

## RHIP and COVID-19 MINI-GRANT PROJECT SUMMARIES

### RHIP Mini-Grant Final Report for The Environmental Center “Garden for Every School program – Eastside Boys & Girls Club Garden” Reviewed by the Promote Enhanced Physical Health Workgroup



#### Summary of Results:

- In summer 2021 we worked with the teens at the East Bend Boys & Girls Club to plant a small in ground edible garden area and build 6 self-watering garden bins to grow additional annuals.
- This grant funded the transition from summer youth and staff to school year based staff and youth that live on-site or nearby.
- We had weekly food and/or garden based activities with a younger and older group of students from September through December.
- During the harvest season we took advantage of ripening peppers, watermelon, carrots, potatoes and tomatoes to include in tastings, samples and snacks.
- The new year kicked off garden planning, food tastings and getting the garden ready for another spring planting.
- 21 youth received weekly garden and food based opportunities, September - December 2021 and February - April 2022. (Weekly attendance was shifting depending on student pick up time, on average we reached 8-12 students each week).
- Youth planted early spring crops, and weeded as they came up, while choosing seed packets for crops they were excited to try.

#### Story:

A teen who lived on-site and did the summer garden program, became an intern "garden caretaker" for the fall. He was then invited to join our emerging youth led group, the Green Leadership Coalition (GLC). He joined to represent the Bend High Botany Club and used the garden site this spring as a project/team building activity for the club. He graduated but remains involved in GLC serving as a Program Coordinator. While not in the grant objectives, it's an unintended benefit of this grant.