

We are Independence Gardens!



We're on a mission to connect kids to real food through actionable, impactful nutrition education programs in partnership with our schools and community. Since the organization began in 2013, the program has connected thousands of students to the food they are growing and eating - helping them make healthier food choices.

Independence Gardens is a parent-led non-profit organization founded in 2013.
501 C3 EIN: 46-2098916



How We Started



It started with a simple school lunch. Our Founder, Chonnie Richey, saw and tasted the food her daughter ate during her first year in kindergarten.

The lack of available fresh food, the food waste - all compounded by the increasing obesity rate and minimal funding for nutrition education - moved her to start a program that connected children to food that is actionable and impactful.



Our Programs and Events



At Independence Gardens, we combine outdoor learning spaces and a cooking program to offer students a truly hands-on learning experience. With 100% participation, our students learn how to use the fruits and vegetables they are growing with programs that are integrated into the curriculum and deliver 100% student participation. At Independence Gardens, food is self-sustaining and healthy for the whole school!



Thriving Community School Gardens!



We partner with schools to provide on-campus gardens that are incorporated into the school's science curriculum. The long-term objective is for the gardens to supply the school's cafeteria to provide fresh, garden ingredients for their meal offerings.

Independence Gardens offers:

- 50% of garden startup funds
- 3 year support for curriculum & maintenance

School commitment:

- 50% of garden startup funds
- Maintenance of garden
- Curriculum & program management

EXISTING SCHOOL GARDENS

Independence Elementary, LISD



- Our flagship garden!
 - Started in 2014
- IMPACT**
- Over 1000 students impacted!

Southridge Elementary, LISD



- Started in 2016
 - 70% of students are Title I
- IMPACT**
- Over 700 students impacted!

Trivium Academy



- Started in 2017
 - Tuition free charter school
- IMPACT**
- Over 800 students impacted!

Come and Eat It has reached 5,000+ students!



This collaborative effort between Independence Gardens local chefs, restaurateurs, community partners, and like-minded organizations will be led by students chopping and mixing to rally for improved school nutrition.

Sponsors



Come & Eat It Curriculum

- 1 hour program
- Local chef teaches recipe
- Each child creates their own dish
- Uses ingredients grown by the students or will be grown in their community school gardens

Come & Eat It Impact

- Over 5,000 students have gone thru the program since 2016
- More than 500 parent and community volunteers
- 36 local chefs have participated
- More than 100 lbs of fresh food shared with kids

Garden to Table: Our Signature Fundraiser!



Local chefs rally for improved nutrition education by curating dishes inspired by vegetables grown in one of our Community School Gardens. High school students act as sous chefs, and middle school students as wait staff, while parents volunteer to make it a one-of-a-kind experience for our guests.

2017 Garden to Table



2018 Garden to Table



Garden to Table has raised over \$10,000 with generous contribution from 200 attendees and sponsors!

We've Got BIG PLANS for 2021!!



Additional edible Outdoor Learning Spaces, including a 15,000 square foot space in Chandler, Arizona



little sprouts

New pre-school program brings gardens & garden curriculum to little hands!

An Apple A Day



IG in Primary Care

Help us get more real food to more kids!



Partnership Programs



Power of One



Power of 100



Power of Community



Power of Purpose



Power of 100 Partners



Perfect for small businesses who understand the importance of community investments and networking.

Support level: \$500 - \$999



Power of 100

Partner Benefits

- Two tickets to our Spring networking event (value: \$100)
- Two tickets to our Garden to Table event (value: \$160)
- Two tickets to our annual Power of 100 networking event (value: \$100)
- Logo inclusion in our Power of 100 banner displayed at every IG event
- Free inclusion of one piece of marketing collateral in our Come and Eat it take-home bags to over 1,000 students
- Recognition on IG's social media sites (scheduled with Partner)
- Recognition on our IG website

Power of Community Partners



Perfect for partners who want to make a lasting impression in their community.

Support level: \$1,000 - \$4,999



Power of Community

Partner Benefits

- All the benefits of Power of 100
- One customized content piece for Partner's use (e.g. video, on-site presentation, article, etc)
- Two additional tickets (4 total) to our Spring networking event (value: \$200)
- Two additional tickets (4 total) to our Garden to Table event (value: \$320)
- Special recognition at every IG event
- Special recognition on the IG website
- Special recognition IG's social media sites (scheduled with Partner)

Power of Purpose Partners



Perfect for small businesses who understand the importance of community investments and networking.

Support level: \$5,000+

Partner Benefits

- All the benefits of Power of Community
- Community School Garden Named after the Organization
- One customized content piece for Partner's use (e.g. video, on-site presentation, article, etc)
- Two additional tickets (6 total) to our Spring networking event (value: \$600)
- Two additional tickets (6 total) to our Garden to Table event (value: \$480)
- Special recognition at every IG event
- Special recognition on the IG website homepage
- Special recognition IG's social media sites (scheduled with Partner)



Power of Purpose

