

GROWING...it's what we do, and 2017 was a banner year for growth at Massachusetts Avenue Project (MAP)!

In 2017, we continued to grow food and teach others how to grow food in harmony with the earth. We grew employment, job skills, and educational supports for the youth we work with. We planted the seed of food-based knowledge, equity and civic engagement with our young people, nurtured them with meaningful work and real world opportunities, and watched them grow into inspiring leaders who made change in the food environments of their neighborhoods and schools. We grew healthy equity by increasing access to healthy and locally sourced food through our Mobile Market sites. We grew community through events, partnerships, sharing resources and, of course, sharing food! We continued to be inspired by the growth of community gardens and urban farms throughout Buffalo and the potential our city has for making sure everyone has opportunities to grow, prepare, market, and consume nutritionally dense, affordable, and culturally appropriate food.

In 2017, we broke ground on our next chapter of organizational growth, starting construction of MAP's 11,000 square foot Farmhouse and Community Food Training Center. Thanks to many generous donors, this dream will become reality in the year to come! We are so very grateful for all our supporters and partners who have helped us grow and thrive in 2017 and we look forward to continuing to expand the hands in the soil, cooks in the kitchen, and seats at the table in 2018!

Warm regards,

Sarah Hedges

Sarah Hedges
Board Chair

Diane Picard

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Executive Director

2017 Financials

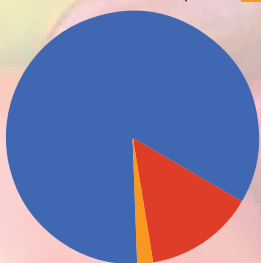
Income

- 40% Foundation
- 23% Government
- 14% Individual Donors
- 12% Corporate Donors
- 9% Special Events
- 2% Social Enterprise



Expenses

- 84% Program
- 14% Administration
- 2% Social Enterprise



MEET MAP ALUM ADRIANA

"I was a MAP youth employee from the ages of 14-18 years old. During that time I worked in all of the different areas of the Growing Green program including youth enterprise, mobile market, farm, and outreach. I returned twice since graduating highschool, once to do field placement, during my senior year of undergraduate school, and a second time during my first year of UB's MSW program to complete an internship. While completing this internship,

I worked with the MAP youth to help them create objectives for their future to reach their educational and personal goals.

My experiences at MAP have allowed me to reflect on my strengths and growth. It has helped me to recognize my resiliency and the importance of empowerment, positive relationships, and empathy in transforming someone's life. I went from being a MAP youth who believed that college wasn't an option for me, to a young adult that has recently graduated with a Master's of Social Work while working full time and supporting a child. The accomplishments that I have achieved were not only conditioned by my hard work and the amount of risks that I was willing to take, but also by the support of others. MAP has been a huge support to me, from the staff that encouraged me to follow my dreams and helped me to apply to colleges as a teenager, to the executive director, Diane, who has been a role model for me and has written letters of support for me, which have resulted in receiving different scholarships throughout the years. Without MAP, I'm not sure that I would be where I am today." - Adriana, MAP Alumni

* Adriana is currently in the process of applying for licensure to become an LMSW and works at CAO Head Start as a Mental Health and Disability Coordinator where she facilitates play therapy with children that have experienced trauma, and works with parents to link their children with needed services.

At Our Farm & Youth Garden



"Last summer I learned about the important role bees have on our farm as they play a major role in pollination. They make honey from our plants, and our plants get pollinated making strong crops." - Aye, Age 16
MAP Youth



- 250 lbs of fresh fruits and veggies were harvested this year from the Youth Garden.

- Produce from our Farm fed over 5,000 people in 2017.

#UrbanAg

At Our Mobile Market Sites

"I don't know what I would do without their farm and the market that brings fresh, natural, and affordably priced produce to my neighborhood." - Junko Kanamara,
Mobile Market Customer



- Fresh fruits and veggies were sourced from the MAP Farm, and 6 other local farms, and sold at various Market sites.

- 1,521 customers came to our Markets to shop, of which 421 were seniors.

- Our Market is authorized to accept Food Stamps, Double Up Food Bucks, and WIC Benefits.

#FoodThatMoves



In the Kitchen



"MAP allows me to combine my passion for food and desire to establish long trusting relationships so that I can one day use these skills to help better my community and ultimately shape the world we live in." - Acour, SUNY Buffalo State student, MAP ABLE Team Leader



- 35 Youth used 92lbs of produce from the Youth Garden to prepare summer lunches.

- 381 Meals prepared and served as part of the MAP Youth cooking and nutrition education.

#FarmToTable

Making Change in Our City

"When I went to Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Working Group (NESAWG) this year I hosted a workshop session called 'Youth vs. Climate Change.' I felt so very passionate hosting my workshop at NESAWG because I felt like I was contributing to the climate change movement by spreading awareness with others." - Amida, Age 17
MAP Youth



- 2 Teens Elected to the Buffalo & Erie County Food Policy Council.

- Youth continued advocacy on F2S initiative to increase local food procurement.

#ChangeMakers

