

Another academic year has come to an end, but it's just the beginning of a busy summer for Cultivate. With the newest youth food justices interns cooking up veggies straight from the garden, many different groups volunteering in the school gardens and farm plots, and Community Market Days in full swing—June is anything but a vacation!



At CHS Jordan, Zamear, and Markajah sauté kale harvested earlier in the day from the garden at Greenbrier; Aleen enjoys a hearty helping fresh from the pan

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CITY SCHOOLYARD GARDEN

Closing Out Another Year in the School Gardens

As sure as a cool breeze rustles the leaves of nearby trees, the undeniable sound of children's laughter echoed throughout two different elementary school gardens. Although storms were in the weather forecast, golden rays of sunshine played a game of peek-a-boo on this beautiful morning in early June. As the school year was coming to a close, garden celebrations were in full swing!

Occurring during highly anticipated field day activities, Garden Coordinator Sarah held a farm-tastic end of year celebration! Tucked away amongst a little yellow shed and a crimson colored picket fence the Venable garden was packed with visitors. On this day over three hundred students came out to the garden! Some students participated in scavenger hunts while others planted zinnias and sunflowers to take home. But the highlight of the day was clearly the animal visits: Peanut the goat, Loopie the rooster, and a rabbit named Mr. Nibbles piqued everyone's interest!

[CONTINUE READING](#)

URBAN AGRICULTURE COLLECTIVE

If you are interested in working with Urban Agriculture Collective as a volunteer,

or would like to provide in-kind material support please contact amyrose@cultivatecharlottesville.org, or volunteer@cultivatecharlottesville.org.

Community Market Days Begin

The UAC team has officially kicked off the 2022 Community Market Season, and is excited to announce expanded market dates throughout Charlottesville. Community members who live in subsidized or public housing can access fresh, local produce at no cost through October at our sites in the Westhaven, Friendship Court, Riverside, Midway Manor, and South 1st St. neighborhoods. Our team is excited to be harvesting again at West Street as well as from CATEC—which could not have happened without support from UVA Morven Farm, Piedmont Master Gardeners, CATEC students, local volunteer groups, and community members.

CONTINUE READING



Chillin' in the bed of the truck; friends with Ira Wallace at 6th Street; fresh produce at Community Market Day; staying protected from the sun while working

FOOD JUSTICE NETWORK

Combating Food Insecurity and Hunger in the Commonwealth

Beginning in March 2020—when the students were sent home to learn, parents were working from home, testing sites started popping up, and business were on hold—support for food security efforts intensified and were broad and robust. Partners within Food Justice Network and beyond began collaborating in earnest to ensure students received meals at home, residents could receive groceries to their door, food pantries flourished with fresh and shelf stable foods, and we could aim to ensure access to healthy food across our area.

CONTINUE READING

Welcome to City Schoolyard Garden Gabby!



I was born and raised in Charlottesville and went to Charlottesville City Schools my whole life. My parents spend a lot of time giving back to the community, so as a child I went to a lot of meetings and events and met a lot of people. Sometimes, it feels as though my parents and I have walked down every street in town since we love to go on walks to explore different neighborhoods. Although we haven't, moments like these make me feel most connected to this town.

My favorite part about being in the garden is the people you garden with. Whether it is someone I know or a stranger, I have always enjoyed the time I spent with others in the garden. I have so many wonderful memories of gardening with my mom as a little girl. I also made some of my first friends in college in the garden on George Mason's campus. The garden is a great place to come together and find a sense of community, and I think that is really special.

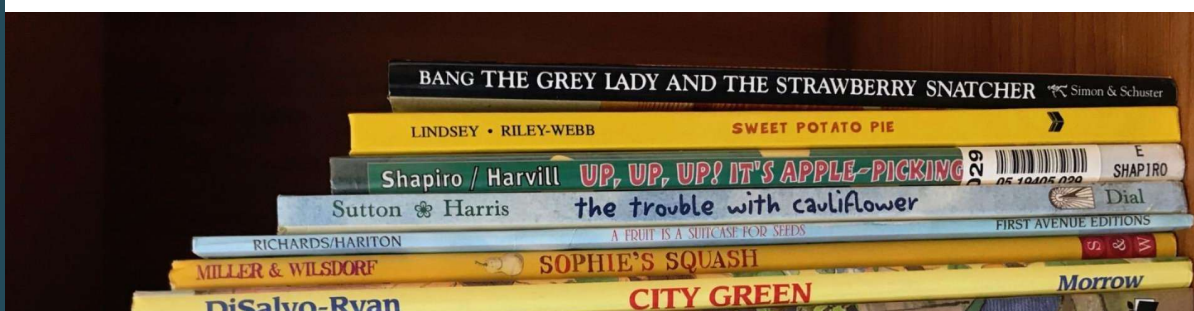
The most important parts of a healthy food system are education and accessibility. Education is important because people should know about things such as healthy living, food storage, and food safety because it gives people a better understanding of what is happening around them and how it affects them. Accessibility is also important because everyone deserves access to healthy and affordable food no matter where they live.

TAKE ACTION

Together we can move Charlottesville from a foodie city to a food-E(quity) place for ALL residents!

For more information or to join Food Justice Network full team meetings, contact Aleen Carey at aleen@cultivatecharlottesville.org

CULTIVATE SOCIAL JUSTICE BOOK CLUB



These are some of the titles we are reading:

"The Most Amazing Link to Our History": the Farmers Reclaiming Their Heritage One Seed at a Time, Cecilia Nowell, The Guardian

'Slaves for Peanuts' Tells the Tragic Story Behind America's Favorite Snack, Gosia Wozniacka, Civil Eats

The Hidden Radicalism of Southern Food, John T. Edge, The New York Times

JOIN OUR TEAM



CULTIVATE
CHARLOTTESVILLE

City Schoolyard Garden
Urban Agriculture Collective
Food Justice Network



Help kids in our community grow!

Youth Engagement & Garden Coordinator

For a full job description and instructions on how to apply, visit www.cultivatecharlottesville.org/jobs

The Youth Engagement & Garden Coordinator is primarily responsible for maintaining vibrant schoolyard gardens, engaging students and teachers, helping to build healthy schools, and strengthening the organization.

Core Functions include:

- Maintain bountiful, diverse organic vegetable, fruit, and herb gardens
- Engage students and teachers in experiential garden activities
- Provide support for the Buford and Charlottesville High School (CHS) gardens
- Coordinate special projects as planned with the CSG Program Director

Cultivate is an equal opportunity employer. We strongly encourage applications from BIPOC, bi-lingual, and multicultural individuals, women, people who have experienced poverty, LGBTQ individuals and long-time Charlottesville residents.

Join our team to build food equity!

Food Justice Network Program Director



The FJN Program Director is primarily responsible for advancing food equity in Charlottesville through partnerships, organizational systems, and community engagement.

Core Functions include:

- Provide Strategic Leadership for the Charlottesville Food Justice Network
- Implement the City of Charlottesville Food Equity Initiative
- Manage the Community Food Justice Network Team
- Ignite and organize advocacy efforts that engage community
- Contribute and work with team members to strengthen organizational goals and values

For a full job description and instructions on how to apply, visit www.cultivatecharlottesville.org/jobs

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CULTIVATE IN THE NEWS

Listen and watch Richard and Amyrose [talk about community gardening on season 22 episode 3 of Virginia Home Grown on VPM.](#)

TEXT MESSAGING PROGRAM TO SHARE FREE LOCAL FOOD RESOURCES HAS ENDED

After more than a year providing information on available food resources in the City of Charlottesville & Albemarle, Augusta, Greene, Buckingham, Louisa, Fluvanna, and Nelson counties, we have ended the Text Messaging Line.

We want to thank everyone who helped to make this service available during a time of heightened food insecurity. Cultivate staff & interns, community partners, and translators allowed us to develop and maintain the line during the most intense months of the pandemic.



THANK YOU



Batten Family Fund



Hartfield Foundation



To these groups and all of the donors who generously support our work



The current cohort of [Mandela Washington Fellows from Presidential Precinct](#) volunteer in the CATEC garden

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At Cultivate Charlottesville we believe that working together to grow gardens, share food and power, and advocate for just systems cultivates a healthy community for all.



Our Contact Information

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