



RYAN GRAHAM
TGG GRADUATE, STAFF, BOARD MEMBER
FUTURE OF GOOD RECIPIENT

SPOTLIGHT ON A GRADUATE

The Future of Good award is a humanitarian award distributed by U.S. Cellular that "champions and invests in youth who are doing good things in their communities." It's a national level recognition prize awarded to only 5 young people in the country.

Ryan was nominated for the award because of his ability to lead the 2016 Teens as an Educator and for his service on the Teens Grow Greens Board of Directors.

After reading about his role and a short conversation, the Future of Good representatives selected Ryan.

The prize was a \$4,000 donation to help expand Teens Grow Greens, \$6,000 to a scholarship fund in his name (The Ryan Graham Scholarship of Excellence), a documentary about his story (find it on the U.S. Cellular homepage on November 29th), and an all expenses paid trip to New York in December for a media coverage event at the New York Stock Exchange to recognize all the Future of Good recipients.

Thanks to U.S. Cellular's generosity, Teens Grow Greens will be able to reach out into another community and leave a positive impact. Thanks to the scholarship, Ryan will be able to fund some of his college costs and he will continue to reward excellence by leading the selection committee to other youth who are outstanding leaders.

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WE NEED YOU!

IN ORDER TO CONTINUE TO GROW THE
NUMBER OF TEENS WE HIRE AND TO
EXPAND OUR GARDEN PRODUCTION WE
NEED YOUR SUPPORT.

**DONATE ONLINE AT
TEENSGROWGREENS.ORG**



TeensGrowGreens

ANNUAL REPORT 2016



TEENS GROW GREENS IS A 501 (C)(3)
NON-PROFIT WHERE TEENS LEARN,
GROW AND GO!

SUCCESS THROUGH NUMBERS

90% of Graduates from 2014 and 2015 obtained and retained employment for the following summer

88% of our 2016 Teens secured a second job by November

On average, Teens reported a 67% positive health shift, according to our Healthy Living Survey.

100% of Graduates of Teens Grow Greens graduated or are on track to graduate from high school

THE NUMBERS ARE IN...

In a comprehensive survey of Teens Grow Greens, the Graduates rated the program

4.2 OUT OF 5

& the mentors/guardians rated the program

4.6 OUT OF 5



Briana never had a little sister until she met Jessica during the Leadership Unit. During the summer, Briana mentored Jessica in how to grow food, character and community. Briana said "Jessica changed me because I never had someone that looked up to me." Their relationship reinforced her desire to become a firefighter. "She inspired me because I want to help people and save somebody's life just like I saved Jessica from the bad moments." Briana plans to enroll in the Fire Cadet Program once she Graduates from high school in 2017.

Thadniya (Niya) Glaude, a graduate of Teens Grow Greens, barely spoke throughout the first few months of the program. With time and support, she opened up to everyone. Niya performed well during our entrepreneurship unit with her teammate, creating Peppy Pops. They excelled at Pitch Night and we started to see a change in Niya. Now, she is confident and she decided that she wants to join the national guard and become a juvenile correctional officer to help young people. She said, "They already feel like everyone has given up on them and I want to change that." Niya is a strong person. She has found her voice and is a leader.



GRADUATES OF TEENS GROW GREENS HAVE A PORTFOLIO INCLUDING:

- A resume supported with skills, experience and connections to future careers
- A savings account
- Quarterly support to achieve their goals

FOCUS ON TEENS...

We are expanding the class of 2017 to 22 paid internship positions for 14 - 17 year olds. Go to TeensGrowGreens.org to download an application. Applications are due on Monday, December 19th.



FOCUS ON NEIGHBORHOODS..

We focus our recruitment on teens that live or go to school in **Harambee Franklin Heights Amani***

*In 2017, we are expanding our search to the Amani neighborhood.

