



2017 Growing Seeds of Hope

Our Impact - By the Numbers

- Recent analysis shows over *4.5 million people* living in poverty while *3 million people* - including *1/4* of all children - suffer from hunger and food insecurity in the areas represented by the Episcopal Diocese of LA (EDLA).
- EDLA is addressing this issue by growing food at nearly *100 locations*, and distributing food through *60 food pantries* and *50 feeding programs!* Over *200 institutions* of the diocese have some form of health programming.
- Seeds of Hope has distributed Over *700,000 lbs* of healthy food - that's over *14,000 lbs* of fresh, nutritious food distributed per week thanks to our partnerships with Food Forward, the LA Food Bank, and the numerous food distribution programs of the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles.
- Seeds of Hope has completed over *300 classes* offering healthy cooking, nutrition and gardening instruction to hundreds of amazing friends!

Three More Years Championing Change

At the outset of 2017, Seeds of Hope was awarded a grant from the California Department of Public Health and the U.S Department of Agriculture to continue our work with the Champions for Change initiative. This grant awarded the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles and our Seeds of Hope ministry \$880,000 to continue to provide our unique brand of garden-based nutrition education!

Feeding Hungry Hearts

Thanks to growing partnerships with amazing non-profits and friends like Food Forward, we've been able to expand our capacity for accepting and distributing food for the food insecure. In 2017 alone, we were able to collect and distribute over 700,000 lbs of produce from Food Forward's orchard, backyard, farm, and farmer's market gleaning operations! We were even featured as a valued partner in the *Crazy Good Turns* podcast highlighting Food Forward and our shared work in LA!

A Pico Union Partnership

Vida Sana! This year, we were able to share even more of the good life with our friends at the Pico Union Project. A new pop up produce market was added to the block party style health event where we've been able to share food, teach cooking, dance, create, and grow. This twice monthly program has been a huge success and was featured in an agency highlight from the Department of Public Health's Champions for Change Healthy Communities Initiative Newsletter.

Sharing Ideas and Growing the Movement

In 2017, we've been blessed to be a part of some amazing events and coalitions for addressing food insecurity and pursuing food justice. Seeds of Hope Executive Director Tim Alderson was a featured speaker and key in organizing City of Hope's Nutrition Science and Food Policy summit and continues to be instrumental in growing and intensifying Los Angeles' focus on creative and sustainable agriculture and food justice initiatives. Our team has become a key resource in the discussion of what's next for food justice and urban ag in Los Angeles.

Looking Forward and Continuing the Work!

We've had an amazing year in 2017 working with the Department of Public Health, continuing in our role as Champions for Change, and seeking to live into and share Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles Bishop John Taylor's vision of Feeding Hungry Hearts while planting Seeds of Hope and Cultivating Wellness in Los Angeles as Bishop J. Jon Bruno commissioned us to do. We look forward to stepping into 2018 with our work boots tightened and getting our hands dirty with all of our amazing friends, partners, and supporters all over Los Angeles and throughout the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles!

