



**ANNUAL
REPORT**

SEVEN GENERATIONS AHEAD

2019

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LETTER FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends and Supporters:

As 2019 comes to a close, we want to thank you for your continued connection to Seven Generations Ahead and for your concern and work in relation to the climate crisis. There is no bigger issue that we're working on, and the world needs all of us on board to tackle this. In the past year, we've put our efforts into many initiatives that we will continue to focus on in 2020, including:

- working with communities and institutions to build road maps toward 100% renewable energy
- connecting municipalities and institutions to funding and solar energy developers to build on-site installations and to solar energy purchasing from new projects being built
- developing an education and outreach series of strategies to link low-to-moderate income residents to new solar projects coming on-line in 2020
- building the It's Our Future program with partners to equip our youth to advocate for climate crisis solutions within their communities

One of the most exciting things we did this year was to send daily updates from the COP25 UN Climate Summit in Madrid and send a high school senior and middle school teacher to participate at the Summit. With your support, we'll send more youth to COP26 in Glasgow, Scotland next year and keep up the learning and the pressure from our youth to solve this critical issue.






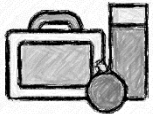

Thanks again for your support.

Sincerely,

Gary Cuneen

Founder and Executive Director

IMPACT AT A GLANCE

	<p>Over half a million people crunched into fresh, local apples for this year's Great Apple Crunch. Illinois had the largest participation in the Great Lakes Region!</p>
	<p>Our Harvest of the Month program now boasts over 30 harvest toolkits, 200 nutritionally calibrated recipes and 4 different site kits.</p>
	<p>45 Illinois municipalities now offer curbside composting to their residents, up from only 30 in 2018.</p>
	<p>Lake County Correctional Facility, our first jail project, now converts 128,000 pounds of food waste to compost annually.</p>
	<p>Our newest program, It's Our Future has 24 active members ranging in age from 12-21 years old. One member was able to represent local youth on a panel at the UN Climate Summit in Madrid.</p>
	<p>Zero Waste Schools expanded to Lake County, implementing commercial composting, recycling, food recovery and providing education about zero waste for over 750 students at three new schools.</p>
	<p>51 new native gardens were added in the Villages of Oak Park and River Forest and there are now 480 native gardens overall.</p>

SUCCESS SNAPSHOTS

It's Our Future steps onto the world stage at the UN Climate Summit

OPRF senior Roz Beile spent an exhilarating week at the UN Climate Conference in Madrid, filled with meetings and eye-opening interactions with people from around the globe. The high point, though, was getting to participate in a panel with other climate activists.

"I was so nervous," upon hearing the accomplishments of others on the panel, she said. But Roz brought something the others could not—a real perspective of life in the U.S. "I really tried to represent the United States," she said. She introduced conference participants to a narrative around environmental racism. Roz explained how rich and poor people are affected differently by climate change—even in a country considered among the world's most privileged.



Roz is a member of the youth-led climate action initiative called It's Our Future. SGA launched It's Our Future with funding from the Oak Park River Forest Community Foundation earlier this year. The initiative equips young people with skills that can help them effectively advocate for climate action.

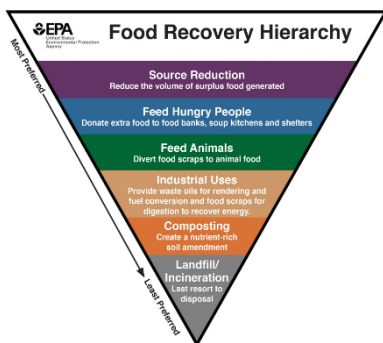
Boot Camp for Northern IL provides hands-on practice and can-do attitude

The Illinois Farm to School Boot Camp in Geneva, IL was a half day of learning, hands-on practice and collaboration in a professional demonstration kitchen and learning space. The Boot Camp was geared towards teams of food service, administrators and garden managers. ISBE Continuing Education Credits were available for food service staff.

Altogether, 77 individuals attended and walked away inspired and with a wealth of resources, contacts, and examples of how to make Farm-to-School work for them.



Zero Waste School Toolkit will empower waste reduction champions



A great deal of lunchroom waste can be prevented or diverted from landfills through source reduction, food recovery, recycling, and composting, all of which provide countless hands-on educational opportunities for students. The Toolkit will provide schools with useful information and resources for implementing many of the strategies on the Environmental Protection Agency's Food Recovery Hierarchy.

A variety of solutions are shared from easy and quick to implement, to longer term and more resource intensive. Students, teachers, food service staff, lunchroom staff, parents, and administrators can all play a role in reducing school food waste. Toolkit will be complete early 2020.

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2018 Community Sustainability Report Card

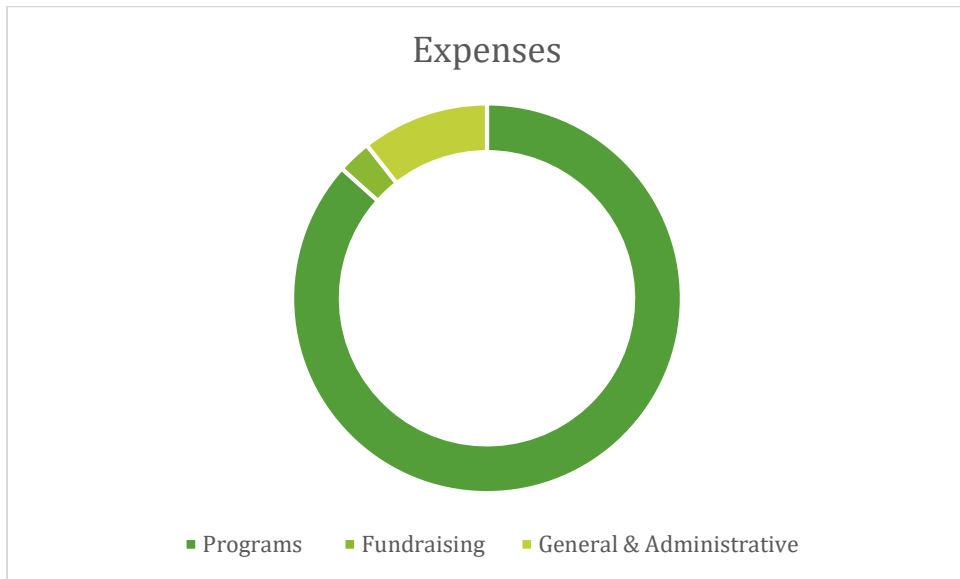
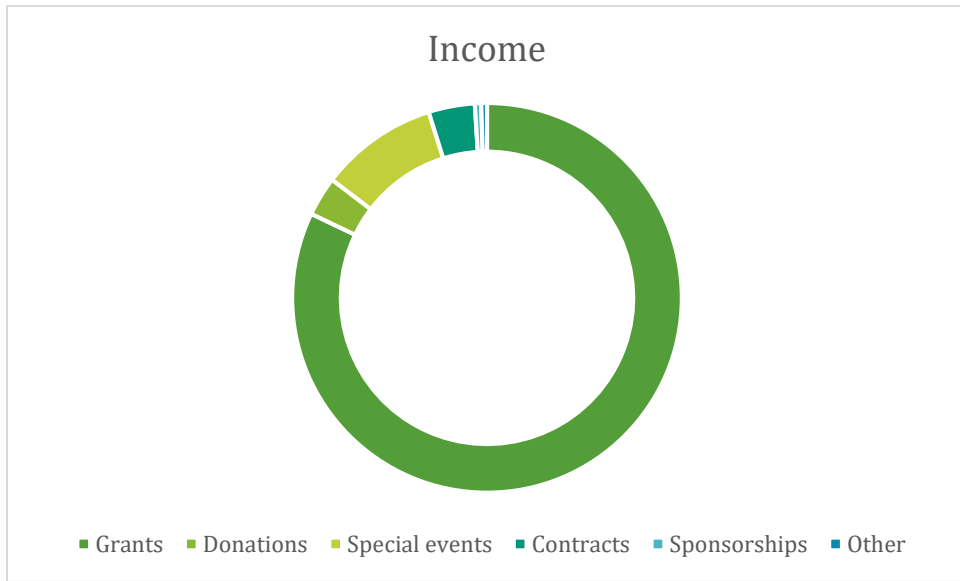


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