

Agency Highlight

National Health Foundation

Farm Stand 2.0: Health Promotion through Participatory Design

[Health Academy](#) is an after-school program operated by [National Health Foundation](#) at Thomas Jefferson Senior High in Los Angeles. In the Health Academy, students work towards Champions for Change goals by focusing on nutrition education, policy, systems & environmental changes, and civic engagement. Last school year, the Health Academy successfully launched



Mobile edible garden unit (part of a larger 7-unit structure)

the school-wide implementation of their [Mini Farm Stand](#) project, which aimed to improve access to healthy foods at school by saving the surplus of fruit and other non-perishable food items from the LAUSD Breakfast in the Classroom (BIC) program. Students placed food in baskets decorated as mini farm stands in every classroom, making healthy snacks available throughout the day at no cost to students and virtually eliminating waste from the BIC program.

Because of its success and the recognition it garnered through blogs and other social media posts, the Mini Farm Stand project caught the attention of [Woodbury University School of Architecture](#). Through an unexpected but innovative partnership between architecture students and students of the Health Academy, [Farm Stand 2.0](#) was born.

Architecture students held a series of workshops with the Health Academy students to talk about career opportunities in architecture, engage in discussions of the intersections between health and design, and work collaboratively to design and build four structures to be gifted to Thomas Jefferson Senior High.

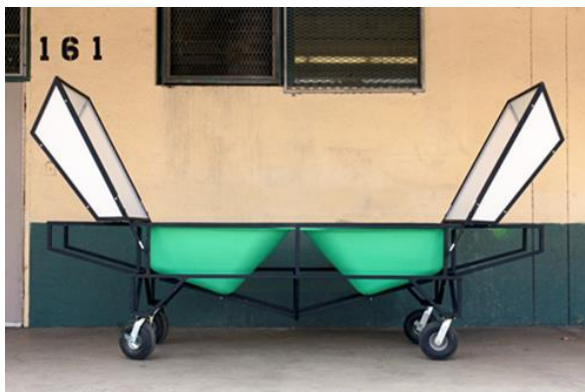
The result was the creation of four beautiful structures that not only aimed to beautify, but also to purposefully address issues around food waste, food security, and community engagement within the school.



Multipurpose cart to hold food and other school merchandise to sell during football games and other school events



7-unit structure featuring mobile gardens, food storage and additional seating



"Meal barrow" - grab-n-go lunch cart crafted from repurposed wheel barrows



Mobile lounge where students can socialize, study, and/or rest