URBAN HARVEST
— JOURNAL —



• 2025 •

A note from Janna

Dear Friends of Urban Harvest,

In this time of uncertainty, we are grateful to you, our supporters, for your generosity and commitment to ensure people can access fresh, nutritious foods in their community. For more than 30 years, donors like you have supported Urban Harvest as we have cultivated strong partnerships, built community trust, and invested in programs that respond to real and changing needs. As you read in this Annual Report, programs like Community Gardens and Classes have continued to blossom despite changes and significant staffing reductions.

We are also thankful to those who have included Urban Harvest in their financial plans. Generous bequests made to our endowment, The Terry Hershey Legacy Society, and long-term investments strengthened our financial position. With strong board governance, disciplined financial management, and a difficult reduction of staff, we have been careful stewards of these resources which were a lifeline for us. Our roots are strong, our community is committed, and our resolve is unwavering. Together, we are meeting the moment and nourishing the lives, soil, and plates of others.

With gratitude,

Janna Roberson

Janna Roberson, M.Ed.
Executive Director
Urban Harvest



WHY I DONATE:

As an early volunteer, I watched Urban Harvest community gardens spread across the city. And Urban Harvest classes gave beginners of all ages the skills to successfully grow produce. Myself, I was given the confidence to experiment with fruit trees, vegetables and berries and have reaped bushels of benefits.

The passion and expertise brought by so many of our fellow Houstonians has been a heartwarming testament to the vision of the founders and the commitment of so many since. Siobhan and I are grateful to have been a small part of it.

— Greg and Siobhan LeRoy





BOARD OF DIRECTORS LOG

Member	Position
Sammy Ford	*President*
Val Rupp	*Vice President*
Mark Licata	*Treasurer*
Jill Talisman	*Secretary*
Beth Clark	*Past President*
Bailey Dalton	
Tiffany Dugar Hatchett	
Jake Slosburg	
Shreya Sheth, MD	
Brandy Spainhoward	
Alexandra Smith	
Nadia Mohyuddin, MD	



Palm Center Community Garden



Permaculture Workshop: Designing Green Communities

URBAN HARVEST 2025 FINANCIALS

Contributions	813,326
Restricted Contributions for Future Years	1,039,136
TOTAL CONTRIBUTIONS	1,852,462

REVENUE	
Program Revenue	277,417
Special Events	163,361
Investment Income	93,536
TOTAL REVENUE	2,386,776

EXPENSES	
Education Progamming & Community Outreach	1,126,074
Management & General	278,378
Fundraising	245,471
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,649,923

Despite significant external challenges, Urban Harvest sustained and, in key areas, expanded its reach, serving more than 55,000 individuals across all programs in 2025.

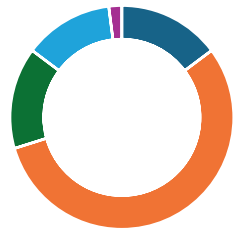
Urban Harvest began 2025 with a 38% decrease in funding because of the abrupt termination of a public grant 6 months earlier. Urban Harvest met this challenge with strict financial oversight and the very difficult decision to cut staff, which resulted in a 33% reduction in expenses.

Due to the generosity of the Urban Harvest community, Urban Harvest raised over $1 million at the end of 2025 for the future of Urban Harvest; 56% of which will be spent in 2026 and the remaining 44% is restricted to 2027 and 2028.

2024 Sources of Income



2025 Sources of Income



Individuals Foundations Organizations Corporations Government



2025 Annual Sunday Supper



Edible Academy Demonstration

CAN YOU HELP US GROW:

ACTIVITY LOG

Date	Activity
1/26	Launch Permaculture Design Certification
3/1	Spring Hub Distribution
3/5	Planting Companions: Three Sisters Indigenous Gardening
4/26	Plant Swap, 9am-11am
6/26 – 6/28	Edible Academy Workshop
11/9	Sunday Supper
11/15	Harvest Celebration!
12/12	Women in Agriculture

Serving the Community



Students at Field Elementary search for insects



Installing raised garden beds at the Opportunity Center



Strawberries

Our Impact Through Community Gardens

If you teach a man to fish, he eats for a lifetime. If you teach a community to garden, they eat, and eat well, for generations.

— Libby Kennedy, Longtime Urban Harvest Supporter

Community Gardens

Since 1994, Urban Harvest has believed that strong communities grow from the ground up.

Our Community Gardens Program brings that vision to life—empowering neighbors to grow their own food, share knowledge, and build lasting connections.

Today, our network includes more than 178 gardens spanning a 100-mile radius across the Houston metroplex.



Community Garden Committee Dedication to Jean Fefer



Volunteer Day at The Opportunity Center



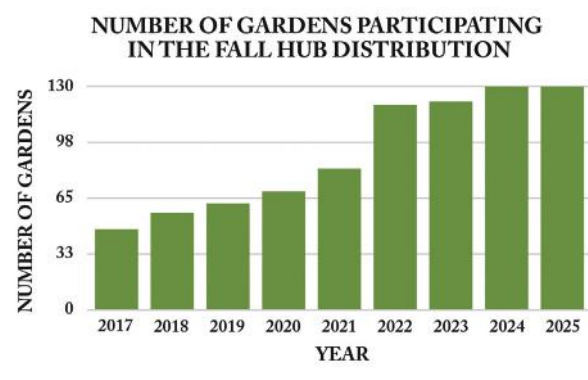
Learning compost techniques at Animal Farm Education Center

A SUCCESS STORY:

Under the guidance of Kim Perry, Director of Garden Education and Randall Mosman, Community Gardens and Outreach Manager, as well as a dedicated Community Gardens Committee, these gardens are thriving hubs of self-sufficiency and community pride. Community Gardeners can access our classes for free, receiving hands-on education and ongoing support, gaining the skills and confidence to sustain their spaces year after year.

At Clark Park, this transformation is clear. Initially receiving monthly classes and training from Urban Harvest, garden leader Hilda Perez and her fellow gardeners now lead their own classes, host community events, and manage a vibrant garden of 40 active participants. Today, the community garden at Clark Park regularly attends our seasonal hub distribution.

This is the power of community: when people grow food together, they grow resilience, leadership, and a healthier future for all.



GROWTH AND CONNECTIONS:

Urban Harvest's Hub is always such a wonderful time to connect with other community gardens! I love sharing transplants, seeds, and all the free goodies — but the very best part is hearing how everyone's gardens are doing, learning from each other, and offering support. The connections and friendships we've built through the Hub are truly something special.

— Mary Chano, Vince Bayou Community Garden



Mary Chano, Garden Leader

NOTES:

178+ gardens spanning a 100-mile radius across the Houston metroplex.

Since launching in 2017, Hub Distributions have provided more than 70,000+ transplants.

We have also created the potential for more than 268,000 pounds of organic produce for the Houston region; primarily sourced from local community gardeners and family farms that partner with Urban Harvest.

Urban Harvest has six Hub gardens for free material distribution and education for affiliate gardens.



Community Garden Committee Members at Summer HUB



Carol Burton teaching a permaculture class



Randall Mosman at Garden Oaks Montessori

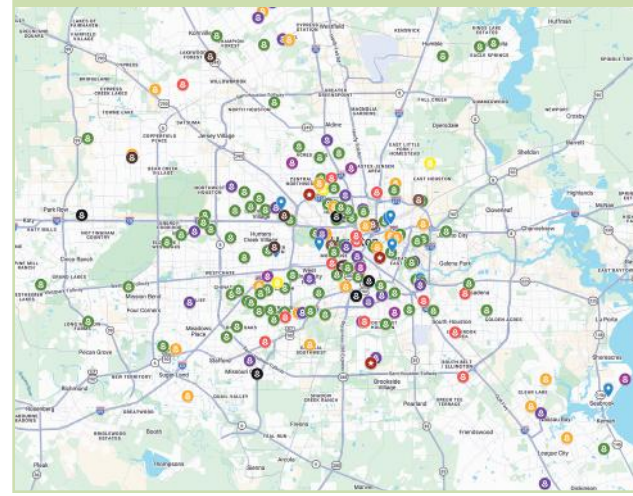


Pollinator Garden Installation at Riverside Community Garden



Service Day at Happy Place Community Garden in Sunnyside

URBAN HARVEST AFFILIATE GARDEN LOCATIONS:



Creating Growth Through Our Community

Name: Urban Harvest Education Program

Program Leader: Kim Perry | When: 2025



Fruit Plant Care Class

Urban Harvest's Education Program is where knowledge takes root, and communities grow stronger. Under the leadership of Kim Perry, our Classes Program equips nearly 4,000 individuals each year with the skills and confidence to grow food, care for the land, and actively participate in a more sustainable food system.

Through over 80 hands-on workshops, school and community-based instruction, and specialized trainings, participants learn practical techniques in organic gardening, environmental stewardship, and food production. From foundational classes like Fall Vegetable Gardening to topics such as pollinator habitats, medicinal herbs, and mushroom cultivation, these offerings meet people where they are—whether they are beginners or experienced growers.

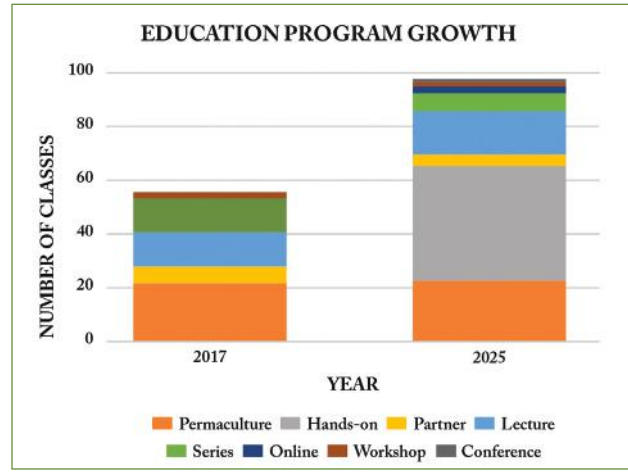




Youth Education Participants



Steve Stelzer teaches about Recycling for the Perm. Class



OUR IMPACT ON LOCAL TEACHERS AND STUDENTS:

As a teacher in a large school district with no funding for gardens, I believe it is essential for students to see firsthand how plants grow. Urban Harvest has generously donated the resources, plants, and trees—including pomegranates, apples, figs, pears, nectarines, peaches, grapes, blackberries, and plums—that made our school garden possible. They even provide the fertilizer to keep our crops healthy.

We would not have such a successful garden without the Urban Harvest HUB Distribution. We truly appreciate everything you have done to assist us and cannot thank you enough for your support.

— Regina Dember Garvey, MacGregor Elementary School

LASTING COMMUNITY IMPACT:

Innovative, niche programming and partnerships deepen our impact. The Edible Academy trains 25–30 educators annually to use gardens as outdoor classrooms and the Women in Agriculture Conference brings together 200, often overlooked growers to learn, connect, and support.

Our partnerships, like with AARP, significantly expand our reach, cultivating not only gardens, but knowledge, confidence, and lasting community impact.

LOVE FROM OUR COMMUNITY:

Signing up for gardening classes with Urban Harvest has been one of the best decisions I've made in a long time. I came in thinking I had a black thumb, but the instructors helped me build confidence in my ability to grow and care for a variety of plants. They took the time to answer my questions, gave me chances to practice my skills, and offered helpful feedback along the way. I especially appreciated learning how to garden in Houston's unique environment with our clay soil and subtropical climate. Beyond the practical knowledge, these classes have helped me build a community. Through them, I've connected with other gardeners who have shared their knowledge and supported me throughout my journey. It's become so much more than just learning how to garden. It's a community I'm grateful to be part of.

— Courtney Titus



Edible Academy Participants visit River Oaks Elementary

Women in Agriculture







Summer Planting Guide

Season: Summer | Key: ✱ Best time to plant | Will be successful some years | Best time to start a transplant

Written by: Dr. Bob Randall | Zone: Central Houston

CROP	JUNE		JULY		AUGUST	
AMARANTH	✱	✱	✱	✱		
ARUGULA, SYLVETTA/SEED						
BEAN, ADZUKI/SEED						
BEAN, MUNG/SEED	✱	✱				
BEAN, WING/ SEED						
BEAN, YARD LONG/SEED	✱	✱	✱	✱		
BITTERMELON/SEED	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	
BUCKWHEAT/SEED	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱
CHAYA/CUTTING, PLANT						
CHAYOTE/FRUIT			✱			
CORN/SPROUT, SEED						
CRANBERRY HIBISCUS, ROSELLE/SEED, PLANT	✱	✱	✱			
CUCUMBER, SUYO LONG/SEED						
CULANTRO/PLANT, SEED						
CUMIN/SEED	✱					
EPAZOTE/SEED, PLANT	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱
KANGKONG/SEED	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱
LEMONGRASS/PLANT						
LUFFA/SEED, PLANT, SPROUT	✱					
MALABAR SPINACH/SEED, PLANT	✱	✱				
MILLET, PROSO/SEED	✱	✱				
NEW ZEALAND SPINACH/SEED, PLANT	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	
ONION, BULB/TRANSPLANT						
OREGANO, EURO/PLANT						
PEA, PIGEON/SEED	✱					
PEA, SOUTHERN/SEED	✱	✱	✱	✱		
PEANUT/SEED	✱	✱				
PERILLA (SHISO)/TRANSPLANT, PLANT, SEED						
SESAME/SEED	✱	✱	✱			
SNAKE GOURD, LAO/SEED	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	
SUNFLOWER, SEED/SEED						
SWEET POTATO/TRANSPLANT OR 'SLIPS'	✱	✱	✱	✱		
SWEET POTATO/PLANT	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱	✱
SWEET POTATO, SPINACH /PLANT	✱	✱	✱	✱		
TINDORA/PLANT	✱	✱				
TOMATILLO/TRANSPLANT, SEED, PLANT	✱	✱				
TOMATO, CHERRY/TRANSPLANT						

Dr. Bob Randall has revised his planting guidelines to reflect climate change and increase in temperatures.
The chart above reflects these changes in Central Houston. For all other zones see Year-Round Food Gardening for Houston and Southeast Texas.
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Scan the QR Code above to access the complete year of the Urban Harvest Planting Guides



Donate Today

Urban Harvest cultivates thriving communities
through gardening and access to healthy, local food.

We are improving the lives, soil, and plates of all Houstonians through:
the Farmers Market, Organic Gardening & Nutrition Education,
Healthy Food Access, and Community Gardens.

urbanharvest.org