



Invest in MAP's Growing Green Youth Program as we work to build a youth-led movement for food and climate justice.

MAP's Growing Green Youth Program was founded in 2003 to address increasing land vacancy, high youth unemployment, and food security needs in the West Side community. While we've grown in our capacity and expanded our mission, that core focus remains.

2023 will be our Growing Green Youth Program's 20th year in operation, employing and training over 850 high school students since its inception. With youth today facing a changing economic landscape, increasing threats to food sovereignty and healthy food access, and a cascade of climate crises on the horizon - we remain grounded in our commitment to youth empowerment and social change education to advance our mission for a more diverse, sustainable and equitable local food system.

MAP's Growing Green Program is rooted in a comprehensive social justice curriculum that prepares young people to be critical thinkers and problem solvers. MAP Youth are involved in every aspect of our organization, giving them insight into the food system through an equity lens.

We cannot do this work without YOU,
Support Future Changemakers today!

Help us deepen our roots by funding career pathways and vocational training for young people that can lead to a more just and sustainable future. In 2023, with your support, MAP will create new Farm, Culinary and Enterprise Apprenticeships for youth providing more intensive training, more employment hours and greater responsibility for peer teaching.

You can contribute to this important work with a donation to our annual appeal, or extend your gift with a monthly donation that will help to sustain MAP's Growing Green Program, food & farming classes, and mobile markets all year long!

MAP Youth gain hands on experience in the following core areas:



Sustainable Urban Farming



Culinary Training & Entrepreneurship



Food Retail & Customer Service



Social Justice Organizing & Policy

A Message from Janya

My name is Janya, I am 17 years old and I just graduated from City Honors this past June! I have been working at MAP since October of 2021, and in that time I have learned so much, made many new friends, and am so very grateful for the opportunities that MAP has provided me with.

In the social justice group, I learned about equity vs equality, how the food system impacts communities, redlining, food deserts, and more. On the farm I learned about how to properly water crops, how to dig up medicinal roots, etc. In the kitchen, I learned about street food in different countries, how to use the "claw" method when using a knife, how to properly can goods, how to make toun, and many other things.

This summer I worked as a Kitchen Apprentice and discovered how much being in the kitchen brings me so much peace and serenity that I love every moment I spend there (except when I'm chopping garlic!).

Working at the Massachusetts Avenue Project has been such an eye opening and incredibly positive experience. I am very appreciative to have it as my first job experience and grateful to the MAP staff who have always made me feel welcome and accepted no matter what.

I hope you choose to support us so that MAP can continue educating youth and have a positive impact on the surrounding communities.



Your continued financial support is needed and will help us to expand the ways we connect with each other and the land. Every dollar donated will go towards giving youth a place to belong and discover their passions, bringing food equity and access to neighborhoods in need, offering nutrition and cooking classes to the community, and teaching people how to grow fruits and vegetables no matter how big or small a space they have.

We hope you will consider making a gift to MAP today using the enclosed donation card. You can also make a gift on our website, or help to sustain this work throughout the entire year by scheduling a monthly donation:

www.mass-ave.org/donate

With much gratitude,

Diane Picard


Executive Director

Leah Dokos


Chair of the Board of Directors

Yes, I want to ensure MAP employs youth and brings good food to all!

- \$10 Work gloves for youth on the farm
- \$25 Kitchen supplies for culinary training
- \$50 Supports workshops & webinars for our youth
- \$100 Pays for a youth's salary for one week
- \$500 Supports the growth of our Mobile Markets
- _____ Other amount
- Please make this a recurring monthly gift

Please make checks payable to:
Massachusetts Avenue Project

Donate online: www.mass-ave.org/donate

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Check Credit Card

Card #: _____

Exp Date: _____ CSV: _____

Mailing Address: 387 Massachusetts Avenue Buffalo, NY 14213