

Goals and Impacts

Measuring Our Progress

The mission of the College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences (CAUSES) of the University of the District of Columbia is to offer research-based academic and community outreach programs that improve quality of life and economic opportunity of people and communities in the District of Columbia, the nation, and the world.

The land-grant programs of CAUSES are delivered through five land-grant centers and institutes:

- 1** Center for Urban Agriculture & Gardening Education
- 2** Center for Sustainable Development & Resilience; and the Water Resources Research Institute
- 3** Center for Nutrition, Diet & Health; and the Institute of Gerontology
- 4** Center for 4-H & Youth Development
- 5** Center for Architectural Innovation & Building Science; and the Architectural Research Institute

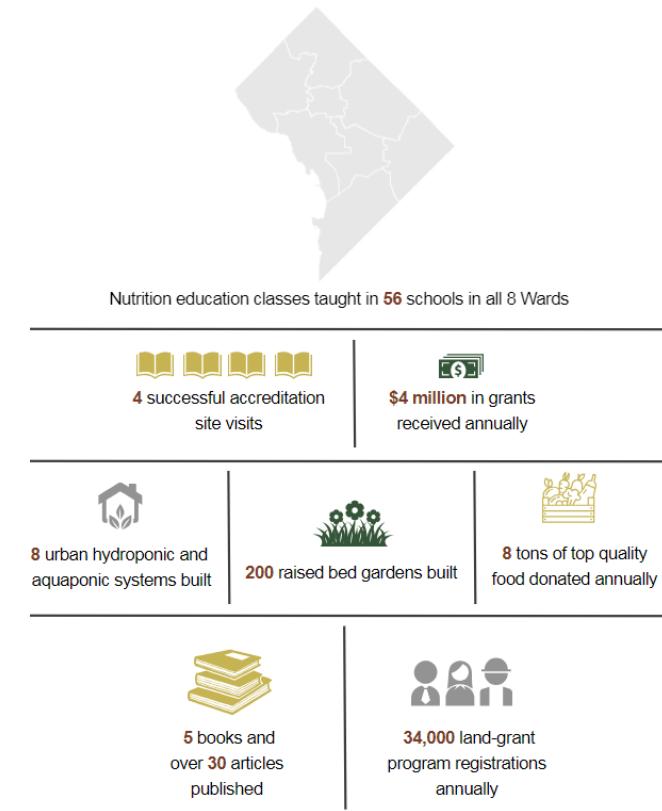
The academic programs of CAUSES are delivered through two departments:

- 1** Department of Health, Nursing & Nutrition
- 2** Department of Architecture and Urban Sustainability

Both academic departments offer innovative, interdisciplinary undergraduate and graduate programs that focus on developing healthy cities, healthy people, and showing their mutual connection. CAUSES is also launching a Ph.D. program in Urban Leadership and Entrepreneurship to train the new generation of urban leaders who are skilled at navigating complex social, cultural, and physical environments.

In the Community

The five land-grant centers offer diverse services, including applied research to advance knowledge about local food systems, nutrition, green infrastructure, and urban sustainability. The outreach programs of the centers range from nutrition education in schools, to food safety certification, green business development workshops, assistance with farmers markets and community gardens, and assessment services that determine soil and water quality, lead contamination, and other environmental hazards.



Research to Build Capacity

The research and outreach education activities of CAUSES benefit the community, as well as the students enrolled in the academic programs of the University. Students gain marketable skills through internships and summer employment in the land-grant centers. Students enhance their learning experience through active, hands-on training, research collaborations with land-grant specialists, leadership development experiences, and networking opportunities through interactions with local residents and community organizations.

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