



*Celebrating
10 years*

Annual Report 2020

Our mission is to inspire kids to eat their vegetables. We teach elementary children in low-income schools cooking, nutrition, gardening, and active play to improve our health, economy, and environment.



10 Years! A Note from the CEO & Chief Food Genius

10 years! Food Literacy Center has officially been inspiring kids to eat their vegetables for a decade. I'm so proud to celebrate what we have accomplished for children in our community.

I started this work in 2011, during the Great Recession. I believe that change is possible—and our work proves it.

In 10 years, we have served 11,909 children! We have trained 125 Food Geniuses. What started in one school will expand to our second school district this fall.

Two of my proudest accomplishments came to life this year. Both involve policy change. First is the cooking school, which has been six years in the making. We will receive the keys in just a few months!

Second is the first-ever Farm to School grant we received through the California Department of Food and Agriculture. In 2017, I advocated for this funding at the state level. It didn't exist at the time. This year, the first state pilot grants were awarded! Food Literacy Center and SCUSD's Nutrition Services Department received \$376,500.

Another amazing milestone: I was reunited with one of my first students, Syrai. Her story is included in this report. We are creating more change-makers!

The work that started 10 years ago is only starting to unfold in big, bold, and bountiful ways. Thank you for helping us make it this far. We still have a lot to do, and I am confident that we will accomplish more for student health, together.

In celebration,

Amber

Expense

Total: \$789,649



In-kind Contributions:
\$144,809

Revenue

Total: \$970,554



2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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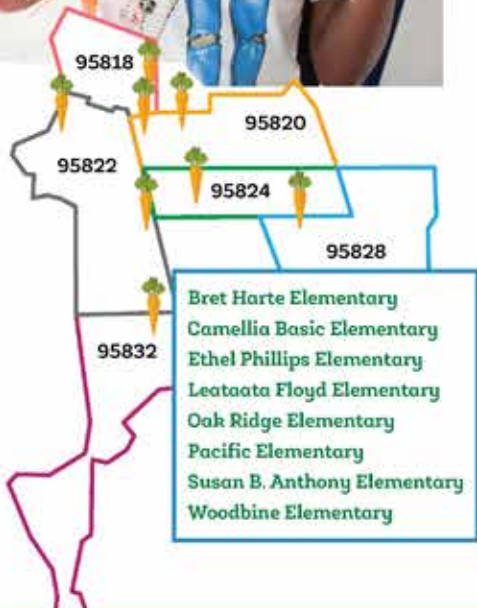
Josh Nelson, Honorary Board Member, Selland Family Restaurants



Inspiring Food Adventurers

In the 2019-2020 school year, Food Literacy Center continued to provide food literacy to Sacramento City Unified School District school kids.

- 890 students received FREE, in-person food literacy classes (before the pandemic closed schools)
- 513 kids and families attended cooking club and Kids Spring Farmers Market
- 2,052 meals were delivered through COVID-response take-home Veggie STEM Box recipe kits
- 3,535 lbs of fresh produce distributed to combat food & nutrition insecurity
- K-6th graders in South Sacramento targeted
- 90-100% on free or reduced lunch programs
- 92% are African American, Hispanic and Asian American
- Majority eat 3 subsidized meals per day in school



102 Volunteers
1,182 Hours

THANK YOU to the brave humans who put themselves at risk to come out of isolation to serve our kids during this pandemic!

OUR STUDENTS EAT THEIR VEGGIES!

95% fearlessly tasted a new fruit or vegetable each week as Produce of the Day
84% have a positive attitude toward healthy food

VEGGIE OF THE YEAR

Broccoli, Rick Mahan, Executive Chef/Owner, OneSpeed Pizza & The Waterboy



Collard Greens, Nina Curtis, Executive Chef, Adventist Health - Chef Champion!

Avocado, Brien Kuznicki, Executive Chef, Legends Hospitality at Golden 1 Center - People's Choice!

Bok Choy, Ravin Patel, Executive Chef, Season Kitchen & Bar - Chef Bite Champion

Mushroom, Billy Ngo, Executive Chef/Partner, Kru & Kodaiko Ramen Bar

A GROUNDBREAKING EVENT!



In just a few months, we will receive the keys to our new cooking school! This 4,500 square foot, zero net energy facility, built with school district funds, will become our headquarters. It contains a commercial prep kitchen, a cooking classroom designed for 30+ students, and our offices. This is phase 1 of this 6-year project. Phase 2 is outside, where a 1-acre student garden will be built. Garden construction begins this fall.





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10 YEAR IMPACT REPORT

Lettuce celebrate our many successes over the past decade. Look how much we've done!

KIDS HEALTH



Sacramento children are eating healthier! We're celebrating a decade of consistent growth protecting the health of students most vulnerable to diet-related diseases due to food and nutrition insecurity.

2021	10 Years Ago
11,909 kids served	120 kids served
16 schools	1 school
2 school districts (Sacramento City and Robla)	1 school
125 Food Geniuses trained to educate more children	1 intern & our founder

FOOD LITERACY LEGACY

Our team has been hard at work over the past decade to ensure that Farm to School programs are here to stay! The legacy of this program stretches statewide with California legislation, reaches nationally with a published book, and builds permanent infrastructure to improve our community.

- 2012** • September declared Food Literacy Month by California Legislature, sponsored by Assemblymember Roger Dickinson.
- 2013** • Food Literacy Academy launched to train community members as certified Food Genius instructors.
- 2014** • USDA Farm to School grant received with SCUSD Nutrition Services.
- 2017** • Amber Stott, Nicole Rogers, and Trish Kelly advocate with state legislators for the development of a Farm to School grant program to replicate the federal program in California.
- 2020** • Amber Stott appointed to the first California Farm to School Working Group Student Experience: Education & Access subcommittee to set goals for CDFA's program.
- 2021** • Food Anatomy Activities for Kids, published by Amber Stott via Callisto Media with all staff contributing STEM-based activities.
- First statewide California Farm to School pilot grant received for \$376,500 with SCUSD's Nutrition Services Department to expand food education programs as a result of advocacy efforts started four year earlier.
- Programs start in second school district, Robla.
- Sacramento's first elementary cooking school built on Leataata Floyd campus. After 6 years of advocacy, the school district will hand our nonprofit the keys, along with a 10-year MOU.
- City of Sacramento builds Floyd Farms community garden next to our cooking school to provide food access to students' families.





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SYRAI'S STORY: A 10 YEAR REUNION

By Amber Stott



When Syrai was in 5th grade in 2011, she had her first persimmon. She loved it!

This was also the year that I started Food Literacy Center. Syrai was attending Capitol Heights Academy elementary school in Oak Park. Syrai was among the first students to participate, and I was their instructor.

"You guys explained it; how to cook it. It was interactive," Syrai remembers. She says our program showed students that healthy food can be tasty. "It was fun!"

Syrai also remembers going to the grocery store with her parents and looking for the persimmons she first tried in food literacy class. But her local store, the only one in her neighborhood, a food desert, didn't carry these. She had to settle for lettuce instead, the only fresh option available.

Syrai is 18 years old now. Those early memories with food have stayed with her. She still loves to cook. She finished her first year of college last year at UC Santa Cruz, where she's studying economics. Inspired by a childhood filled with happy memories of healthy, fresh food, she wants to help fix the problem of food deserts. She wants persimmons to be available in every neighborhood!

In the meantime, she's giving back through her summer job with Roberts Family Development Center, where she serves as an afterschool teacher at Leataata Floyd Elementary. One of her assignments is to accompany her students to their class with Food Literacy Center.

"It was really cool to see that the food literacy program is still a thing," Syrai chimed. "A lot of community stuff in that neighborhood would come for two years and disappear."

You can imagine my own happy surprise when Syrai walked into our program this summer, now an adult. We swapped stories about recipes we made together a decade ago. As Food Literacy Center celebrates its 10th anniversary, what a joy to come full circle and learn that her exposure to our program continues to influence her choices!

Syrai beams with a smile that crinkles the corners of her eyes, noticeable even through the COVID mask she's wearing. "It is good to see that Food Literacy Center is still here."

**HAVE YOU LISTENED TO
OUR NEW PODCAST?**

**RAISING
KALE**

*with
Amber Stott*

Thanks to our partner,
Audacy.com, for donating
full production and marketing
for this project!

YOUR SUPPORT

\$3,301,557!!!!

Donors like you have helped us raise \$3,301,557 over 10 years. Your gifts were invested in FREE programs for the students we serve in low-income, Title 1 elementary schools in food deserts. We remain the only food literacy program available to our students in these schools.



"My daughter and I made rainbow soup and spaghetti with greens. We really liked it!"

-Parent from Leataata Floyd Elementary

TOP FUNDERS



2020 FUNDERS

We rely on supporters like you to bring free food literacy classes to more kids! Thanks to the following donors who supported Food Literacy Center between January 1, 2020 and December 31, 2020.

\$100,000+

Albertsons Companies Foundation
Bank of America
Dignity Health

\$20,000 to \$49,999

The California Endowment
Kaiser Permanente
No Kid Hungry
Sacramento Kings Foundation
Sacramento Region Community Foundation
Sutter Health

\$10,000 to \$19,999

Blue Diamond
California Rice Commission
Clover Sonoma
FNL Foundation
Margaret Deterding Fund of the Sacramento Region Community Foundation
Morgan Stanley Gift Fund
Raley's Family of Fine Stores
UC Davis Health
Whole Foods Market

\$5,000 to \$9,999

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Sun & Soil Juice Company
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Kim Gallagher
Kelly Foundation
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NextGen Policy
The Richard & Kathleen Zacky Family Foundation
The Safeway Foundation
Sierra Sacramento Valley Medical Society Alliance
Amber Stott & Brendan Belby

\$2,500 to \$4,999

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\$1,000 to \$2,499

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