

HEALTHY FOODS for HEALTHY kids

THE FIRST STATE SCHOOL GARDEN EXPERTS



2022-2023
IMPACT REPORT

HEALTHY FOODS FOR HEALTHY KIDS 2022-2023 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

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FROM THE BOARD CHAIR REFLECTIONS ON 2022 & 2023

Healthy Foods for Healthy Kids' vision is a vegetable garden in every school, leading to generations of healthy families throughout Delaware.

Dear Friends and Supporters of Healthy Foods for Healthy Kids,

Six years ago at the invitation of fellow dietitian/nutritionist, Dr. Fran Taccone, I joined the board of Healthy Foods for Healthy Kids because we shared similar goals: to inspire children to eat healthy foods by growing their own vegetables. It brought back memories of the joy my daughter felt when eating something that we grew in our backyard. And here we are, now bringing that joy to more than 21,000 students across the state.

Since my first board meeting six years ago, I have watched this organization grow under the capable leadership and enthusiasm of our founder, Dr. Thianda Manzara. Two years ago, she retired and handed over the reins to an executive director who could take HFHK to the next level. Since Lydia Sarson was hired in that role, we are growing the organization in leaps and bounds: more funding and support, more employees, and more school gardens that serve more students, including in Kent and Sussex counties.

The transformation has been incredible and HFHK has become more well-known as the school garden experts in both Delaware and other states where the word has gotten out about our amazing program.

But the most inspiring thing for me is going out to one of our school gardens and seeing firsthand their reactions when students pick the fruits (or I should say vegetables) of their labors and taste a delicious radish or carrot fresh out of the ground. That's what makes me proud to be a part of this organization.

As my term as Chair ends in December, I end with this reflection: It has been a true honor to serve as the HFHK board chair for the past two years and to work with such dedicated board members, staff, volunteers, and supporters. I thank all of you for helping us toward our vision of having a vegetable garden in all our schools throughout our state and giving our children, through hands-on learning, the knowledge and experience of growing fresh vegetables that will help pave the way for a healthy future.

In gratitude,

Natalie McKenney, RDN
HFHK Board Chair, 2022-2023

HEALTHY FOODS FOR HEALTHY KIDS 2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

NATALIE MCKENNEY, RDN | THALIA PAPPAS, PHD | MALINA ROBBINS, MA | NANCY MERCANTE, MA |
THIANDA MANZARA, PHD | FRANCES TACCONI GRIFFITH, PHD, RDN/LDN | LISA HOFFMAN, PHD |
SVETLANA LISANTI | TERENCE MHORA, PHD | GARY LINARDUCCI, ESQ

WELCOME TO THE GROWING HFHK FAMILY

New partner schools that joined in the 2022 - 2023 school year!



IRSD Early Learning Center
Fall 2022



Milton ES
Fall 2022



Lord Baltimore ES
Fall 2022



Lewis Dual Language ES
Fall 2022



East Millsboro ES
Spring 2023



Lancashire ES
Spring 2023



Maple Lane ES
Spring 2023



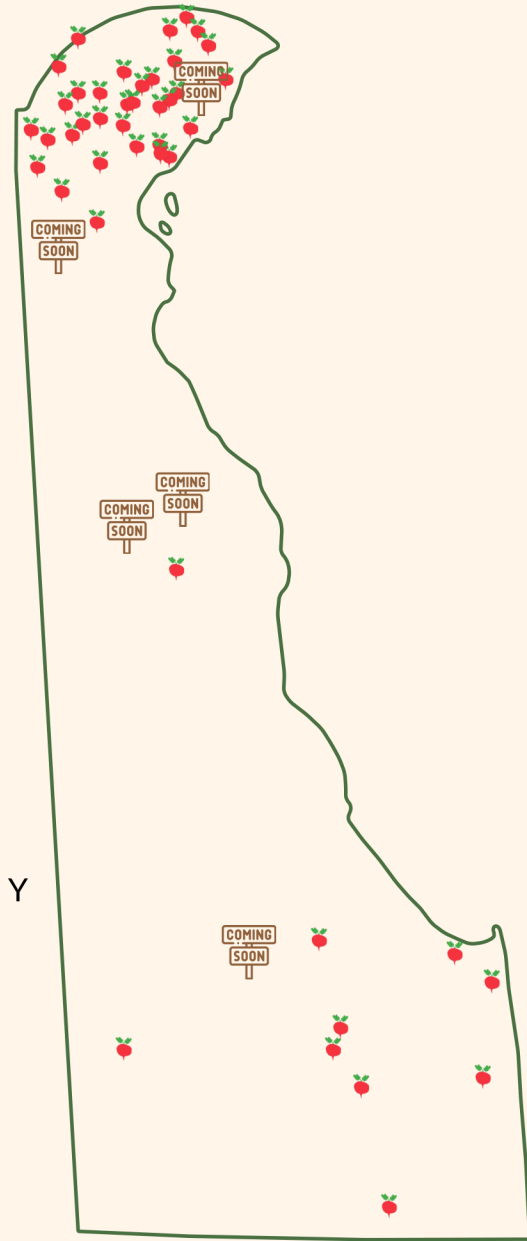
Lewes ES
Spring 2023



Our Partner Schools



- BAYARD
- BRADER
- BROOKSIDE
- CARRCROFT
- CARRIE DOWNIE
- DELAWARE SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF
- DOUGLASS
- DOWNES
- EAST MILLSBORO
- EISENBERG
- FOREST OAK
- FORWOOD
- FREIRE
- GALLAHER
- GEORGE READ MIDDLE
- HANBY
- HB DUPONT
- HERITAGE
- IRSD EARLY LEARNING CENTER
- JOHN M. CLAYTON
- JOSEPH E JOHNSON
- KEENE
- LANCASHIRE
- LEWES
- LEWIS DUAL-LANGAUGE
- LOMBARDY
- LORD BALTIMORE
- MAPLE LANE
- MARBROOK
- MARSHALL
- MCVEY
- MILTON
- MOUNT PLEASANT
- NATIVITY PREP
- NEW CASTLE
- NORTH STAR
- ODYSSEY CHARTER
- PHILLIP SHOWELL
- PLEASANTVILLE
- RED LION CHRISTIAN ACADEMY
- REHOBOTH
- SERVIAM GIRLS ACADEMY
- SHORTLIDGE
- SOUTH DOVER
- SPRINGER MIDDLE
- SUSSEX MONTESSORI
- WEST PARK PLACE
- WILSON



48 SCHOOLS
and growing every
year!

**WE ADDED 8 NEW
PARTNER SCHOOLS
IN 2022 -2023!**

STORIES FROM The Garden

“Our 1st year with our school garden was a huge success! We had a super abundant harvest. The whole school, students, staff, and families worked together to help make it a success. First grade had so much fun we even recorded a video and a song about our garden! We are so thankful for the support of HFHK and Sprouts for this opportunity.”

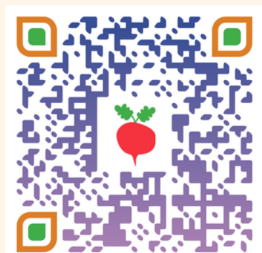
Colleen Berry, 1st grade teacher at Lancashire



Lancashire Elementary's garden has been a true community effort! Sprouts not only funded the garden but they volunteered at the build. School staff worked alongside student families building the garden beds. Local legislators and HFHK Partners helped plant and harvest the vegetables along with the students. Lancashire is our first partner school to create a music video around their garden!



Scan the QR code to watch the videos!



HEALTHY FOODS
FOR HEALTHY KIDS