



**GROWING
HOME**

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**URBAN FARM & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT
2022 IMPACT REPORT**

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ABOUT GROWING HOME

We believe everyone deserves access to a good job and good food.

We are a non-profit urban farm & workforce development center serving Greater Englewood through our life-changing paid workforce development programs & local, fresh affordable food and education programs.

Englewood & many communities of color in Chicago need investment. The effects of structural racism, historic segregation and systemic disinvestment continue to challenge our communities and neighborhoods today. As a means of restorative justice, we are committed to providing significant re-investment in Englewood and serve as a resource through our Food Access and Workforce Development programs.

AT-A-GLANCE

WE'RE THE FIRST AND ONLY HIGH-PRODUCTION USDA-CERTIFIED ORGANIC URBAN FARM IN CHICAGO! WE MAKE ORGANIC PRODUCE ACCESSIBLE & AFFORDABLE IN OUR NEIGHBORHOODS. WE PAY! ONLY A HANDFUL OF JOB PROGRAMS PAY THEIR PARTICIPANTS. WE HELP PEOPLE STAY OUT OF THE JUSTICE SYSTEM. WE ARE A BLACK- AND WOMEN-LED NON-PROFIT WITH MANY STAFF MEMBERS WHO ARE ALUMNI OF OUR PROGRAM, ENSURING OUR WORK TRULY REFLECTS THE NEEDS OF OUR COMMUNITY.





WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Growing Home's Employment Training Program supports those with the highest barriers to employment as we work to increase employment access equity in Chicago.

Our Programs

- A 12-week paid transitional employment and job readiness program for adults with barriers to employment (includes robust Classroom Curriculum, On-The-Job Training & Wrap-Around Services)
- 34+ Employer Partner Program
- Lifetime Alumni Resources & Network
- Apprenticeship Program with Local College
- Free Community Job Resource Center



Our Participants in 2022

- 64% live in Englewood
- Range in age from 18 to 62, a median age of 32
- 90% are African American or Black
- 45% are female, and 55% are male
- 50% have minor children
- 87% have been justice-involved
- 100% of our participants are low-income



OUR IMPACT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

78

Production Assistants Enrolled
(38% increase from 2020)

37

Job-readiness Workshops & Job fairs attended
by our Production Assistants

71%

Less recidivism when participants join our
program compared to Illinois state average

78%

of Graduates report decrease in health & mental
health barriers

"Growing Home is like an oasis, a sanctuary. They welcomed me at a time when I really needed somebody to reinforce my positive outlook because I was at a low point."

- MIGUEL, 2022 ALUMNI -



FRESH FOOD ACCESS & EDUCATION

Growing Home's Food Access program works on many levels to support the Englewood economy and create a healthier food system that addresses the effects and persistence of food insecurity.

Our Programs

Fresh Food

- High Quality + High Discount Produce Markets with Double Value for SNAP & Senior Coupons
- No-Cost Englewood Bi-Weekly Food Boxes
- Weekly Deliveries to 2 Greater Chicago Food Depository Partners in Englewood
- Weekly Deliveries to Beyond Hunger
- Pop-ups, Donation Events

Education

- In-Person & Online Cooking Demos & Recipes
- Adult & Youth Workshops
- Volunteering & Tours
- Community Events: Open Houses and seasonal festivals, HarvestFest, WinterFest
- We Grow Peace Campus Community Garden

Our Customers & Participants

- Residents + Seniors in & around Englewood
- Female-headed single family homes
- Shelters & Soup Kitchens
- Food Depository patrons
- Youth & Adult Groups



OUR IMPACT



FOOD ACCESS

70%

of our distribution in food insecure neighborhoods
(185% increase from 2019)

22,453

individual servings administered
(Feeding America's calculations)

12,597

people served through all our food access programs

"I am so happy to have so many fresh produce options. It's a great addition to the food box program."

- 2022 FOOD BOX PARTICIPANT -






GROWING HOME

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