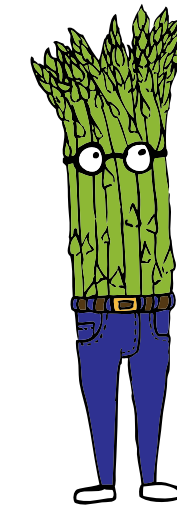


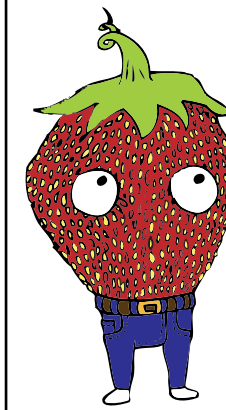
Natasha!



Hello, my name is Natasha. I am 17 years old and have worked with Growing Green since I was 14. My experience with this program has been SUPER FUN!!!! I have learned so many things, like how to grow organically, why is it important to take good care of the earth, and social skills. I have also learned how to be more aware of what I eat. This is an important necessity because I am a diabetic. So now that I know that food can be a big part of my diet to fight this genetic disease, it helps a lot.

I love Growing Green and really have gotten a great opportunity to grow and learn from the people I work with. We are like a big happy familysometimes. I think that this program should stay around FOREVER because it helped to make a positive change in my life and I have witnessed it change others for the better too.

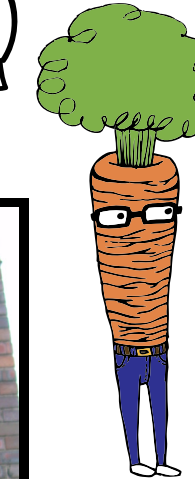
Veronica!



Hi, my name is Veronica Ragland. I'm 17 years old and a senior at Leonardo daVinci High School. I've been working for Growing Green since the summer of 2007. I work in the outreach group and it is a lot of fun. I learn a lot about designing and planning events. I've also learned more about gardening, the environment, and cooking from working with Growing Green.

I enjoy coming here because I get to hang with all the friends that I've made and also get away from all the drama in my life. I also like getting to cook and eat new things at the dinner co-ops. Growing Green has definitely helped me to become more outspoken and able to make friends. I like the feeling I get coming here and helping to change our community. I know that everything I've learned here will be of great use to me when I get out of high school and I'm thankful for being able to work at such a great place.

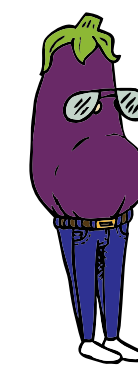
Juan!



Hi, my name is Juan Torres. I'm 18 years old and currently, a senior in high school. I've been working with Growing Green for 3 years. I believe this program really helped me to mature as a person. It has helped my attitude towards people I know and don't know, in a positive way.

There are many reasons why I like this program. The main reason I like Growing Green as much as I do is because of the many people I've met here. I've come to accept them as my second family. I also like that this program teaches you how to help save the environment in many ways such as growing organically, composting, and recycling. The best part of being a part of this program is that things and skills I learn will be kept with me always. The different skills such as public speaking, designing logos, and gardening could be used to pursue different careers.

James!



My name is James Martin, I am 17 years old. I attend McKinley High School and work at the Mass Ave Project. At MAP I have taken art classes, participated in the after school program, attended co-op dinners, and now I am employed by the Growing Green program.

I am part of the Youth Outreach group and our job is to make people aware of the things that MAP is doing, while maintaining a consistent look. I have helped to design posters, flyers, t-shirts, set backdrops and much more. In my time at MAP, I have learned soooooo much, and I feel like MAP has had a strong, positive influence on the person that I have become.

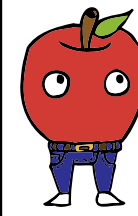
Frances!



Hi! My name is Frances and I work with Growing Green. I'm a sophomore in Leonardo DaVinci High school. My favorite thing to do is draw which is perfect because I'm in the Outreach Group of Growing Green, and we make posters and things like the ones you saw for the pancake breakfast.

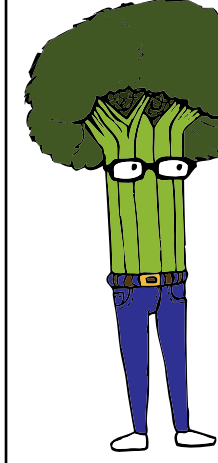
I haven't been working with them as long as some people, but I've enjoyed my time with everyone greatly. I'm looking forward to continuing this job and can't wait until we get to grow more things on our farm, as well as sell things on the Mobile Market. I have to thank my best friend Adriana for telling me about Growing Green, without her, I wouldn't be working in such a wonderful place!

Adriana!



My name is Adriana. Smiling is my favorite thing. I'm 15 years old and I attend Leonardo DaVinci High School. I work in the Peer Education group, and during the summer we work in the farm and then teach younger kids new things about farming and composting. It is always fun to play games with them because they are so full of energy. While working here I also learned how to plan events like this pancake breakfast. During the summer I made a lot of new friends and I worked on my communication skills, because there was a lot of teamwork needed when we worked on the farm. When I am not at work I like listening to music. I have a different song to express almost all of my feelings. Music is just one ways I express myself.

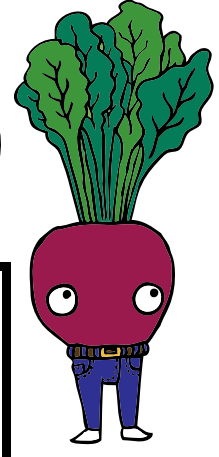
Hodan!



Hi, my name is Hodan Hussein and I am from Somalia. I am 19 years old and attend Erie Community College, and will pursue a nursing degree in the future. In the summer of 2008 I had the pleasure of being a growing green youth employee. I have learned a lot, especially about gardening. I never thought I would work on a farm but it was a good experience with Growing Green.

About gardening I learned specifically - weeding, a lot of fruits and vegetable names and how to grow them. In addition to farming, I have been a member of the Youth Enterprise group, which has benefited me a lot, as well as been a lot of fun! I learned how to create recipes for products and how to label. It was a good experience to also learn how to inventory for our business. One of the things that I most liked about Growing Green was doing sales promotions for our food products. I feel that I learned a lot of sales strategies for attracting customers. I am so happy that I was one of Growing Green's big family.

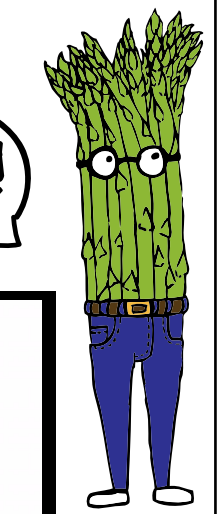
Tiona!



Hello, my name is Tiona Campbell and I am 16 years old. I attend McKinley High School and I have been working at Growing Green since I was 14. Working at Growing Green has been a wonderful experience for me. Working at this type of program has taught me many things, like how to grow my own organic vegetables, how to control my attitude, how to speak in public, and also how to eat healthier.

I really enjoy working at Growing Green because I feel like we really make a difference in our community. The only dream that I have is for our work to influence others to make a positive difference in their community as well.

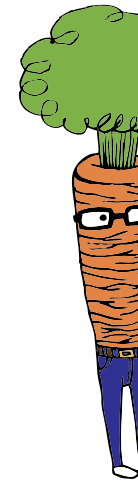
Charles!



Hello ! Charles Martin's the name and Peer Education's the game. For about 4 years, I have been teaching children about healthy eating habits, where their food comes from and where it goes. We teach children about the food system, how they are a part of it, as well as how and why organic food is good for them. We explore several eating habits, and the kids learn the benefits of a healthy diet. We also make a healthy meal with the students.

MAP has provided me with too many great opportunities to list. MAP was always there for me, they're there to help when I need it the most- when I need a letter of recommendation, when I need a ride, or even when I need a place to go. Overall, MAP has had a tremendous impact on my life, changing it for the better.

Sam!



My name is Samuel Montanez, and I'm 17 years old. I am a senior at Hutchinson Central Technical High School. I work in the Enterprise Group and our job is to invent new products such as salsa and chili starter to sell to the public. I enjoyed going out to special events to sell our products because, I enjoyed meeting new people in new surroundings.

I started last summer and loved the atmosphere, the people and especially with the other youth. I learned so much at MAP- for example I am now able to work well and communicate better with others. I learned so much about the industry of food and eating healthy food. I'm planning on going to college and major in engineering. When I'm not working, I enjoyed playing my favorite sport, baseball and listening to all types of music.