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TRANSFORMING DETROIT THROUGH ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION

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ABOUT GREEN LIVING SCIENCE

MISSION
To transform Detroit by teaching about waste and recycling.

Green Living Science is dedicated to working alongside Detroiter to increase recycling participation and awareness of environmental issues and personal responsibility through education.

VISION
Universal environmental literacy, advocacy, stewardship, and justice.

Green Living Science envisions a Detroit with a robust circular economy and citizens who are mindful about our environment and natural resources.
It’s amazing what can be accomplished when a community comes together for a shared goal.

Ten years ago Detroit Public Schools Community District made a request to bring recycling education to its students to educate about the 3R’s: Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle. From the early days of assemblies and in-class lessons to the robust programming GLS puts on now for all ages – I’D SAY WE HAVE ACCOMPLISHED QUITE A LOT – TOGETHER.

Our tenth year was a busy one like any other. Together we...

- held 36 community workshops, resulting in 2,000 recycling cart signups.
- launched our virtual Pre-K lessons - sharing early concepts of the 3R’s to 191 students.
- gave our BEE Green Plastic STEAM Machine a workout at a summer camp, at Belle Isle, and our Earth Day Trivia event at Eastern Market Brewing Co.
- had a kickoff for a new round of curbside recycling ambassadors - renewing the passion for local organizing to support neighborhood recycling.
- engaged 159 5th grade students as part of our Earth Day programming.
- hosted an after school program through GOALine engaging 7 students as Planet Protectors
- certified 4 BEE Green Businesses and began the BEE Green audit and certification for the Henry Ford Health Systems.
- created new YouTube videos to help provide virtual learning tools to share the 3 R’s with students of all ages.
- hosted our first ever virtual Art & Amble fundraiser and reached our $25,000 goal!
- printed the Life of Poly comic book - a fun way to share the importance of protecting the environment with students.
2021 also saw a number of operational changes that you may have noticed. Said farewell to Mary Claire last summer after 8 years at GLS, and Samantha after 2 years on staff (and even longer as a GLS volunteer). We then welcomed Madi as our Director of Community Engagement - if you haven’t met her yet reach out and say hi.

In addition we have made the move that many have to an entirely remote work environment. 2021 also saw the addition of two new board members - who we are so excited to have as part of our team.

This coming year GLS will focus on ways to engage with students in ways that are creative, unique and still provide a fun learning experience as well as reintegrating back in the classroom. We will also be working on ways to engage older students in civic engagement that continues to support our mission. If you have any creative ideas or opportunities for creating civic engagement with our students, reach out and let me know. We are also always looking for volunteers to help support our efforts. GLS is a community effort that succeeds when we work together to create positive change.

**THANK YOU FOR BEING PART OF THE COMMUNITY WE’VE BUILT HERE AT GLS.**

Thank you for being part of the community that is committed to the future of our youth, city and planet. Your passion, donations, and engagement continue to support us to achieve big things.

Thank you again for a great 10th year.

Natalie Jakub
Executive Director
TEN YEARS OF GREEN LIVING SCIENCE

2011
Green Living Science is incorporated as a 501c3 nonprofit

2012
GLS assists DPSCD schools in setting up recycling programs

2013
Launched 3rd grade program utilizing Arts & Scraps recycling machine kits

2014
Challenge Detroit fellows created the BEE Green Business Program to assist businesses to set up recycling and waste reduction programs

2015
The Erb Family Foundation supported residential participation in Detroit’s curbside recycling program & launch of the Curbside Recycling Ambassador program

2016
GLS received a contract with the city of Detroit to increase the number of residents successfully participating in the curbside recycling program

2017
Assisted in launching the City of Detroit’s first annual Earth Day Celebration

2018
Received a Spirit of Detroit award, and conduct a recycling audit for the city of Detroit in partnership with Resource Recycling Systems

2019
Purchased the trailer for the Bee Green Plastic STEAM Machine with funding provided by DTE and GM Foundation

2020
Received funding from Mercedes-Benz Financial Services to support the development of educational videos and support for virtual Pre-K programming

2021
Launched our student recycling ambassador program
What I love the most about Green Living Science is the awareness and in depth programming it brings to Detroit’s youth! The successful programming provided to Detroit and surrounding cities, ensures youth will have an understanding of the importance of environmental education. I love the dedication and support it gives to Detroit. A staple organization within the community making sustainable change allowing conversations, programming, and education of recycling and transforming Detroit.

- Leatrice Thompson, Board of Director
Thank you to GM & Mercedes-Benz Financial Services for financial support to print our "Life of Poly Plastic" comic books.

159 5th grade students as part of our Earth Day programming

662 Students, from 38 schools received lessons from GLS Educator

Created 7 new YouTube videos to help provide virtual learning tools to share the 3 R’s with students of all ages.
COMMUNITY PROGRAMMING

2,000 CURBSIDE RECYCLING CART SIGNUPS

36 COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

29 CURRENTLY TRAINED RECYCLING AMBASSADORS

NEW CURBSIDE RECYCLING AMBASSADORS
CERTIFIED 4 BEE GREEN BUSINESSES AND BEGAN THE BEE GREEN AUDIT AND CERTIFICATION FOR HENRY FORD HEALTH SYSTEM FACILITIES.
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Revenues & Income $161,800

Expenses $150,300

SPECIAL THANKS TO THE FOLLOWING DONORS

CITY OF DETROIT – DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
GIRL SCOUTS OF SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN
HENRY FORD HEALTH SYSTEMS
IN LOVING MEMORY OF MELISSA BARTON
AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION
GLOBAL ALLIANCE FOR INCINERATOR ALTERNATIVES

US ECOLOGY
MGM RESORTS FOUNDATION
MERCEDES–BENZ FINANCIAL SERVICES
WASTE MANAGEMENT
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