



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

Dear Friends:

To improve transparency and communications we have prepared this Annual Report of the WSU Extension King County Master Gardener Program (Program) and the Master Gardener Foundation of King County (Foundation) 2023 progress and financials and goals for 2024.

The Annual Report consists of:

- [2023 Highlights](#)
- [2023 Program Performance](#)
- [How We Are Organized](#)
- [2023 Financial Performance](#)
- [2024 Program and Foundation Initiatives](#)
- [2023 Fall Fundraising Appeal](#)
- [2023 Donors](#)
- [Program Leadership](#)
- [Foundation Board Members](#)
- [2023 Partners](#)
- [Board Agenda and Minutes](#)
- [Prior Year Tax Filings](#)

Please let us know if you find this information helpful.

Regards,

Joan Baldwin, President, Master Gardener Foundation of King County
president@mgfkc.org

Joe Jennings, Vice President, Master Gardener Foundation of King County, and Development Chair
vice-president@mgfkc.org

Master Gardener Foundation of King County
<https://kingcounty.mastergardenerfoundation.org>
Tax ID#: 91-1276424
UW CUH Box 354115
Seattle, WA 981954115



2023 Highlights

We continue extend our outreach into the communities that we serve as Master Gardeners and as Stewards of our precious resources.

Outreach Clinics:

The Clinic Leadership Team took a new approach to clinic requests, with a goal of building connections in communities where we have not yet established relationships. In 2023 we added:

- The King County Fair in Enumclaw
- The Tilth Alliance Farm Fest in the Rainier Valley
- City of Seattle P-Patch Garden Program 50th anniversary event
- Northwest Flower and Garden Festival
- 17 popups at special events, netting more than 500 engagements with gardeners.

New Kenmore Rhododendron Park

When the Finn Hill Demonstration Garden lease ended in 2023, members initiated a partnership to provide classes and workshops at the Kenmore Rhododendron Park, bringing new vitality to the team and are in discussions on how to expand the partnership in 2024.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)

Our new DEI team is focused on removing barriers to becoming a Master Gardener and to increasing the cultural competency of its members to better engage with the diverse population of King County.

Spring Plant Sale

The Bellevue Demonstration Garden spring plant sale was a major success and raised over \$10,000. Many thanks to the BDG team!

New Partners and Funding

- We partnered with the City of Shoreline to create a series of in person home gardening classes, focusing on IPM and sustainable gardening practices. In return, we received a grant for \$6,000.
- Bellevue Demonstration Garden applied for and received a \$2,100 grant for new garden signage from the King Conservation District.



Program Performance

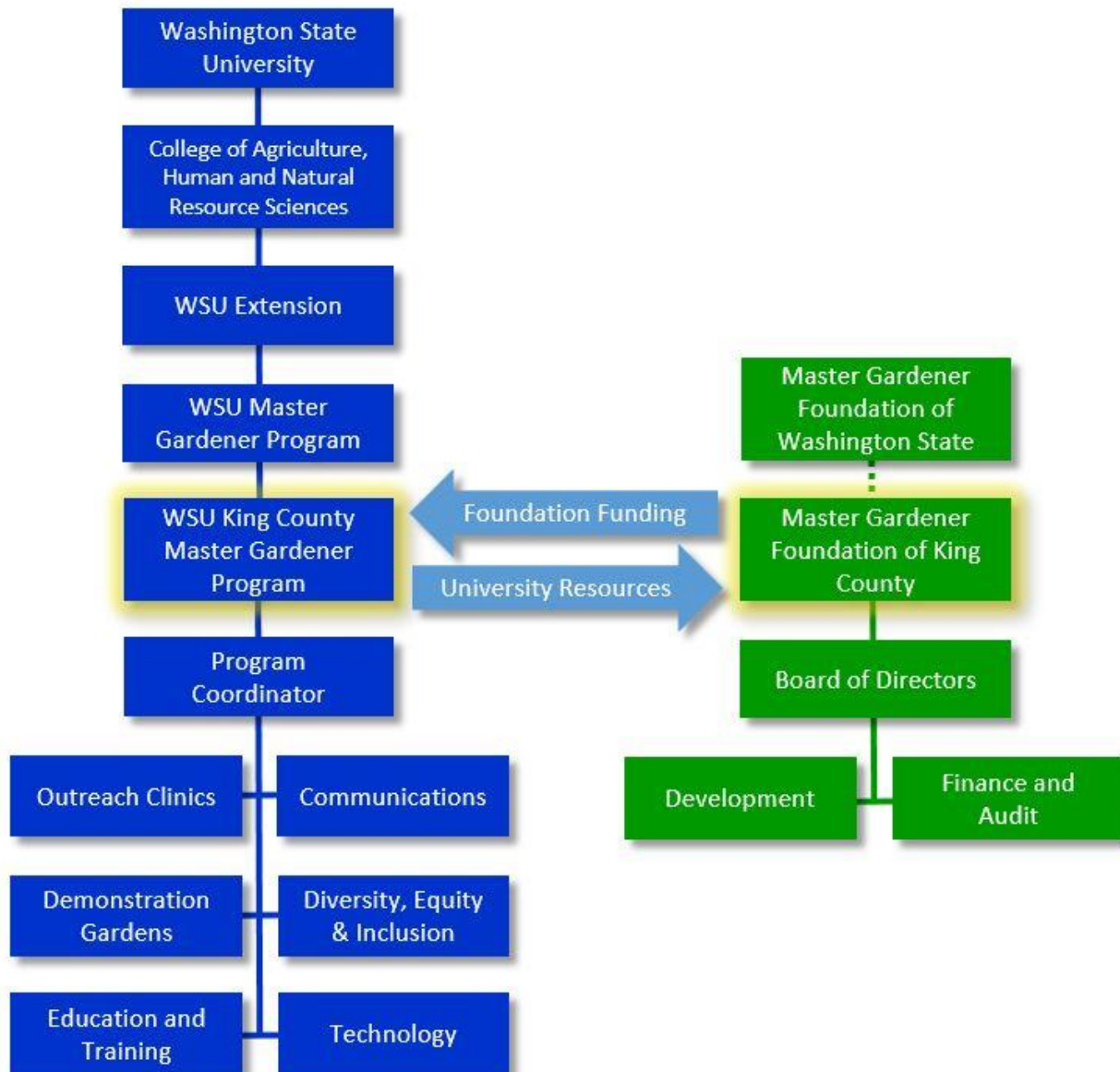
YTD as of 9/13/2023

The Master Gardener Program of King County continues to expand its outreach into local communities as shown in the table below.

Criteria	2023 YTD Metrics
People Served In Person	15,066 people served at 595 clinic events
People Served Via Email	745 email responses -- 745 volunteer hours
Training Class	107 Interns completed training -- 3,286 training hours
Volunteers	512 Certified Master Gardeners
Volunteer Hours	20,693 hours
Continuing Education Hours	5,369 hours
Gardens	13 locations
Recurring Clinics	39 locations
Pop-Up Clinics	20 locations
Diagnostic Lab	165 samples
Garden Food Donated	4,252 pounds
Education	
▪ Bellevue Demonstration Garden	21 classes, 1086 attendees to date
▪ Growing Groceries	12 classes, 883 attendees to date

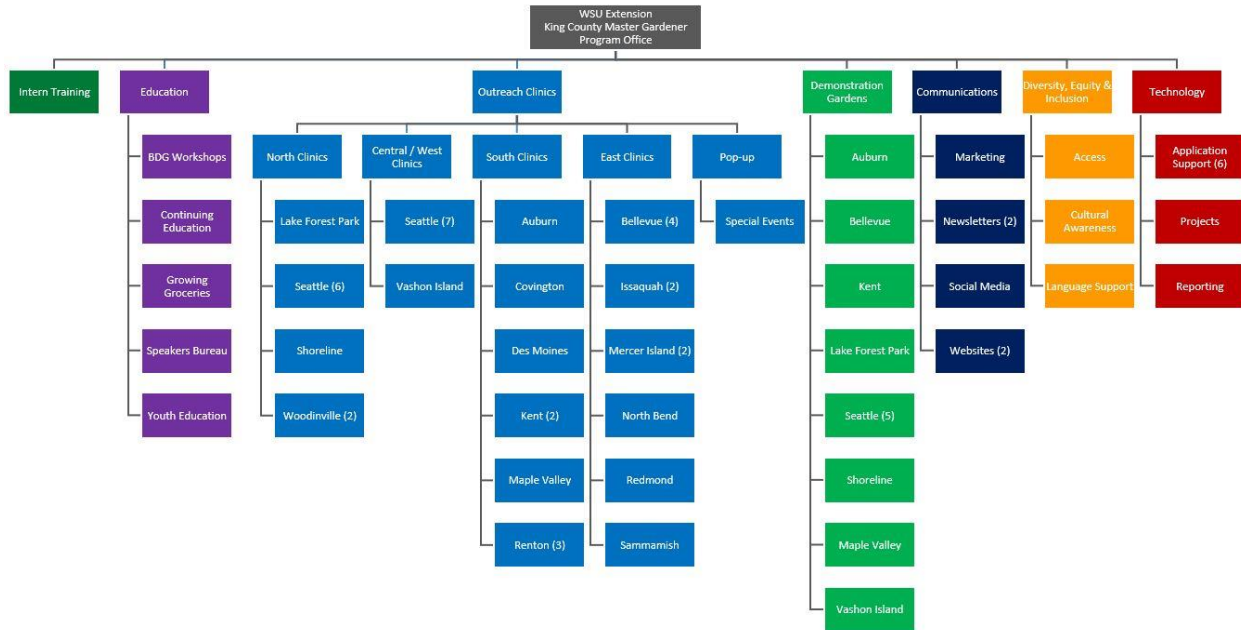
How We Are Organized

The Program operates under the management of WSU Extension and the State Master Gardener Program. The Foundation is a 501c3 dedicated to raising funds to pay for Program operation costs, over and above what WSU provides. The following chart shows how the Program is organized and managed under the auspices of WSU, and how the Foundation is a separate non-profit whose purpose is to raise funds to support the program.



Program Organizational Chart

The Program delivers an extensive set of education, clinics, gardens, classes, and outreach within its organization (see chart below):





2023 Financial Performance

Year To Date

2023 Budget and Estimated (Forecast) Actuals

In January, the 2023 budget was passed by the Foundation Board. We have managed to reduce the deficit by a combination of higher revenues than expected and cost management. Based on year-to-date actuals and an estimate of end-of-year expenses we have made a 2023 Forecast in October for year-end results.

Accounts	2023 Budget	2023 Forecast
Total Revenues*	\$60,759	\$96,485
Foundation Expenses	\$13,399	\$11,942
Program Expenses	\$134,838	\$113,234
Net Income for 2023	\$(87,478)	\$(28,691)
Total Reserves	\$419,112	\$404,809

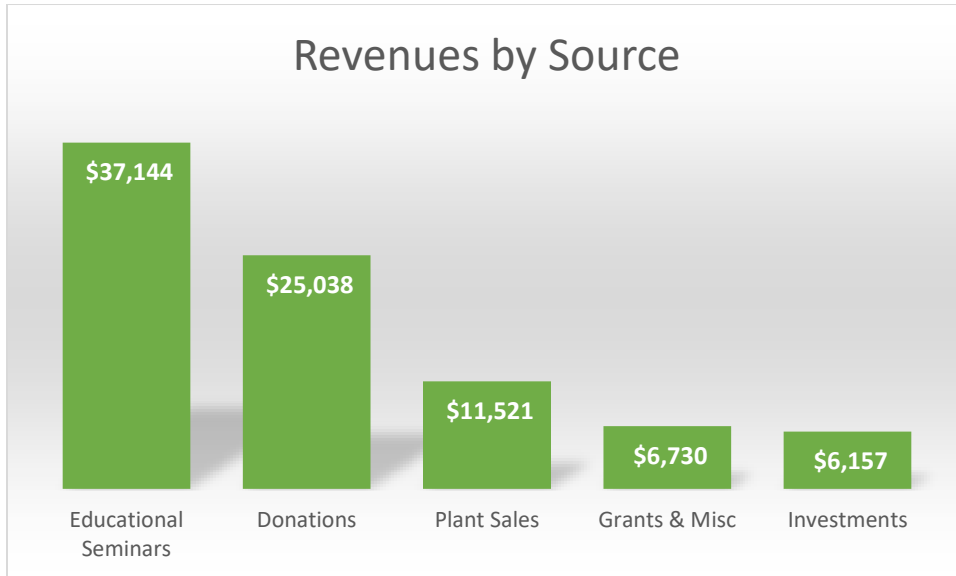
The estimated \$28,691 deficit will be funded from our cash reserve in 2023. The Master Gardener Foundation of King County September 30, 2023, Balance Sheet total was \$404,809.

*WSU contribution of \$105,000 in program expenses in salary and benefits for two positions. The funds do not appear as income or expense for the Foundation because they are paid for through WSU not the Foundation. The full cost of the program including the WSU contribution is \$223,000 (\$108,000+\$105,000).

The following tables provide additional detail for our Revenues, Foundation and Program Expenses.

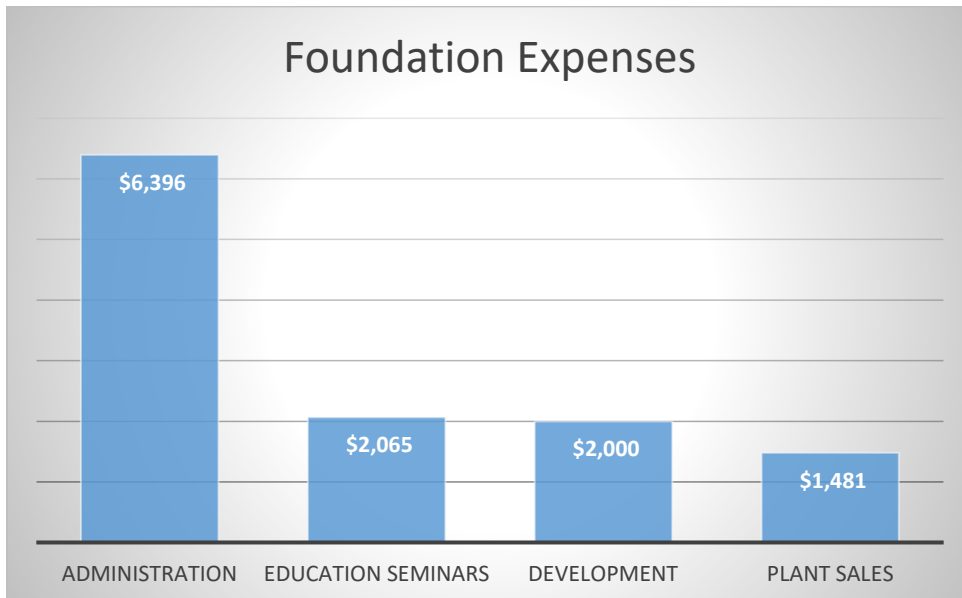
2023 Estimated Revenues: \$96,485

The Foundation has several revenue sources. The different sources are represented below.



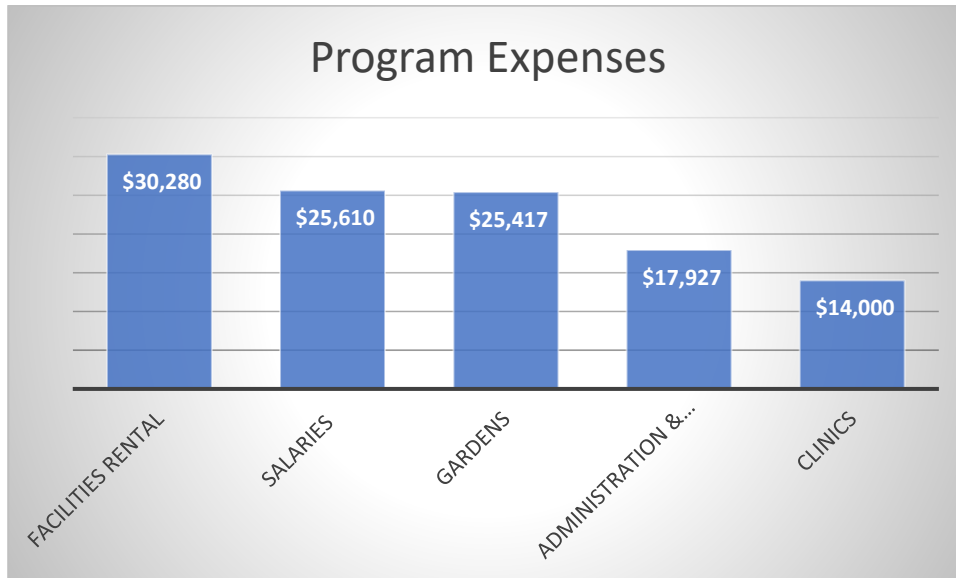
2023 Foundation Estimated Expenses \$11,942

Foundation expenses pay for the costs of the Foundation and to raise funds for the Program.



2023 Program Estimated Expenses \$113,234

The program has a set of expenses that relate to the different activities of the Program.



*WSU contribution \$105,000 annually in salary and benefits for two Program positions, along with enterprise software applications. The funds do not appear as income or expense for the Foundation. The full cost of the Program, including the WSU contribution, is \$212,659 (\$107,659+\$105,000).

Any 2023 deficit remaining after additional fundraising is completed will be funded by our reserves.

2024 Program and Foundation Initiatives

Although the Program and the Foundation are separate organizations, they are tightly linked through fundraising and community outreach. The following outlines our initiatives.



Joan Baldwin, Foundation President and Sarah Moore, Program Coordinator.
Photo by Nora Larsen

Program Initiatives

These Program Initiatives are those that the Program, in collaboration with the Foundation, have developed for implementation in 2024. The primary Master Gardener Program goals are to:

- Continue teaching sustainable gardening practices to address critical issues facing King County residents, such as climate change and food insecurity.
- Increase our in-person events and social opportunities to build our Master Gardener community. (Increase to \$5,000 from 2023 budget of \$1,800.)
- Expand our presence in underserved and underrepresented communities within King County.
- Translate Program materials into a broader range of languages to improve multi-cultural accessibility. (\$5,000 a year for translation services.)

Organizational Initiatives

These Organizational Initiatives are those that the Foundation, in collaboration with the Program, have developed for implementation in 2024. The primary Master Gardener Foundation goals are to:

- Improve Foundation Communications to our members, including posting annual Foundation tax returns, budgets, and board agendas and minutes on the Foundation website.
- Continue to seek out relationships with like-minded organizations who can help us expand and improve our Program goals.
- Move our offices and diagnostic lab to the Extension office in Renton to save \$35,000 a year.
- Manage spending to stay within our projected revenues each year.



2023 Fall Fundraising Appeal

October 16, 2023 – January 15, 2024

Our *Grow with Master Gardeners* fundraising appeal seeks to raise \$50,000 by year end. We have 100% participation by our Foundation Board of Directors. Their donations total \$5,650 towards our goal. Thank you!

Donation Range/Donor Names

\$1000+

Joe & Marisa Jennings

\$500- \$999

Anonymous
Joan Baldwin
Nancy & Jerry Marshall
Dawn Rubstello
Daryl Schlessler

\$250- \$499

Anonymous
Suzi & Steve O'Byrne

\$100 - \$249

Anonymous
Trish Bloor

\$1- \$99

If there are any mistakes in the list or if you desire to remain anonymous, please contact us and we will correct it. vice-president@mgfkc.org



2023 Donors

January 1 – October 15, 2023

We want to recognize and thank our 2023 Donors and our Public Speakers who donate their fees to help fund this year's program. Thank you!

Donation Range/Donor Names

\$1000+

Anonymous
Brandon Bray
Finn Hill Volunteers

Jason Howell
Medtronic Foundation
Stephen Behnen

\$500- \$999

Andrea Borning
Christopher Monger
Cleo Raulerson*
Drs. Jeannette & Carl Pergam

James Ricord
Jim Olson*
Nosa Orobato
The Blackbaud Giving Fund

\$250- \$499

Anonymous
Braymen Fund
Bruce Williams*
Dawn Rubstello
Island Market Co. Inc
Joe and Marisa Jennings

Laura Watson*
Molly Van Der Burch*
Nancy & Jerry Marshall
Randi Smith – volunteer hours
Tesmerelna Atsbeha Fund
Timber Partners

\$100- \$249

AmazonSmile
Amy Kaminishi
King County Employee Giving
Lake Forest Park Garden Club

Bruce Caredio
Claire Acey McKinney
Connie Rezendes
Constance Kelly

Daryl Schlessner
Diane Scott
Fred Wemer*
Iben Dransfield
Jane Stockert
Lakeshore Garden Club WSFGS
Lin Provost

Margaret Safranek
Marie Kurka-Brown
Philip & Patty Fordyce
Phillis M. Milder
Sandra Booren
Sarah Moore
Terry Roche

\$1- \$99

Anonymous (3)
Ashita Poonja
Bruce Bennett*
Carolyn Terry
Cowen Alexander
Duvall Friends of the
Library*
Eileen Little
Elizabeth Miles
Emile Castle*
Helen Parke
Issaquah Garden Club
James Vaupell
Jill Barry
Jill McPherson
Jim Little*
Joan Baldwin
Kathleen McGinn
Kathy Kreps

Kelley McHenry
Laurin Cady
Li Tian
Maria Gerace
Marie Adlhoch
Mary Dempsey
Melanie Blair
Photography
Mostafa Moktari
Penny Bolton*
Sally Buckley
Stan Lum
Susan Travis
Suzi & Steve O'Byrne
Warren Ash

*Includes Speaker Honorariums

If there are any mistakes in the list or if you desire to remain anonymous, please contact us and we will correct it. vice-president@mgfkc.org



2023 Program Leadership

We would like to recognize the Program Leadership Team who are the program every day of the year. Thank you!

Program Office	Sarah Moore Program Coordinator Nora Larson, Program Assistant
Clinics	Wesa Anderson
Communications	Marty Byrne
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion (DEI)	Gia Parsons and Janine Allen
Education	Dawn Rubstello
Gardens	TBD
Technology	Emanii Owens



2023-24 Foundation Board Members

We would like to recognize our past and current board members and officers who work to raise funds for the program. Thank you!

Board Members

Joan Baldwin
Class of 2018
President
Joined the Board in 2023

Trish Bloor
Class of 2019
Joined the Board in 2020

Phil Fordyce
Secretary
Class of 2014
Joined the Board in 2022

Joe Jennings
Class of 2022
Vice President
Joined the Board in 2023

Matt Jennings
Class of 2022
Joined the Board in 2023

TerryJo (TJ) Johnson
Class Of 2016
Joined the Board in 2019

Linda Kaufman
Class of 2017
Joined the Board in 2023

Nancy Marshall
Class of 2007
Treasurer
Joined the Board in 2022

Suzi O’Byrne
Class of 2009
Joined the Board in 2020

Linda Peterson
Class of 2015
Joined the Board in 2022

Lin Provost
Class of 2020
Joined the Board in 2022

Dawn Rubstello
Class of 2020
Joined the Board in 2023

Gary Scheider
Class of 2010
Joined the Board in 2023, 2013-2019

Daryl Schlessor
Class of 2003
Joined the Board in 2023

Retiring Board Members

Jim Olson
Class of 2013
President 2019-2023
Director 2016-2023

Bruce Caredio
Class of 2015
Director 2020-2023

Carrie Hill
Class of 2014
President 2018-2019
Director 2017-2023

Amy Lee
Class of 2016
Director 2017-2023

Bruce Williams
Class of 2016
Director 2019-2023

STANDING COMMITTEES

Finance and Audit
Nancy Marshall, Treasurer/Chair

Development
Joe Jennings, Vice President/Chair



2023 Partners

We would like to recognize all the organizations that enable us to deliver our services county-wide. They provide space, resources, collaborations, and friendships which have enabled King County Master Gardeners to flourish for 50 years. Thank you!

Arboretums, Botanical Gardens and Parks	Bellevue, Carkeek Park, Kent, Lake Wilderness Arboretum, Sammamish, Soos Creek, Washington Park Arboretum, Woodland Park Zoo
Churches and Public Organizations	St John Vianney Catholic Church, El Centro de la Raza
Cities	Auburn, Bellevue, Lake Forest Park, Shoreline
Community Gardens	Magnuson Community Garden
Farmers Markets	Auburn, Ballard, Crossroads, Des Moines Waterfront, Issaquah, Lake City, Maple Valley, Mercer Island, North Bend, Redmond, Renton, Sammamish, Shoreline, University District, Wallingford, West Seattle, Woodinville
Horticultural organizations	Bellevue Botanical Garden Society, Northwest Horticultural Society, PlantAmnesty, Washington Native Plant Society, Woodinville Garden Club
King County and City of Seattle	King County Conservation District, Food Banks King County Public Library System Seattle Public Library System
Nurseries	Bellevue Nursery, East Hill Nursery, Kent East Hill Nursery, Molbak's Nursery, Squak Mountain Nursery,
Retailers	Ace Hardware, Fred Meyer, Home Depot, McLendon Hardware, Rite Aid
Schools	Shorewood High School Culinary Program, José Martí Child Development Center, Luis Alfonso Velasquez After School Program
Master Gardener Programs	WSU Extension State Master Gardener Program, Master Gardener Foundation of Washington State



2023 Board Agendas and Minutes

The board posts its monthly meeting agendas and minutes on the [Board](#) page of the foundation website.

Prior Year Tax Filings

Based on the Foundation’s annual tax returns, you will find below our total revenue, expenses, deficit, and fund balances for the past 5 years.

Years	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022*
Total revenue	\$94,778	\$113,629	\$58,446	\$102,121	\$95,907
Total expenses	\$124,455	\$79,401	\$101,973	\$100,877	\$102,593
Excess or(deficit) for the year	\$(29,677)	\$34,228	\$(43,527)	\$1,244	\$(6,686)
Net assets or fund balances	\$301,880	\$336,108	\$292,581	\$293,825	\$ 391,452

*Not filed as of 10/13/23

Please see the IRS 990 tax filings by year for further information.

[2022](#) |
 [2021](#) |
 [2020](#) |
 [2019](#) |
 [2018](#)



Being Thankful

Thank you for reading our first Annual Report. You know after three years of Covid, Zoom meetings, and many, many disruptions – we are still here and serving our mission. We are challenged but we have plans to make the best of the opportunities before us and grow Master Gardeners to serve King County.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Joan Baldwin, President, Master Gardener Foundation of King County
president@mgfkc.org

Joe Jennings, Vice President, Master Gardener Foundation of King County, and Development Chair
vice-president@mgfkc.org