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Pathways 2020



Cultivating the values of lifelong learning, sustainability, health, and community.

Spring 2014

Dear Friends of the Gardens,

We come to you with an exciting development and an opportunity to make a real difference in our community. The Health Care Foundation has just awarded Lower Columbia School Gardens a very generous grant: *they will match every donation that comes in this spring, up to \$10,000!*

A contribution to LCSG builds so much more than beautiful and engaging learning gardens that produce thousands of pounds of fresh food. Support for these gardens - where students work the soil, plant seeds and trees, learn about the natural world, and harvest and taste fresh fruits and vegetables that they have grown themselves - creates a healthier future for our community.

~ By teaching children to plant seeds, we are empowering them with the skills to grow healthy food for themselves and for their families.

~ By teaching children to love fresh produce while they are young, we are contributing to eating habits that will create healthier adults.

~ By teaching children to water young seedlings gently, we are teaching them patience and the benefit of moving slowly and methodically through an activity.

~ By teaching children to tend plants, we are cultivating compassionate, nurturing human beings who will understand that commitment and hard work pay off with huge rewards.

~ By including families and community volunteers from every background, we are weaving a fabric that strengthens connections and relationships.

In these ways a donation to LCSG is a donation to create a healthier future, a healthier community, and more peaceful children. With 2900 students served last year and our 13th school garden currently under construction, we are doing great things. However, there are still many, many kids and families in our community who do not yet have access to the transformational experiences that school gardens provide. Please dig deep this spring - **donate generously** - to expand, improve and sustain infrastructure and programs so that more kids will be able to participate and receive the inherent benefits of learning and growing in a garden. Help us to reach the challenge of this matching grant and know that together we are making this world a better place.

Gratefully,

Ian Thompson, Director
Lower Columbia School Gardens

**All donations are tax deductible.* Pathways 2020/Lower Columbia School Gardens federal tax ID# 91-1954815

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