

The Caring Community

2022 Impact Report

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OUR 2022 IMPACT

3,527 teachers impacted through Self-Care Stations



HOPE Outreach Food Bank Garden

500 lbs of fresh fruit and veggies harvested

Awards Won:

- 2022 Town of Davie Sustainability Award
- 2022 Emerald Awards



South Creek Sanctuary

44 lbs fresh fruits & veggies harvested

Gleaning for Good



Harvested 8,208 lbs of fresh veggies

Gardens Matter Giveaway

Partnered with local gardeners to give away up to 50 mini food forest gardens and 20 butterfly gardens to give away.



HOPE Outreach Food Bank Garden

Installed our first seed library in the garden



B.O.Y. Garden

Raised just over \$1000 to help them install a well!

B.O.Y. garden is a wonderful garden that is just starting out and we were excited to be able to help them grow!





Davie Community Garden

Harvested 105 lbs of fresh veggies & fruits



Gardens Matter Giveaway

We wanted to thank everyone who was able to help with coordinating the Gardens Matter Giveaway Project we initiated this year.

Thank you Megan Kelley for her support and resources all along the way!

Thank you for our amazing garden drop-off sites: Adriana at the Community Caring Garden, Leann Barber at the 4H Monarch Garden, the B.O.Y Garden, and Robbins Garden in Davie! This was made all this accessible to the Broward Community and helped along the way from sharing the Gardens Matter Giveaway to your friends and family to taking care of the plants!

Thank you to Tree Amigos for donating amazing worm castings and soil for Operation Propagation and for our Giveaway contestants to take some home.



A WORD FROM OUR TCC TEAM

Self-Care Stations Kiana Raphael



It was an amazing year for The Self-Care Stations! We ended out the year being in 100 Broward County Schools and we couldn't have done it without all our volunteers who came out and helped put together the stations. We also want to thank Employees Assistance Program for supporting us along the way.

Without them we would not have been able to provide the extra special care for the many teachers we were able to reach!



Jessie and Kyle Bastos

2022 proved to be a very active year for the Robbins Community Garden! At the beginning of the year we harvested turmeric and pigeon peas and enjoyed a volunteer appreciation celebration, where we also welcomed Davie Mayor, Judy Paul and Councilmember Michelle Whitman and proudly gave them a tour of the garden's progress.

We had several great classes throughout the year where we discussed permaculture, soil building, and how to get the most out of your banana plants and longevity spinach. The garden benefitted from weekly TLC from our regular Saturday volunteers, and while leadership within the garden transitioned from Alex Rakita to Kyle Bastos midway through the year, the Town of Davie recognized the efforts of all those involved with a 2022 Sustainability Award!

105 pounds of organic produce was donated to local food pantries, many new varieties of fruits, vegetables, and pollinator host and nectar sources were added to the garden, and we can't wait to see what 2023 brings!

Davie Community Garden



Gleaning for Good Katy Cain

We had a great year for gleaning! In 2022 we harvested over 8,208 lbs of fresh produce from the fields and backyards of Broward County. We thank all of our donors and volunteers for making it possible to bring such high-quality, local fruits to our community's food banks and pantries.

HOPE Outreach Food Bank Garden

With the amount of activities that we lined up, 2022 was very happy with the busy year we've had. We started the new year with a tea party and hosted a stepping stone painting party with our volunteers. We also installed a fence between our Banana Circle and Pollinator Garden with the help of the lovely Susan and Claire. We've installed a tea garden that includes tulsi, butterfly pea, mint, and a variety of other herbs we were able to collect. We've installed a seed library, we've held classes on how to grow banana circles. Cowpeas, callaloo, eggplant, papaya, pigeon peas, garlic chives, etc are some of the amazing fruits and veggies we've been able to harvest in the garden!

We couldn't have done all this work without the help of our volunteers, especially our lovely Susan and Claire, who've helped tremendously to maintain and beautify the HOPE Garden! We are looking forward to seeing what 2023 brings us!

Alejandra Jeldrez

South Creek Sanctuary

The year in garden for South Creek Sanctuary was one of evolution and turning to trust the seasons. While the food back production and distribution started out strong it withered away as resources, energy, and priorities shifted in different directions.

There was a point in the year that I had no real sense of what would happen, and was honestly unattached to any outcome. Thanks to some prodding from some neighbors, who were tired of seeing the garden grow unruly, a creative solution was developed to assist the garden transformation.

A special thanks to Crum & Forster Insurance Company for funding, Cynthia Schaefer for undying trust, Natalie Coon for a steady and reliable helping hand and many other local community members and wwoofers for support, creativity, and knowledge and hard work to allow the Sanctuary to thrive again and revive a base to support more community initiatives to come.

Scott Holtzman

DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The gifts of 2022 for The Caring Community were many. As always, it is the selfless, dedicated, and enthusiastic volunteers that make us what we are. Many volunteers come to learn hands-on how to garden. They stay because of the joy, the love, and the laughter that makes
The Caring Community
something that is far, far greater than the sum of its parts. We welcomed new team leaders and new programs.

Aileen Leija came forward in a big way to take point on our Gardens Matter Giveaway. She led us to propagate, plant, and distribute 50 mini-food forests and 20 mini-butterfly gardens in Broward County.

We hope to see more of her good work in 2023!

Alejandra Jeldrez, our long-time, deeply-beloved Hope Outreach Food Bank Garden team leader, delighted us all with news of a seedling of her own. She will be giving birth to her third child this summer!

Fortunately, Joe Bush, a recent volunteer with us, stepped boldly into the breach and is already bringing great ideas to the garden.

Alex Rakita, our Robbins Park Garden leader, needed to move aside for a while to focus on work and family, and Jesse Bastos and her wonderful family stepped up without hesitation. Her son Kyle Bastos stepped into the leadership position and the entire family has given much love and hard work to the garden. Free classes of all kinds are now available at that garden under their leadership.

Every volunteer does what they can, and we appreciate every minute.

One volunteer in particular has increased her commitment so much that I don't know what we did before her! Susan Moss is our volunteer coordinator, our newsletter creator, our market outreach person and you can find her at Hope Outreach Garden almost every week. We would love to help her take off the volunteer coordinator hat, so if you love people and are organized, please call Cynthia at 954-661-3396 and join our amazing team!

Katy Cain never ceases to amaze and inspire. She is tireless, and her leadership of Gleaning for Good has led to so much more food getting to food banks every year. If you have a group of 5 or more that would like to spend a morning harvesting for the food banks and helping families that are deeply impacted by the high costs of food, please reach out to her at 954-643-4502.
She makes harvesting fun!

To list all the wonderful people who show up would take us forever. Veronica, Yuly and family, Andrea, Joe, Lily, Elaine were faces we saw a lot in 2022; we hope to see your face in 2023. If you don't feel called to be in the garden, you can join people like Cherrisse Diaz who helps us create graphics and flyers and all sorts of really wonderful tech things that we need.

Someone who like to keep a low profile, but who is always keeping it going behind the scenes, is the one, the only, Kiana Raphael! Website needs updating? Kiana can do that! Help with figuring something out? Kiana can do that! Accounting? Kiana can do that! Her official title is COO but she is the duct tape and glue that holds us all together!

We don't know what 2023 brings, but we do know that the need for food in the food banks and our community caring for those who need a little extra help will be with us more in 2023 than they were in 2022.

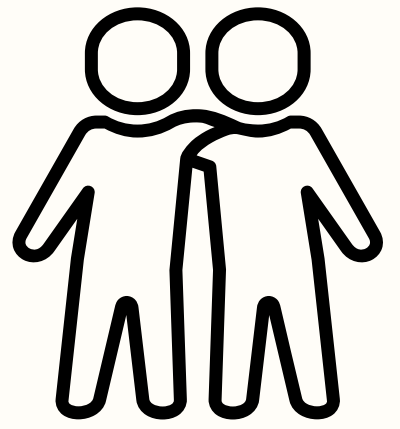
You can join us anytime!
<https://thecaringcommunity.love/volunteer>
to join our volunteer list.

To find out what we're doing, join
<https://www.meetup.com/south-florida-edible-gardening-and-sustainable-living/>
and you'll see upcoming events in the gardens.

CYNTHIA
SCHAEFER

Chief Exective Officer

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS!




- Little River Cooperative
- Town of Davie Parks and Recreation
- Marando Farms
- Society of St. Andrew
- Tree Amigos



Scan for our Website!

Interested to join our community?
Please contact us via:

 thecaringcommunity.love

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