Earth Force Summer of Service, Belen -
Students served Valencia County by working with the Corazon de Belen Community Garden and school gardens, developed a website and a Facebook presence. Students preparing the soil at Central Elementary.

Taos Academy & Taos Middle School, Taos
Partnered with Tierra Lucero Farm to build plantings on campus, took field trips to the farm, and used produce in the culinary arts classes.

Nia (6th grade) “I’ve learned methods for how to harvest different vegetables and how their tastes can be brought out in cooking”
Aria (7th grade) “It’s great to get experience growing and cooking your own food. These are life skills that will last us the rest of our lives”
Solomon (8th grade) “The work in the greenhouse gives us motivation to build more gardens and live sustainably”

Healthy Kids Healthy Community Grant County, Silver City- Bayard Elementary School students visited Townside Farm as part of the Farm to School week. Farm Manager, Doug, gave the kids a tour, filled with plenty of samples. “The oos and ahhs were worth it,” said Doug. He added “I love it!”

Mark Twain Elementary School, Albuquerque - Significantly expanded the space for garden activities by building or re-habilitating 5 bed areas and had a Fall Festival. ‘Our kids learned new vocabulary, concepts & expressed their curiosity’

A 2nd grade student who was moving soil commented: “At home I just use a shovel to clean up the dog mess. Here I get to help dig the garden.”

Sampling of the projects supported by
Farm to School Educational Activities, 2012
$16,000 to 22 diverse NM community-based projects
Made possible by the Nirvana Mañana Institute

Farm to Table
Fostering fun learning experiences between kids, schools and local foods!

Farm to Table’s Farm to School Educational Program supports activities that make that critical link between children, youth, their families, schools, agriculture, and the development of healthier eating habits.

Participating in the Farm program with Taos Academy changed the lives of some of my students. I had high risk students from families with low income that completely flourished by going to the greenhouse and to the farm.

One student, a selective mute, was talking by the end of the school year. Another student who was afraid of touch was leading the group at the farm by the end of the year.

We had to walk to both Taos Academy and Tierra Lucero Farm from our school. The walk was approximately a quarter of a mile and took half an hour at the beginning of the year. By the end of the year, it took us 10 minutes.

The walk, along with the produce, taught healthy habits in a way no textbook could!”
-Mrs. McPartlon-Teacher at Taos Middle School

A 5th grader commented, “We’re like ants building a new community!” Another student remarked “At home this is called work. But here, it’s fun!”

We believe that building ‘community’ and forging more links between home and school, is critically important...on our students’ food and environment... Teacher Mark Twain Middle School, Albuquerque
Farm to School Educational Activities supported:

**Acequia Madre Elementary School, Santa Fe**
- School garden... *A place to explore, and discover Nature.*

**NM Ag in the Classroom, Las Cruces**
- Agriculture literacy program.

**Apple Tree Educational Center, T or C**
- School garden and nutrition program.

**Mesilla Valley Youth Foundation (Court Youth Center), Las Cruces**
- At the Court Youth Center and two other school sites, participants built gardens, had a series of workshops, started a youth apprenticeship program, ran culinary classes, and developed community partnerships.

**Earth Force Summer of Service, Albuquerque**
- Students conducted local food surveys to research ways of connecting neighbors to locally grown foods; explored the ecosystem of the Bosque with an Open Space guide; learned more about the watershed and what they could do to improve it.

**Earth Force Summer of Service, Belen**

**Eastern New Mexico University, Roswell**
- Farmers in classrooms and container gardens.

**Española Farmers Market, Española**
- Nutrition and culinary workshops at the Farmers Market.

**Growing Up Montessori Pre-School, Santa Fe**
- School gardening project... *‘inspired observation, teamwork, experimentation, and communication among Preschool students’*

**Healthy Kids Healthy Communities Grant County, Silver City**
- The 745 students at 4 elementary schools were served locally grown snacks for 3 days; went on a filed trip to a small farm in the area, incorporated reports and other activities in their curriculum.

**La Semilla Food Center, Gadsden School District, Anthony/Las Cruces**
- Developed 43 new garden beds in 5 new school garden sites, worked in 7 schools with over 850 students, ran nutritional education and afterschool garden and Cooking Clubs.

**Mark Twain Elementary School, Albuquerque**

*See highlights (reverse)*

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**Mesilla Elementary School, Mesilla**
- Three field trips to Farmers Market, Southern NM State Fair, and to the NM Ranch & Heritage Museum exposed 354 students (K-5th grade) to a full array of the agricultural pursuits in the southern part of the state.

**Our Lady of Guadalupe Church Summer Food Service Program, Clovis**
- Purchased Peanuts, Pecans and Watermelon from local producers to add to the breakfast and lunch programs served to 2,950 meals per day for children in Clovis, Tucayo, and Ft Sumner. Nutrition education, was provided by a nutritionist from the County Extension Service.

**Placitas Elementary School, Placitas**
- Built a greenhouse to integrate its use with a variety of educational programs.

**Rio Grande Community Farm, Los Ranchos de Albuquerque**
- The Farm Camp, served 62 children with agricultural and cooking activities.

**Salazar Elementary School, Santa Fe**
- Greenhouse and garden washing station, held a Community Harvest Festival, and educational activities.

**Santa Fe High School, Santa Fe**
- School garden.

**Taos Academy & Taos Middle School, Taos**
- Working on Wellness, Taos Pueblo Day School, El Prado Several beds were planted by 30 students, veggies and berries were grown and consumed by the students.

**Wilson Middle School, Albuquerque**
- School garden.

**Zuni Youth Enrichment Project, Zuni**
- The Summer Camp was kicked off with a grand community gathering in which elders and young people shared ideas and stories and planted out the gardens together. There were 60 young campers and 17 youth camp counselors. For the duration of the summer, campers participated in gardening, physical activity, and nutrition education, all infused with learning about Zuni culture and traditions.

*While gardening at the Court Youth Center in Las Cruces, I have learned that being patient and working hard for something can yield not only a direct product (vegetation) but a positive change in your life. Gardening can bring people together—whether those people are friends or family or maybe even just the surrounding community. I learned that people are a lot like plants. We have certain needs in order to grow. We can grow closer or farther away from something. But above all we need someone or something to nourish us so that we can grow to our full potential.*

—CYC Youth Apprentice Dena Hurab