



2023 Fall Newsletter

GROW BINGHAMTON

growing food. growing community.





THE SPRING

April - June (8 weeks)

Our spring cohort was dedicated to serving the community while increasing leadership skills. Youth cleaned up community gardens, built raised beds at our local Boys and Girls Club, and prepared grow bags for our build a garden program. Youth prepared the farm for summer by planting seedlings, transplanting plants to our fields, laying drip line, and rebuilding part of our compost system. Youth served food at our Spring Farm to Table Dinner at Lost Dog.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Boys and Girls Club, Aleah Butler Jones (Cornell)

Participants:

Annetta
Ariana
Billy
Cormari
Evelyn
Fatou
Keyaan
Sarah



THE SUMMER



July to August (6 weeks)



Over the summer we had many new youth crew members. We got to know each other, got familiar with farming, and learned to identify weeds and invasive species. We harvested for our community and added beauty to the farm. We prepared dishes for Flavors on the Farm, our summer fundraising event. We also worked on installing straw and plastering our new office building.

The youth in the program receive hands on learning experiences for collaborative growth as an integral part of all VINES programs, with a focus on supporting our Farmshare program through harvest and distribution.

"We learned communication skills, team work, facing fears, lifelong skills for jobs and life"



SUMMER CREW

THE MOCKINGBIRDS

CREW LEADER

- Fatou

CREW MEMBERS

- Sarah
- Nazarah
- Julien
- Andrew
- Xiamara



THE COMPOST RANGERS

CREW LEADER

- Keyaan

CREW MEMBERS

- Annetta (RC)
- Cameren
- Antonio
- Monty
- Malachi





THE KNIGHT FARMERS

CREW LEADER

- Billy

CREW MEMBERS

- Cormari (RC)
- Nhi (RC)
- Akua
- Izic
- Sabriyah

THE DEVIOUS SIX

CREW LEADER

- Evelyn

CREW MEMBERS

- Nakiyah (RC)
- Jonah
- River
- Sherisse
- Sydney



OUR SUMMER COMMUNITY PARTNERS



Our community partners provided trips and workshops that enriched our summer program

SEED, Hajra Aziz (Southern Door Community Land Trust), Bleuet Hill Farm, Northland Sheep Dairy, Onondaga Nation Farm, Main St. Farm, Dr. Sean Cummings- BU ACRES Binghamton University, Laura Lee Intscher (Secret Base Design), Mallory Illsley (CCE), Holly Grant (CCE),



OUR SUMMER LEADERSHIP TEAM



“It’s an experience you won’t regret. You may not see how big of an impact this program can have in just 6 short weeks, but there’s a reason youth return year after year. Grow Binghamton is a wonderful program to be a part of!”

OUR SUMMER LEADERSHIP TEAM



Clockwise from the left;

Tatiana- Youth Program Assistant,

Robert - Youth Peer Leader

Sam - Americorp Service Member

Jenn - Youth Peer Leader

Cynthia - Urban Farm Manager

Tshijuka - Youth Program Manager





THE FALL

September to November (8 weeks)

During the fall, youth partnered with students from Binghamton University and built raised beds for people in our community through the Build a Garden Program. Youth prepared for the next year of Grow Binghamton and farming at VINES by doing farm clean up. Youth were also able to do some administrative work in the VINES office.



Participants:

- Annetta
- Ariana
- Cameren
- Evelyn
- Fatou
- Malachi
- Nakiyah
- Nhi
- Sydney



THANK YOU GROW BINGHAMTON FOR A WONDERFUL YEAR



VINES

GROWING FOOD. GROWING COMMUNITY.