



Invitation to Join The Trellis

About Us

One Cool Earth is a nonprofit serving SLO County since 2001, focused on supporting student health, academics, and wellness through school gardens. In the past 8 years we've grown from serving 15 students at one school with an annual budget of \$3000, to supporting 1500 students per week at 18 schools with an annual budget of over \$300,000. Our goal long-term goal of supporting all 43 of the county's elementary school gardens by 2020 is ambitious. If we work together, our goal is also attainable. Together, we can change health, academic, and wellbeing outcomes for 17,000 youth.

The Need: Today's youth are predicted to have shorter lifespans than their parents' generation due to diet-related illness. Up to 50% of 5th grade students struggle with learning science, limiting their academic and career success. Many youth feel disconnected from their school and community, leading to depression, anxiety, and acting out.

Our Vision: Every child deserves a place to grow!

Our Mission: We create amazing school garden programs that power healthy, happy, smart youth.

Our Goal: Support thriving gardens in all 43 SLO County public elementary schools by 2020.

Our Strategy

Our programs are based upon evidence-based practices to directly impact health, education, and wellbeing for elementary-aged youth. We take a three-part approach:

1. **Build** - We work with schools and communities to create amazing, educational gardens from scratch, or retrofit existing gardens.
2. **Educate** - Our passionate, qualified educators inspire students with science, nutrition and environmentally themed garden projects. We work at partner schools on a weekly basis to provide Next Generation Science Standard-aligned lessons that get students active and engaged on their campus, in their community and at home.
3. **Sustain** - We are committed to lasting change--we help schools fully integrate gardens by supporting teachers with training & supplies. Our garden educators work with teachers on a regular basis to provide training, materials, and resources bridge classrooms to gardens. We also engage parents with regular garden events, family cooking nights, and by sending science project materials, recipes and garden produce home with students. Our Partnership Funding model shares the costs of the program between the schools, the community, and grantors.

More information can be found on our website: www.onecoolearth.org

Who We're Looking For

We seek enthusiastic and effective individuals to become a part of the One Cool Earth's Earth Genius Trellis team, a formal advisory committee that advises the Board of Directors and staff as well as raise funding, generate leads, and identify income streams. Members of The Trellis represent a variety of backgrounds and expertises. As a prerequisite, you must have a strong passion for garden-based education. Beyond that, we seek the following:

- Individuals willing to get and/or give funding to support garden development
- Parents or other relatives who have or wish to advocate for school gardens
- Professionals with backgrounds in:
 - Education (teachers, administrators, or educational program officers or staff)
 - Entrepreneurship (individuals who have developed new, innovative programs or products and understand issues of scaling)
 - Health (nutrition, medical, therapeutic, both mental and physical, culinary)
 - STEM (science fields such as biology, ecology, and environmental management, technology, engineering, and math)

Time Commitment: One x 1 hour orientation meeting with the rest of the Trellis members; Quarterly x 1 hour check-ins; additional independent work, depending on your assignments of up to 5 hours/month networking, volunteering, etc.;

Term: Minimum of 1 year, may be extended or canceled by either party;

Roles & Responsibilities

Trellis members are expected to contribute in one or several of the following ways:

- Meet with One Cool Earth directors quarterly for check-ins on progress and updates;
- Contribute to development of strategic partnerships in the community to strengthen our program:
 - Cultivate and share fundraising leads, and support 'asks,' especially focused on corporate, individual, and foundation giving;
 - Identify and recruit the assistance of professionals in agriculture, education, science, and environmental subjects to develop our program content and delivery through research and review;
 - Initiate and cultivate ongoing support from volunteer groups and in-kind donors to support the material and maintenance needs of our gardens;
- In addition, members of The Trellis group may contribute their personal support through financial contributions, expertise, volunteer labor, or materials;

Please let us know if this program speaks to you so we can take the next step together.

Respectfully,



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