

Variety-the Children's Charity of the Delaware Valley would like to extend our sincerest thanks and appreciation to the Hardy Plant Society for the gracious award of \$291.00. It is because of your generosity that we were able to incorporate a microgreen production program as well as the upcoming highly anticipated blueberry shrubs into our gardens. These additions to our greenhouses help our VarietyWorks, Summer Vocational, and Youth Gardens programs by teaching the importance of agricultural and horticultural skills to help these children, young adults and adults develop the necessary skills to succeed.

The microgreen production program had some successful harvest including arugula, blaze mix, broccoli and mild mix. The harvest of these microgreens were used in our Farm-to- Table program for four weeks, three weeks of our Summer Vocational program and as a part of our curriculum in our Extended School Year program. Participants in these programs were trained in the seeding, harvesting and cooking process of all of the produce. The anticipated blueberry shrub has been purchased and should be planted in early fall after soil amendments are made to ensure the proper root zone to ensure longevity of the scrub. The scrub will be used in all greenhouse programs in the future, where participants will harvest, bake, and sell the blueberries in a pop up shop farm camp.

This year, Variety used the funding to produce one pound of each microgreen including: arugula, blaze mix, broccoli and mild mix, which were harvested in the summer by multiple programs on Variety's campus. The remaining funds were used to purchase blueberry shrubs.

\$109.25 microgreens

\$181.75 blueberry bushes

\$291 total grant

Once again, we would like to thank Hardy Plant Society for supporting Variety the Children's Charity of the Delaware Valley by helping us provide agricultural and horticultural training to youth with disabilities.

