



Growing into a New Year: A Look Back at 2016 and What's Ahead in 2017!

From Hardship to Hope

Dani Stolley
Executive Director



Executive Committee

Don Stolley, President

Owner, Stolley Studio, Ltd.

Jessica King, Vice President

Owner, Attorney, Compass Law, LLC

Courtney Lasky, Secretary

Local Food Advocate

Tony Mathe, Treasurer

Owner, Mathe CPA, LLC

Directors-at-Large

Sarrah Larson

Co-owner, Becket's Restaurant & Ski's Meat Market

Lisa Krueger

John A. Boyle Surgical Associates

Mark Laux

Owner, Hot Operator

Bob Poeschl

Winnebago County Housing Authority

Mandy Potts

UW Oshkosh

Staff

Dani Stolley

Founder/Executive Director

Jennifer Sattler

Youth Program Manager

It's been a crazy year of amazing success stories—and some challenges too. 2016 started out on a sad note, having lost our dear friend & Farm Manager, Bob Bohlman, to cancer in late 2015. Then in February, I suffered another great loss with the passing of my father, also to cancer. But when tragedy strikes, I like to find a silver lining. That lining came through our new Hope & Healing Garden dedicated to their memories.

Our Hope & Healing Garden actually forms the new entrance to our farm, and in the spring we'll be expanding this garden in order to grow and share even more preventative herbs and flowers (for free) with people who are fighting cancer and other life-threatening illnesses. We'll also be adding memorial stepping stones, signs and plaques for others who've lost their battle with cancer, so if you'd like to memorialize a loved one in this way, please contact me at danistolley@yahoo.com.

Also new in 2016—our first ever pumpkin patch and Fall Family Fest, which featured a petting zoo, pumpkin carving/decorating and fun family activities! This will become an annual event; one you don't want to miss if you have kids (or are a kid at heart—who doesn't love baby llamas?!). So keep an eye out for a Save the Date announcement!

And speaking of calendars, mark yours please for **May 6, 2017** for our annual Plant Sale, featuring hundreds of organically grown vegetables, herb and flowers for sale for you to grow at home! This is one of our main fundraisers for the year, and your support is crucial!

In fact, your support is crucial *all year long!* We simply could not do the work we do without the support of our partners and donors, especially the John E. Kuenzl Foundation, the Oshkosh Area Community Foundation, the WHW OshKosh B'Gosh Family Fund, the Helaine Lasky Charitable Fund, and our local food partners, Becket's Restaurant, Ski's Meat Market, Gardina's Winebar and Café and Ruby Owl. With only a few days left in 2016, we hope you'll consider a tax-deductible donation.

No matter how you show your support for Growing Oshkosh, please know we are eternally grateful for everything you do—and every dollar helps us grow!



On behalf of the entire Growing Oshkosh team, thank you and we hope you and yours have a very happy, healthy and safe new year!

- Make your Holiday Donation -

Your gift will continue our growth.

Donations can be made through:

<http://www.growingoshkosh.org/donation>

Or sent in to:

Growing Oshkosh
530 Bay Shore Drive
Oshkosh, WI 54901



Educational Programs Abound

Jennifer Sattler
Youth Program Manager

As 2016 draws to a close, I am in awe of the expansion of Growing Oshkosh's educational programs. The support from volunteers, partnering organizations, and the community at large has helped us achieve some huge goals this year, and I am filled with deep gratitude for everyone who has helped in our mission to teach every child and family in Oshkosh about food.

What we've accomplished in 2016

- Developed gardens at three more elementary schools (Smith, Franklin, & Roosevelt)
- Collaborated with Davis Child Care Center to develop a garden site
- Offered container gardens at UWO Child Care Center serving as free food sources
- Expanded our Children's Learning Garden
 - Grew to a total of 28 raised beds!
 - Continued growth in the Children's Learning Garden by constructing a pergola as a gathering space in the shade
 - Harvested more food than ever before which was given away or consumed by our visitors
- Arranged more events on the farm resulting in an average of 50-200 weekly visitors
 - Organized 30 field trips from June-September
 - Held our first week-long summer camp
 - Hosted weekly family nights
 - Finished a strong season with our annual Fall Festival for our community's families

What's ahead in 2017

- In spring, welcoming in more schools to our program
 - Carl Traeger Elementary & Middle school
 - Shapiro STEM Academy (formerly Jacob Shapiro)
 - Trinity Lutheran
- Expansion of the gardens at Webster Stanley Elementary School
- Develop more learning stations to the Children's Learning Garden, enriching and diversifying the learning opportunities for students and families that visit

It has been a year filled with big projects, lots of consistent rain, and gardening with almost 4,000 students through our various programs. If you'd like to get involved in our educational programs, please contact me at growingoshkosh@gmail.com.

Thank you to all the interns, volunteers, supporters, and donations that have made our programs a success in 2016. I am excited to see you in 2017 for another beautiful growing season!

Our Mission

“To sow, grow, share and teach sustainable fish, food, flowers, jobs, & hope.”



In 2016, we impacted the lives of almost 4,000 students.

- Make your Holiday Donation -

Your gift will continue our growth.

Donations can be made through:
<http://www.growingoshkosh.org/donation>

Or sent in to:

Growing Oshkosh
530 Bay Shore Drive
Oshkosh, WI 54901