



Small Steps Towards
a Big Difference

SOMETHING OF A MIRACLE

Our seasonal e-news updates are designed to share our current success stories that your donations have helped to make possible, because at Something Good in the World we believe that “small is beautiful, but beautiful is not small...” Please visit our website for more detailed information on all of our educational programs and projects: www.somethinggoodintheworld.org.

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www.somethinggoodintheworld.org

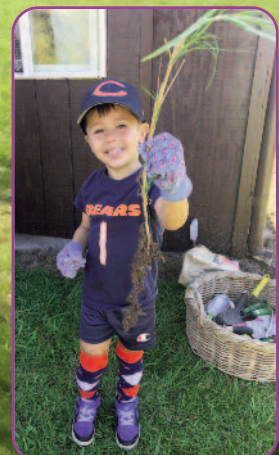
 SUMMER into FALL 2022

Every time that Something Good in the World engages in outdoor educational programs with children and families, it feels like nothing short of a miracle. So much goes into making these free programs possible: the foundations that fund the work, the educators who prepare the workshops, the schools and shelters who help organize the trips, the people who transport the students, the farmers who host and guide us. None of what we do would be possible without the people who support the programs because they understand the impact that nature has on the well being of children of all ages.

We are grateful beyond measure to the community that has supported the work of Something Good in the World for the past 20 years, and for the foundations who have given us continued annual support so that we can offer 100% of our programs for free to those who would not otherwise have access to farms, gardens, and nature trails. Thank you to:

- The [Jack DeVito Foundation](#) for 11 years of support!
- The Alpern Family Foundation for 10 years of annual operating grants!
- The [St. Faith's House Foundation](#) for believing in our work for 8 years!
- The [Kate Svitek Memorial Foundation](#) for the past 3 years!
- A family foundation that prefers to remain anonymous, and has offered annual financial support for nearly 12 years!
- All the individuals, too many to be named here, who have given scholarships and matching grants to SGITW throughout the 20 years, including people who give on a monthly basis.
- The many companies that have offered in-kind donations for 20 years or more.

It's absolutely miraculous and totally extraordinary to see the results of these gifts, and we hope the photos and success stories in this e-newsletter help to give a sense of how much your support means to so many children, teachers, and families.





One of the longest success stories of SGITW is [The Children's Peaceful Garden](#). First designed in 2000, this garden design that promotes peaceful and imaginative play, providing a sanctuary for wildlife and humans alike, has been successfully recreated in worldwide locations, in almost every kind of landscape from tropical to mountainous to farm-based. Awarded in 2016 by the [Jane Goodall Institute](#) and the United Nations for the best example of Peace and Sustainability, this garden design is easily replicated in any environment, including the newest one created this summer at the [Patch of Diamonds](#) in Vermont.

One of the longest running school-based gardens based on SGITW's design is at the [Ossining High School](#), where the "Mindfulness Garden" has been growing for 6 years, and is added to every year by the Interactive Ecology Class. This summer, the Special Education classes at OHS joined SGITW's educators to care for the Mindfulness Garden. The students hung garden signs created by high school students through [Amaze In Pottery](#), fed the birds, watered and weeded the gardens, and practiced sketching while sitting under the trees. Every student and teacher enjoyed picking and eating the strawberries they grew, and learning why it's so important to eat local and seasonal. This fall, the OHS students planted bulbs, made compost, and readied the garden for the winter. At last, the entire student body is becoming aware that at the center of their school building there is a safe and peaceful place where anyone can come during their free time, to sit, read, talk, or help in the garden. One special education teacher at OHS wrote us to say: *"Thank you for including my class in the Mindfulness Garden. We had a wonderful time tending and watering. It is a beautiful, peaceful place. You feel the tranquility as you walk through the door. Feeding the birds and picking strawberries were the favorite activities!"*



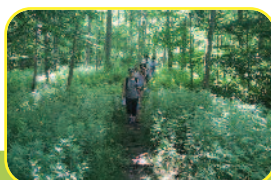


One of the ongoing miracles of SGITW's work can be found inside of our programs for refugee teens from Central America. These students are seeking asylum in the United States as they escape unlivable conditions in their home countries, and while they await legal resettlement, they attend our workshops to learn about sustainable agriculture and how to care for the environment. In the summer, the refugees from [Abbott House](#) were thrilled to have tours and workshops at [Longhaul Farm](#) in Garrison, NY, with Jason Angell and Jocelyn Apicello, learning with SGITW about honeybees and their products, and how to preserve raw vegetables as pickles for a healthy snack. They hiked the trails at the Croton Gorge Park and Croton Point Park, and enjoyed a donation of *pupusas* from a local restaurant, [Rincon Latino](#). In the fall, the students returned to Longhaul Farm to further their education about the practices of Permaculture, learning how to prepare foods that are local and seasonal, like roasted winter squash and baked kale chips. They also enjoyed fresh picked apples and honey straight from the beehive – it doesn't get any more local or seasonal than that! Thank you to Jason and Jocelyn for all their generosity and for making our students feel so welcome!



Hi Jason and Jocelyn, thank you for the invitation, I really liked it because it was the first time I had been to a farm. I really enjoyed seeing the plants and how much effort you put into caring for them and how you ate them raw, that was new for me, something I had never done before, eat plants that are not cooked. Seeing the beehive from close up was incredible as was tasting the fresh honey and the fresh strawberries. It was all beautiful, I loved seeing the effort and love with which you spoke about the farm. I realized that it is a part of your life and I was fascinated by it. Thank you for the invitation, that day at the farm was awesome. Blessings.
Sincerely, Ruth B.

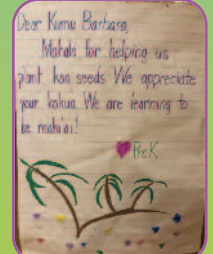
JASON AND JOCELYN LONG HAUL FARM EXPERIENCE
Thank you. First of all, I thank Jason and Jocelyn for giving us that warmth and welcoming us with kindness at your farm. In addition, I tasted a few plants and that was a great experience for me. Thank you for that beautiful moment, it was a very cheerful and wonderful day, for letting us taste the honey and make the little candles... I learned many things at the farm like about the vegetables and the animals, etc. It was very special and pleasant for me at the farm, I liked it and the animals to, it was lovely to spend time with my companions from Abbott House as well.
David P.



The [Ossining Children's Center Kindergarten](#) had so many hikes and experiences in nature in the summer and fall, that we had to make videos about these. For many of these students, this was their first time on a trail in the woods, and students asked us as we entered the trail, "Is this the forest?" It's crucial for children to make connections with nature as early as possible, so that they will become keenly interested in caring for their environment. Whether learning about the water cycle, or how to protect our water source, or what kinds of creatures live in our fresh water system, the students were excited to interact with the natural worlds. From the Hunterbrook Preserve to the Croton Dam to the Hudson River, the OCC students developed a love of being out in the elements. Sometimes it was hot, sometimes it was rainy, but they never minded. No matter where we were this summer, it felt like a miracle every time that we were together again in our favorite places. [Click Here to see our Summer and Fall Videos.](#)

Something Aloha represents another miraculous undertaking! Who would have imagined that the Children's Peaceful Garden (*Ka Mala Maluhia* in Hawaiian) would be replicated in a rainforest? Or that the *Envira Pod* mobile educational trailer would be shipped to Hawai'i so that it could continue to be a daily classroom and demonstration of sustainable living for real?! From SGITW's famous bike blender smoothies, to pop-up greenhouses, to worm cake, Something Aloha has managed to keep the school garden-based legacy going (à la *Earth School*), Hawaiian style. The district of Ka'u on the Big Island, where our programs are located, hosts more families living below the poverty line than anywhere else on the island. The food sovereignty movement is crucial in assisting with food security and SGITW is leading the children forward in growing their own veggies, herbs, and native plants, so that they can share that information at home. Thanks to mini-grants from the *Jane Goodall Institute's Roots and Shoots*, as well as support from *Whole Kids Foundation* and this year from the *Hawaii School Garden Network*, the Children's Peaceful Garden is going strong and free programs take place with PreK through Grade 5 every week at the *Volcano School of Arts & Sciences*.

[Click Here to see a video about this project!](#)



Last year, many of you supported one of our newest humanitarian aid efforts, called the *Human Light Project* in Lebanon. Thanks to your donations, solar-powered lanterns and chargers were delivered to Lebanese residents around the country, to help bring light to a dark situation. [Click here to see our video about this endeavor.](#) Now we are working another humanitarian aid project, this time at the Kakuma refugee camp in Kenya, which houses hundreds of thousands of displaced people from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Thanks to the *YTop* (the Youth Template of Peace), new connections have begun with youth leaders in the camp, and SGITW is fostering a program to help grow healthy food for hungry people in the camps as quickly as possible. Thanks to the efforts of our students in Hawai'i, SGITW is demonstrating to the youth leaders how to grow sprouts as a source of quick, nutritious food. In just 4 days, refugee families who may only have cornmeal and oil, can now have easy access to sprouted vegetables to help add nutrition to their diets. While they wait for more veggies to grow inside of container gardens and greenhouses, the sprouts can help to stave off malnutrition quickly. We will keep in touch with you via videos, posts, and emails about this new project so that you can help to support this happening.



Please consider making a [donation right now](#) to help keep all of our programs going strong. Whether it's Giving Tuesday or End of Year Giving or simply the inspiration to help us in our nature-based work to help others who might not otherwise have access, your gift is invaluable and is a major part of the miracle of children's natural experiential education in action. Thank you and *mahalo nui loa* for your belief in projects that we believe are something good in the world. ☺



The reason I write this letter is to thank you for having welcomed us, for the attention you have us, your kindness, it was a lovely experience. I loved it because you reminded me of my life in Honduras, the food was delicious. I love life in the country, it really is so beautiful. You are a lovely family, thank you very much and may God bless you.

I really liked the food very much. I learned that nothing should go to waste and that at the end of the day everything is useful in this life.

Thank you for everything.

Longwell Fam.
Para M. Jason and M. Jocelyn.
Bueno el momento de esta carta es para darle las gracias por su amabilidad. Por la atención que nos brindaron por su hospitalidad. En una buena experiencia me enseñaron cosas que me hicieron recordar en vida en Honduras. La comida estaba muy rica, así me encanto la vida en campo la verdad por eso voy a ir con una familia muy linda mucho gracias por dar las gracias.
Me gusta mucho la comida.
Y espero a que me den las gracias más al final y más de todo amor y felicidad en esta vida.
Gracias por todo.



PROJECT OF THE MONTH

Jane Goodall's Roots & Shoots is honored to award this certificate to
SOMETHING GOOD IN THE WORLD
 for impressive impact on behalf of people, animals and the environment.

They talk about nature. They talk about the environment. They talk about making a difference." - Jane Goodall

October 2016
 Date:

With Much Love
 Executive Vice President, Roots & Shoots
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We are an **AmazonSmile** participant. Use this interactive link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/175-3071237>. Donors, volunteers, employees, and friends can bookmark this link so all their eligible shopping will benefit Something Good in the World!



You can also follow all of the current news and events of **Something Good in the World on Facebook!**

To Donate Visit: <http://www.somethinggoodintheworld.org/donate/>

The following people donated their time, energy, and creative skills to the production of this newsletter:

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MISSION STATEMENT: The mission of Something Good in the World is to provide a safe and enhancing environment wherein children may be promoted to achieve their highest potential in learning and development, and to prepare them toward becoming responsible human beings ready to take on the challenges of life.

We are committed to upholding a genuine value for humanity, and are steadfast in our dedication towards creating a new and better template for education in the 21st century, that integrates nature, the environment, and the practices of sustainable living.



We welcome your letters and responses! Please feel free to write to us any time by e-mail: somethinggooditw@aol.com, or by regular mail: **Something Good in the World, Inc., 624 Croton Avenue, Cortlandt Manor, NY 10567.**