Dear Friends,

This Fall, our trainees have transitioned from farm to workshop and are creating beautiful products using materials grown on the farm. We’re thrilled to be returning downtown for our Holiday Store in the Cooperhouse Breezeway.

At the farm and in the workshop, there is so much more happening than meets the eye! The most meaningful way to understand how our programs support well-being and transformation is to hear from our trainees. We feature Lienallie’s powerful story here, and you can also hear from Ali, Justin and Shannon on our blog.

I hope these stories deepen your understanding of our programs and the people we serve; and that the work we accomplish together gives you joy and meaning. It is an honor to work with our courageous trainees, who again and again affirm the power of hope, and with you, our generous community partners!

Thank you for partnering with us to help people “find the tools they need to build a home in the world!”

Darrie Ganzhorn
Executive Director

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Voices from the Field
Lienallie shared her story at the farm’s Permaculture Action Day, Nov. 4, 2017

Prior to entering this program, my life was probably parallel to many of yours. I had a job, a house and many plans and goals for my future. However when my job dissolved, I experienced homelessness and the loss of stability. I felt completely hopeless.

I was raised in a single parent household, the youngest of six siblings, and I experienced the loss of my Dad at a very young age. The loss manifested into a deep anger within my spirit, which still affects me today. This anger has led to difficulties within my personal and professional relationships and ultimately led to my arrival at HGP.

Here amongst the flowers and vegetables we replant our own paths in life. We cry, laugh and work together. We push forward into all we are destined to become because we have been gifted with the time to grow on the farm.

HGP has offered me the ability to catch up with myself emotionally, and showed me how to interface with people in my community in a productive fashion. Of all

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Mailing label

the skills I’ve acquired here at the farm, most important to me is the ability to be an effective communicator. I plan to continue to develop this skill, which will serve me for a lifetime.

In closing, thank you again for this opportunity to share my experience at the farm. I’m so thankful for the farm and the opportunity to transform my anger that ultimately held me back.

I crawled in like a caterpillar and am emerging as a butterfly. I look forward to seeing you on the farm in the future!

— Lienallie has secured a job that begins after her graduation from HGP and has enrolled at Cabrillo College for the upcoming Spring Semester.

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The farm has given me the platform to evolve beyond the anger that held me back.

Dried Flower Wreaths
Beeswax Candles
Bath & Body Products

Artisanal Jams & Pickles
Hand-Crafted Jewelry
Baking Mixes & Herb Salts

Downtown Santa Cruz: 110 Cooper St, Suite 100G
in the Cooperhouse Breezeway
Open Daily 10 - 8
Through Dec 24 & Closed Thanksgiving

Capitola Village
222 Esplanade
Wed-Sat 11-7 & Sun 11-4
Closed Thanksgiving

Online Store:
shop.homelessgardenproject.org

Interested in volunteering at our Holiday Store?
Contact KerenR@homelessgardenproject.org

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