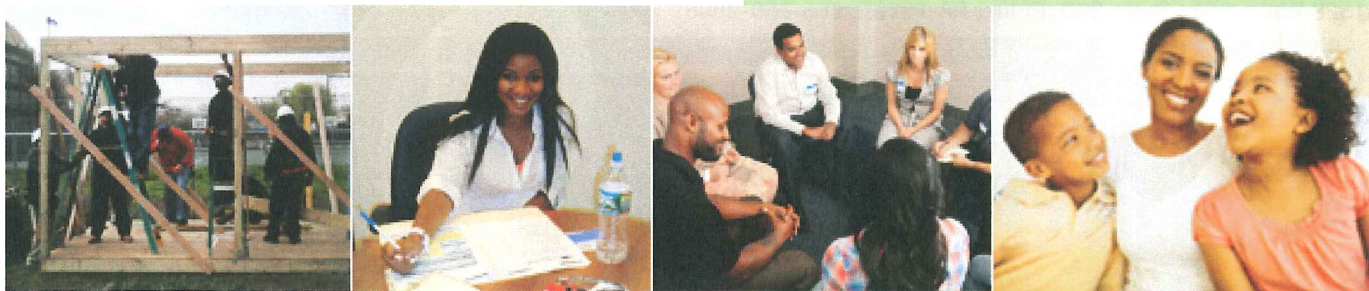


# FEDERATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS

Proudly Served Over 25,000 Children, Youths, Adults and Families.



In 2011, our network collectively provided culturally sensitive programs and services to more than 25,000 children, youth, adults and families in 45 neighborhoods throughout Philadelphia.

- Food and clothing were distributed to more than 10,000 families
- After-school programs were provided to more than 4,200 youth
- 3,300 youth and adults participated in work readiness programs including paid internships, career exploration programs, and occupational skills training
- Five urban farms managed by 80 youth produced more than 8,000 pounds of fresh produce distributed to people in need
- Day care was provided to more than 3,000 children
- Health and human services were provided to more than 2,000 seniors
- Parenting classes were provided to 525 parents
- More than 5,000 volunteers were mobilized to provide their time, skills and energy to improve twenty neighborhoods.

## Federation Member Agencies

Diversified Community Services  
1920 South 20th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19145

Friends Neighborhood Guild  
703 North 8th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19123

Grace United Methodist Church  
7107 North 20th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19138

Legacy Christian Academy  
6400 Haverford Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19151

The Lighthouse  
152 West Lehigh Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19133

Lutheran Settlement House  
1340 Frankford Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19125

Methodist Services For Children and Families  
4300 Monument Road  
Philadelphia, PA 19131

North Light Community Center  
175-183 Green Lane  
Philadelphia, PA 19127

Tomorrow's Promise Inc.  
1528 Walnut Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19102

United Communities of  
Southeast Philadelphia  
2029 South 8th Street  
Philadelphia, PA 19148

The Village of Arts and Humanities  
2544 Germantown Avenue  
Philadelphia, PA 19133-1642

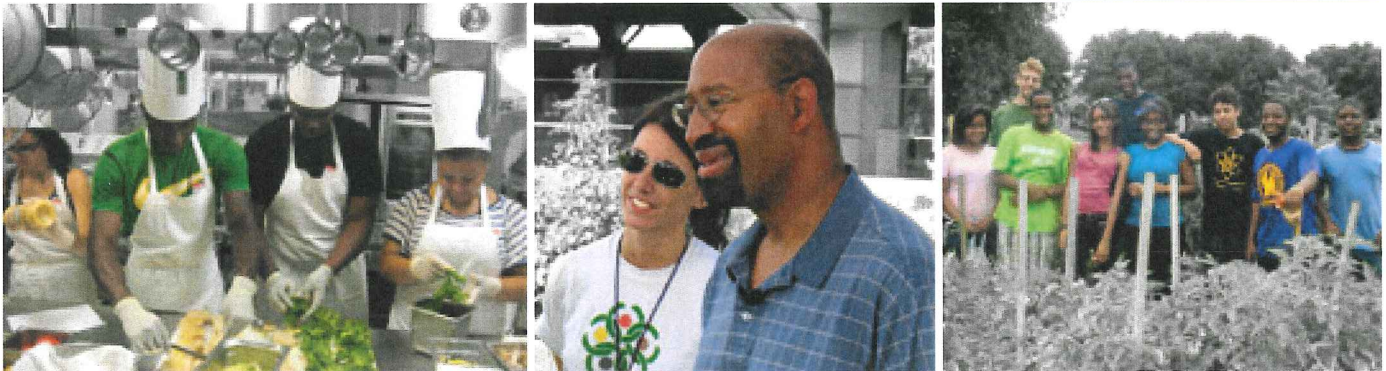


Diane Cornman-Levy, Executive Director  
1528 Walnut St., Suite 200, Phila., PA 19102, 215-989-3566  
[www.federationnc.org](http://www.federationnc.org)

# FEDERATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS

1528 Walnut St., Suite 200, Phila., PA 19102, 215-989-3566

"Partnering For Thriving Communities"



## Our Story . . .

In the belief that more could be done to improve the quality of neighborhood life by working together, the Federation of Neighborhood Centers was formed in 1906 as a voluntary, nonprofit association by Philadelphia's settlement house community. For more than 100 years, these neighborhood centers have been critical to the well-being of inner city children, youth, adults, seniors and families. The lives of more than 25,000 people in 45 neighborhoods were bettered by receiving much needed social and educational services in 2011. Over the years, the centers have helped thousands of families find and keep homes, learn English, be trained to gain and keep employment, enhance their children's educational achievement, recognize and encourage many exceptional young people, and work towards having safer and more nurturing environments for all their fellow neighbors. Through the Federation's support and fostering of collaboration, much has been accomplished in building and rebuilding safer, healthier neighborhoods where families have a better chance at flourishing. This is the Federation's mission.

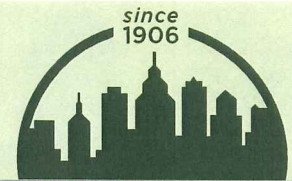
## Our Mission . . .

*The Federation of Neighborhood Centers (FNC) promotes and strengthens neighborhood-based, multi-service agencies that principally serve low income people in the Greater Philadelphia region. A membership organization rooted in the history and values of the settlement house movement, we support our member organizations through policy development, advocacy and capacity building activities.*

## The Federation of Neighborhood Centers strengthens its members by:

- Brokering high-quality opportunities for technical assistance, management support and professional development for its members provided by outside organizations and experts. Whenever possible, FNC will draw upon the expertise of its own members as an important source of knowledge and expertise.
- Providing an effective and meaningful forum for member agency staff in various roles to engage in peer support, professional development, and networking to increase overall organizational effectiveness.
- Broadening resources opportunities for members in a variety of ways.
- Serving as an incubator for new approaches to address social welfare issues of concern to our members and their communities.
- Effecting policy change that addresses emerging and significant social welfare issues of concern to our members and their communities; and supports the ways that the neighborhood-based, multi-generational, multi-service model addresses these issues.





A PROGRAM DEVELOPED AND RUN BY THE FEDERATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS



## Our Vision . . .

To become a national model for designing and implementing a replicable neighborhood-based social youth entrepreneurial program that builds 21st Century skills among struggling urban youth.

## Our Goals . . .

The primary goal of the Urban Sustainability Leadership Academy (USLA) is to create life-long learners who have the character, knowledge, skills & desire to continually cultivate what is best within themselves, their communities and the world at large. This is achieved through an innovative curriculum that utilizes social youth entrepreneurship, which integrates youth development, sustainable community development and community capacity enhancement such that youth are a critical element of each. Interventions merge youth assets, neighborhood development and community service that ultimately enable youth to transform themselves while changing their communities. In this model, students are not consumers, but rather are creators of marketable goods and services that address real-world problems.

## Our Program . . .

USLA is an after school program that builds 21st Century skills among struggling 11th & 12th graders in two Philadelphia high schools: Horace Furness & Roxborough High Schools. Two Federation member agencies, North Light Community Center and United Communities of Southeast Philadelphia, conduct the program for a total of 80 students per year.

## USLA includes four interdependent components:

1) didactic-based training modules, 2) service-learning projects, 3) entrepreneurial activities, and 4) paid internships. As such, all learning activities are taught in the context of running and building a youth-led urban agricultural business called Teens 4 Good, a social youth entrepreneurship program managed by the Federation. Teens 4 Good provides a unique opportunity for experiential and contextualized learning around horticultural science, urban agriculture, entrepreneurship, financial management, product development, sales, marketing, networking, web-design, health and nutrition, and work readiness soft and hard skills through running an urban farming business. In addition, all students are provided homework assistance, college prep and financial aid assistance, case management, work-readiness, and adult mentoring.

## Our Partners . . .

- |                                    |                          |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| ARAMARK                            | Philadelphia University  |
| Brown's Superstores                | Roost Restaurant         |
| City of Philadelphia               | Roxborough High School   |
| Dept of Parks & Recreation         | SHARE                    |
| Water Department                   | Schuylkill Environmental |
| Community College of Phila.        | Education Center         |
| Drexel College of Medicine         | Temple University        |
| Food Trust                         | United Communities of    |
| Horace Furness High School         | Southeast Philadelphia   |
| Health Promotion Council           | Villanova University     |
| JEVS                               | Wholefoods Market        |
| Manayunk Development Corp.         |                          |
| Mayor's Office of Civic Engagement |                          |
| and Volunteer Services             |                          |
| Noth Light Community Center        |                          |
| Pennsylvania Horticultural Society |                          |
| Penn State University              |                          |
| Philadelphia Orchard Project       |                          |
| Philadelphia Youth Network         |                          |



## Our Impact . . .

In less than three years, USLA has built a record of success for the 120 youth participants:

- In 2010-2011, the graduation rate for USLA youth was 85% as compared to 65% for Philadelphia high school students overall.
- In 2010-2011, 51% of the students who completed USLA were accepted into a post-secondary institution as compared to 30% and 22% of students who graduated from Furness and Roxborough High Schools, respectively (the two partnering schools of USLA).
- 100% of the USLA students created & executed service-learning projects that positively impacted their communities and rejuvenated community pride, including community workshops on composting, park cleanups, health and wellness fairs, & a recycling program for 55 residents.
- 95% of USLA students have successfully completed paid internships and have worked for both major corporations & small businesses such as: ARAMARK, Brown's Superstores, Blue Cross Blue Shield, Manayunk Development Corp., Korean Community Development, Philadelphia Free Library, & Arthur Ashe Youth Tennis & Education.
- USLA graduates have gone on to universities such as: Drexel, Temple, Pierce College, Community College of Philadelphia, and Penn State.

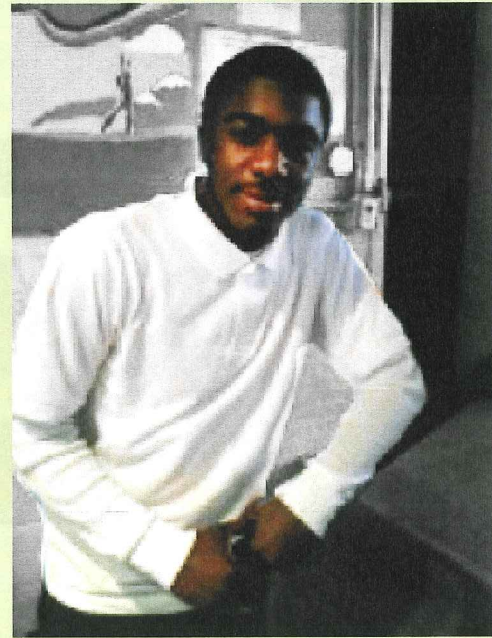
A PROGRAM DEVELOPED AND RUN BY:



*"Partnering For Thriving Communities."*

Claire McEachern, Manager of Youth Services

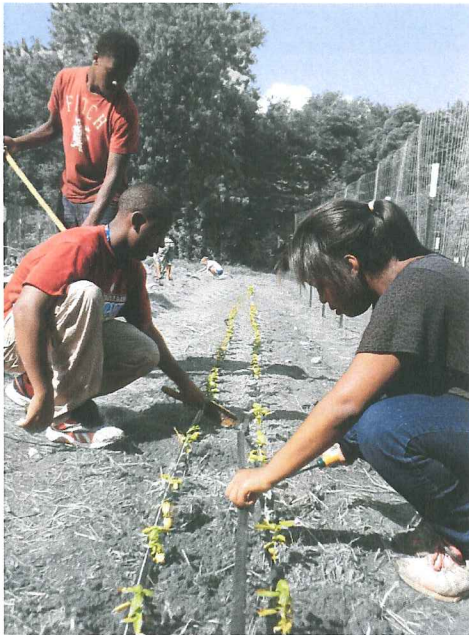
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*Robert Simms*

*USLA Program Participant*

*Robert Sims credits his success in graduating high school to USLA's program staff understanding how to cultivate his strengths and continually connecting him to opportunities that promote growth. When Robert joined the program he was negatively influenced by the "flash mob" trends and hanging around a neighborhood gang. He was under credited and one of the oldest in his class. Robert said to an USLA staff person in the beginning of the program, "It feels like I will never graduate high school". Turned off from all things school related, he was motivated to join USLA because of the summer job incentive. Staff worked with Robert to build his goal plan and placed him in a leadership opportunity at a Teens 4 Good farm, blocks away from his house, but miles from what was considered common for Robert. His capacity to learn was infinite as he became a farmer, a chef, a businessman, and a mentor within the year. Later, he was offered a counselor position where he was responsible for elementary students in an after-school setting. Despite the odds working against him, he graduated from high school and is now a security guard for a private company in Philadelphia. Robert plans to return to school to pursue a degree in business management or landscape design.*



## Our Impact . . .

*James Whitaker*

*Founding member of T4G 2005 – 2010*

*"This program made me believe that I can be better than the average teen. That I actually stand for something. I feel like I've impacted other people's lives and it made me believe that T4G is really doing something for me."*

*In 2012, James was hired to be the urban farmer at the new Lighthouse Farm, made possible through a grant from Health Partners Foundation.*

### Philadelphia Farm Locations:

- East Poplar Farm  
800 Poplar Street 19123
- Drexel Community Health Center Farm  
850 N. 11th Street 19123
- Carousel House Farm  
1701 Belmont Avenue 19131
- North Light / SEEC Farm  
8480 Hagys Mill Road 19128
- United Communities Farm  
2029 South 8th Street 19148
- Lighthouse Farm  
191 East Erie Avenue 19134



*"Partnering For Thriving Communities."*

Jamie McKnight, Director of T4G

1528 Walnut St., Suite 200, Phila., PA 19102, 215-989-3566, ext. 16



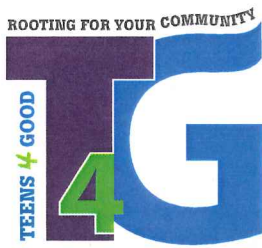
*Jeremy Cooper and Elizabeth Ramos  
Harvest at Frankford Farm*

*Jeremy was a T4G member for 5 years, 2007 - 2011. While a member of T4G he was always an enthusiastic worker, always with a smile and always ready for whatever T4G had to offer. Jeremy graduated from New Media Technology Charter School in 2011 and is currently attending Philadelphia Community College majoring in Visual Arts.*

*Elizabeth Ramos is a current member of T4G since 2010 and is also a member of the T4G Leadership Team serving as a T4G ambassador throughout the year. She is a senior at W.B. Saul High School and is college bound to continue her studies in livestock production.*

### Since 2005, Teens 4 Good has:

- Engaged 388 inner city youth from 48 high schools. Of these:
  - 208 completed summer internships
  - 95% graduated from high school
  - 88% went on to post secondary education
- Built 10 urban farms, 6 of which T4G youth currently manage
- Produced and distributed more than 20,000 pounds of healthy food to people in need (currently distribute more than 8,000 pounds per year)
- Created 20 food outlets for local affordable produce in 8 low-income neighborhoods
- Hosted over 500 volunteers and numerous farm tours for local businesses, non-profit organizations, schools and national groups



A PROGRAM DEVELOPED AND RUN BY THE FEDERATION OF NEIGHBORHOOD CENTERS



*"Teens 4 Good was founded in 2005 by a small group of determined youth and adults who shared a vision of addressing the issues of poverty, urban blight, and the lack of accessible fresh produce in many Philadelphia neighborhoods".*

## Our Vision . . .

To serve as a national model and mobilize thousands of youth to take leadership roles in improving their communities by transforming vacant lots into urban farms, improving access to healthy food for all people, creating meaningful jobs for at-risk youth, and empowering youth to become healthy, responsible young adults and leaders who give back to the community.

## Our Goals . . .

To improve the following among urban youth:

- Knowledge of and attitudes towards nutrition & eating healthy.
- Work readiness skills
- Leadership skills
- Self-efficacy with respect to connection to community, life skills, sense of self & work readiness skills.

To support environmental stewardship in urban youth.

To improve access to healthy food for people in need.

## Our Program . . .

Teens 4 Good is a youth-led food production and nutrition business that transforms vacant lots into urban farms that grow fresh vegetables, herbs, fruit, and flowers. Through hands-on entrepreneurial and

educational activities, youth learn practical skills about how to create, build and sustain a socially responsible business.

**Youth learn how to:** Plant, nurture, harvest, package, and distribute vegetables, herbs, fruit & flowers; Sell produce and garden related products to local communities, restaurants and stores; Design and conduct nutrition programs; Design marketing materials; Manage finances; Communicate effectively; Apply character strengths to solve problems; and Build healthy relationships through teamwork, networking, sales presentations, & customer service.

**In addition,** Teens 4 Good members participate in a comprehensive, experiential-based curriculum that builds communication, team building, problem-solving, critical analytical, and leadership skills among participating youth, skills that are needed to succeed in the 21st century.

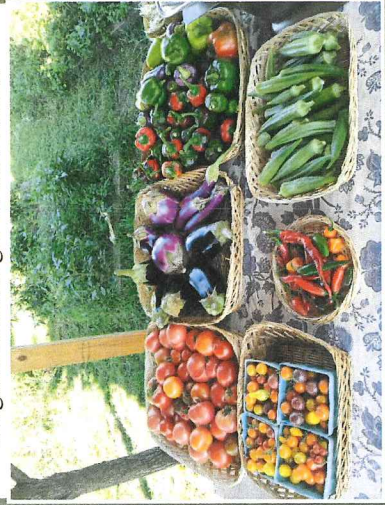
## Our Partners . . .

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| ARAMARK   | Lighthouse Community Center                  |
| BNY Mellon  | Lowe's Charitable & Education Foundation     |
| Brown's Superstores                                       | Merck Family Fund                            |
| City of Philadelphia                                      | North Light Community Center                 |
| Dept of Human Services                                    | Pennsylvania Horticultural Society           |
| Dept of Parks and Recreation                              | Penn State University                        |
| Water Department  | Pepsico                                      |
| Claneil Foundation  | Philadelphia Orchard Project                 |
| Common Market of Philadelphia                             | Roost Restaurant                             |
| Eleventh Street Family Health Center of Drexel University | SHARE  |
| Farm to City  | Schuylkil Environmental Education Center     |
| Food Trust  | STARR Restaurants                            |
| Friends Neighborhood Guild                                | Temple University                            |
| Full Plate Cafe   | The Franklin Institute                       |
| Health Partners Foundation                                | The Philadelphia Foundation                  |
| Health Promotion Council                                  | United Communities of Southeast Philadelphia |
| Honey's Sit N Eat Restaurant                              | Uplift Solutions                             |
| Huston Foundation   | Wholefoods Market                            |
| John and Kirra's Chocolates                               |  |
| KJK Associates  |  |



*SUMMER 2013*  
**WHY JOIN THE TEENS4GOOD CSA?**

- Enjoy fresh locally grown vegetables that are accessible and affordable. Our careful variety selection and organic growing practices bring out the very best in flavor!
- Help us compete with environmentally detrimental industrial food producers from distant regions.
- We don't use chemicals, synthetic pesticides or herbicides on our vegetable fields. We protect our urban wildlife.
- You become involved in a community of farmers and eaters committed to healthy food and a cleaner environment!
- By supporting T4G FARM, you also benefit the local economy. All farm income goes back to Teens4Good, providing meaningful jobs to youth and keeping blighted lots and neighborhoods green and clean.



**WHAT IS COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE (CSA)?**

CSA stands for **Community Supported Agriculture**. It's a commitment between individuals or families and farmers, where people buy into the farm as members at the start of the growing season, and in exchange receive a weekly share of the farm's harvest.

Teens4Good is managed by the Federation of Neighborhood Centers  
1528 Walnut St, Suite 200  
Philadelphia, PA 19102  
Email [AvivaA@federationnc.org](mailto:AvivaA@federationnc.org) for more information.

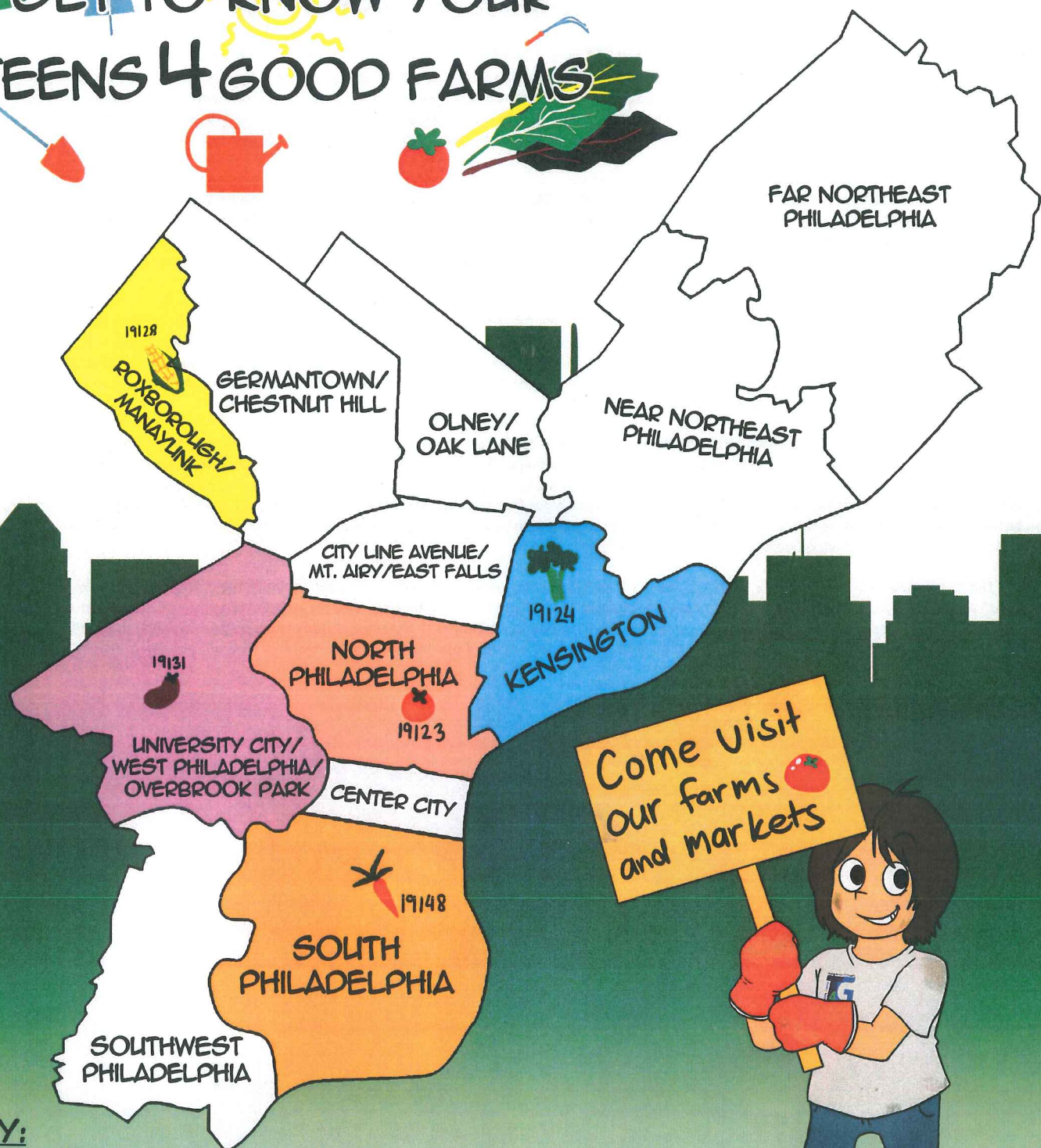


*Teens4Good introduces Community Supported Agriculture At 8<sup>th</sup> and Poplar Farm, Carousel House, and the Schuylkill Center*










# GET TO KNOW YOUR TEENS 4 GOOD FARMS



Come visit our farms and markets



**KEY:**

-  8TH AND POPLAR STREET FARM, 19123
-  THE CAROUSEL HOUSE FARM, 19131
-  NORTH LIGHT @ THE SCHUYLKILL CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION, 19128
-  UNITED COMMUNITIES FARM, 19148
-  THE LIGHT HOUSE FARM, 19124

FOR MORE VISIT OUR WEBSITE @ [HTTP://TEENS4GOOD.ORBILUS.COM](http://TEENS4GOOD.ORBILUS.COM)

LIKE TEENS 4 GOOD ON: 

MAP DESIGN CREATED BY: GUILA LONGASA, THE INTERN



# The Teens 4 Good Farms A City-Wide Youth-Led Social Venture

## Making Positive Impact Across the City

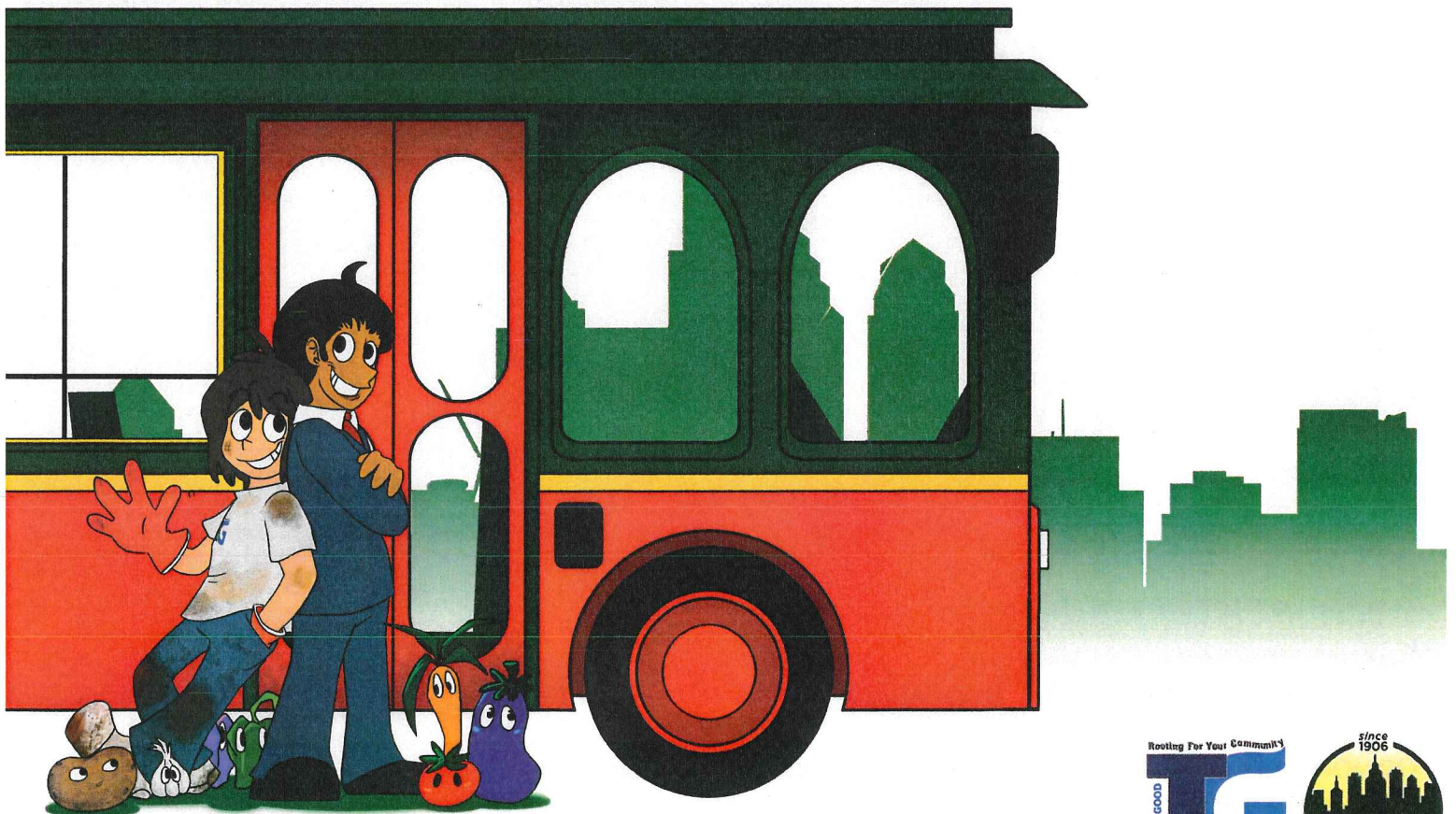
The T4G Farm at 8th and Poplar: *Founded in 2005*, our first and oldest T4G farm grew from a vision to improve access to healthy food while providing meaningful learning opportunities for teens. Located in an ethnically diverse area of North Philadelphia's East Poplar Neighborhood, this vibrant farm is not only improving access to affordable healthy food, but also engaging community members through weekly volunteer drop-in hours and markets, educational workshops, community events, and school tours. Over the years, this farm has grown to include a fruit orchard, beehives that produce honey, a composting area, and a large high tunnel that extends our growing season to 10 months per year. Attached to the high tunnel is a water catchment system that was collaboratively designed by T4G youth and Penn State Engineering students.

The T4G Farm at United Communities of Southeast Philadelphia: *Founded in 2008*, this farm is located in the heart of the South Philadelphia and is managed by United Communities of Southeast Philadelphia, a member agency of the Federation of Neighborhood Centers. With support from the Southeast Philadelphia Collaborative and the Philadelphia Orchard Project, an orchard was formed as both a space for community members to enjoy and for youth to learn about environmental issues. Through another Federation managed program, the Urban Sustainability Leadership Academy, the farm is utilized to provide year-long internships and an outdoor classroom space for the participating youth.

The T4G Farm at Carousel House: *Founded in 2010*, this T4G farm is located at the Department of Park and Recreation's Carousel House. Located at the corner of Belmont Avenue and Avenue of the Republic in West Fairmount Park, this is the pulse of West Philadelphia for people with disabilities. The more than 3000 pounds of fresh vegetables, herbs and fruit that this ½ acre farm produces annually, is made accessible to many of the neighbors by selling our produce to a variety of stores in West Philadelphia. In 2012, the Carousel House farm extended its reach through hosting farmers markets at the Please Touch Museum every Wednesday and an affordable market stand at Malcolm X Park in partnership with the Youth Grower's Alliance.

The T4G Farm at the Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education: *Founded in 2011*, this ½ acre farm is tucked away in the forested banks of the Schuylkill River Valley. Managed by North Light Community Center, a member agency of the Federation of Neighborhood Centers, this farm focuses heavily on production and youth development using the help and hard work of area teenagers year-round through the Urban Sustainability Leadership Academy. The produce can be found on the menu at several Main Street Manayunk eateries and can be purchased on Fridays at the Gorgas Park Farmer's Market from 2-6pm. The site features a rainwater catchment system and will soon be home to a new high tunnel which will extend our growing season and in turn provide additional opportunities for learning. We are also stewards of this land and are in compliance with the Schuylkill Center's Conservation Easements.

The T4G Farm at the Lighthouse: *Founded in 2012*, this farm was made possible with generous support from Health Partners, the official sponsor for the Lighthouse farm. Located on 15 acres owned by the Lighthouse, another Federation member, this farm is being integrated into the sporting programs that the Lighthouse has conducted since the late 1800s. Through onsite farmers markets, more than 5000 individuals who come to the Lighthouse fields every year to watch their children play soccer and baseball, will have access to affordable healthy food. With this neighborhood's high rates of poverty and hunger, this new farm will provide a critical resource for healthy food and education on health and nutrition.





## TROLLEY TOUR AGENDA

10.24.12

**Tour Depart from the Bellevue Hotel at 2:45 PM**

### **Opening Remarks /Overview/ Impact Statement**

*Lead by Diane Cornman-Levy, Henry Nwalipenja, and James Whitaker*

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### **1<sup>st</sup> Stop: Tour Lighthouse Farm 3:30-4:00 PM**

*Tour and discussion lead by James Whitaker, Urban Farm Educator  
and John Lavery, Lighthouse Executive Director, and T4G youth.*

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### **Bus Trip to Next Stop 4:00-4:15 PM**

*Discussion on partnerships - lead by T4G Youth*

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### **2<sup>nd</sup> Stop: Tour Carousel House Farm 4:15-4:30 PM**

*Tour and discussion lead by  
Corrie Spellman, Urban Farm Educator  
and T4G youth*

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### **Bus Trip to Next Stop 4:30-5:00 PM**

*Board Bus / Surveys/Video lead by T4G youth*

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### **3<sup>rd</sup> Stop: Tour 8<sup>th</sup> and Poplar 5:00-5:20 PM**

*Tour and discussion lead by Aviva Asher, Urban Farm Educator and T4G youth*

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### **Closing Remarks 5:20-5:30 PM**

*Jamie McKnight, Director, Teens 4 Good*

---

### **Board Bus / Return to Bellevue 5:30-5:45 PM**

---

### **Special Thanks To:**

Gail Crane

Mike Kates @ Philly Trolley Tour

John Doyle @ John and Kira's