE FUTURE

GHP YOUTH ENRICHMENT AND EMPLOYMENT

GROWDEGA

AN OASIS IN HIGH POINT'S FOOD DESERTS

GROWING COMMUNITY

LET'S GROW GALA

PRESENTED BY PINNACLE FINANCIAL PARTNERS

COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

SUPPORTING A LARGER COMMUNITY THROUGH SERVICE

MEMORIES FROM 2022

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DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

2022 has been a year of tremendous community support for Growing High Point (GHP) fueling our mission of transformation. Jose Abreu joined GHP as Farm-to-Table Coordinator with years of food system experience and a fire to create change. GHP implemented two transformative programs: F.I.T., or Farmer-in-Training, and Youth Enrichment & Employment. We fulfilled our first major contract to supply food pantries with fresh produce, and harvested honey from our Apiary for the first time since it was established in 2021. Growdega — our mobile market outreach to food deserts — tripled sales in just one year.

Building community is important to our vision of vibrant communities. The newly installed Southside Community Orchard, built with volunteers, will not only be a source of fresh nutritious food, but also a place to enjoy springtime's visual bounty. GHP was thrilled to partner with the Washington Street Business Association to host the 12th annual Unity Festival and our first Local Food Fair where hundreds sampled healthy foods and learned about local resources. The Let's Grow Gala was a celebration of delicious local food and drinks and fun as well as a successful fundraiser. It has been a great year! We are deeply grateful to YOU for your support which has made our progress possible. To all our donors, board members, volunteers, and partner agencies, **"Look what you have accomplished this year!"**

Warmly,



WILLA MAYS
Executive Director



OUR VISION:

A city that has dynamic and vibrant neighborhoods that provide access and opportunities to every resident.

OUR MISSION:

To transform under-resourced neighborhoods through community engagement, empowerment, and entrepreneurship.

OUR TEAM:

Jose Abreu
Khalik Harper
Alexander McQueen
Alec Garfield

OUR BOARD:

Dr. Patrick Harman
Jerry Mingo
Randy Carda
Dr. Hannah Harrison
Lee Gann
Tanya Boone
Robert Sims
Rishaunda Moses
Kristin Boggs

GROWING HIGH POINT IS MAKING A BIG IMPACT ENSURING FOOD SECURITY WITH ONLY 2 ACRES, 2 GREENHOUSES, AND AN APIARY IN HIGH POINT'S URBAN CORE!



5,620 POUNDS

of produce grown and sold for feeding our community!



Partnered with Second Harvest Food Bank's Farm Nourish Program to distribute **4,200 POUNDS OF FRESH PRODUCE** to local food pantries.

OVER \$5,000

in discounts were given to EBT customers!

OVER 11,000 POUNDS

of produce was given to Seniors through our Harvest Share Program.

35 POUNDS OF HONEY

in first year's harvest.

Southside Community Orchard was installed this year with City of High Point support, **to provide an ongoing source of fresh fruits and berries** for the community. In the years to come, community members will enjoy apples, pears, peaches, plums, figs, blueberries, and strawberries for the taking. Growing High Point will irrigate and maintain the orchard.



GROWING ENTERPRISE AND ECONOMIC MOBILITY

- F.I.T. FARMERS IN TRAINING

Two Farmers, Khalik Harper & Alexander McQueen, were sprouted this year thanks to GHP's F.I.T. program. Certificates were earned for **10 hours of intensive training weekly** from March through November 2022. By joining our network of urban farmers they can sell their produce to Growdega - GHP's mobile market or sell on their own at the High Point Farmers Market! Look for them and show your support!

Andre Davis and Jason Zimmerman continue as **successful urban farm leaders** in our network and as an **inspiration to new aspiring farmers.**



GROWING THE FUTURE

GHP YOUTH ENRICHMENT AND EMPLOYMENT

Thanks to the support of the City of High Point Community Development Block Grant, **youth can be involved in all aspects of sustainable farming and food systems** — from planting a farm to cooking with the food they grow to selling it at local markets. Teens are paid a stipend for up to 20 hours per week in the summer, but the benefits far outweigh the wages they earn. By the end of the season, they will **gain valuable job and teamwork skills, discover new foods to eat, and learn about civic engagement.** As the program grows we plan to combine field trips, nutrition education, and entrepreneurship **to create a richer educational and life experience** for each of the participants.



GROWDEGA

— AN OASIS IN HIGH POINT'S FOOD DESERTS

Growdega carries fresh produce to communities considered food deserts. Through **twelve weekly stops**, and deliveries to the door, we are increasing consumption of fresh nutritious fruits and vegetables by making them super affordable and easily available. Growdega sales were **\$39,000 in 2022** and provided **over \$5,000 in EBT customer discounts!**

Produce boxes are available **throughout the community.** Contact us to see how you can receive yours!



GROWING COMMUNITY

Unity Festival - In September, GHP partnered with Washington Street Business Association and the City of High Point to celebrate our community's history and diversity at the *Unity Festival* and *Local Food Fair* at Washington Terrace Park. **Over 1,200 people** enjoyed a day of family fun, entertainment, and local food. Food samples were shared to demonstrate how local produce can be delicious and healthy. **Food brings us together!**



Fairview Elementary - We helped establish a **community partnership** with Fairview Elementary, and Board Member Randy Carda's Rotary club. The Rotary club has helped maintain the school garden. With the help of our Youth Employees, **broccoli and kale were planted** in the fall, and then harvested.

Mr. Carda taught a group of 2nd graders on the growing process and the benefits of healthy eating!



LET'S GROW GALA

PRESENTED BY PINNACLE FINANCIAL PARTNERS

This year we hosted our second Let's Grow Gala fundraiser and it was a delicious success! An **extravagant local dinner was served, complemented by local craft beer and wine.** The community support was outstanding and we are looking forward to seeing you again next year! We sold out tickets early, so make sure you reserve your tickets as soon as our next one is announced.



Thank You To Our Sponsors

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COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS

SUPPORTING A LARGER COMMUNITY THROUGH SERVICE

Our mission would not be a success without the immense **support from community volunteers**. A majority of our volunteers are through High Point University, but also includes individuals from NC A&T, UNC-Greensboro, Wake Forest, and others non-student volunteers. Volunteers supported us at the Southside Community Orchard preparing the area for its opening, on our farms planting, harvesting, and preparing for the next planting season, and building our Farm-To-Senior Produce Boxes. Since August, our **volunteers have contributed over 250** hours to ensure our mission of transforming our communities. Many have reflected its **amazing to contribute to the local community** and give their time **to serve High Point**.



MORE MEMORIES FROM 2022!



Khalik teaching kids from D-UP about healthy snacking and healthy eating. They were making a sweet version of hummus, that was taste-tested with apples!



Khalik out on our Farm-To-Seniors Produce Box run with our HPU AKA volunteers!



GHP Staff, Board Members, and friends at the Southside Orchard Ribbon Cutting Ceremony!



Andre Davis, one of our Urban Farm Leaders, is conversing with Dr. Hannah Harrison and Nico Von Cosmos at our Let's Grow Gala!

Thank you for your support in 2022...

We cannot wait to see how
we grow in 2023!





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