

# Teens for Food Justice

by CHRISTINA SAINT LOUIS FEBRUARY 24, 2017

What does social entrepreneurship mean to 6th and 7th graders? Teens for Food Justice students at the Urban Assembly Unison school in Brooklyn, New York have an answer to that. They have supported each other's passion for healthy food and change-driven



entrepreneurship—and refuse to be quiet about it. Inspired by leading women in food justice advocacy such as Haile Thomas, Karen Washington, and Tanya Fields, the students set out in

late January to plan a food market that would provide freshly grown produce, cooking demonstrations and recipe tastings to the Clinton Hill community.



To do so, they branched into three committees: marketing, design, and management, and collaboratively planned the event over several weeks during the afterschool time. Partnering with Wellness in the Schools and the American Heart Association, our all-women mentor team

then guided the girls in crafting a market and community-wide event. It communicated a message of heart health at Family Fitness Fun Night, the school's bi-annual, festive evening to encourage healthy lifestyles. In addition to being exposed to recipes made with produce grown by TFFJ teens (and the opportunity to purchase these items affordably at the student-run

farmers' market), attendees enjoyed various exercise sessions of yoga, pop pilates, zumba, basketball, and fitness challenges.

If this is what social entrepreneurship looks like to middle schoolers, then the future leaders of our society will surely consist of confident, justice-oriented and business-minded individuals.

For more information about Teens for Food Justice, [info@teensforfoodjustice.org](mailto:info@teensforfoodjustice.org)

