



Impact Report

2023

Our Vision

GoFarm envisions a local food system that is equitable, resilient, environmentally sustainable, and inclusive. One in which farmers and farm workers have the resources they need to thrive and farm safely, community members have reliable access to healthy, local, and sustainably grown food, and everyone feels inspired to engage in their local food system.



Our Values

Equity

We believe that racial, social, and economic equity is fundamental to a strong local food system and healthy community. We support the just and equitable distribution of and access to healthy food, resources, and opportunities. GoFarm is committed to programming that is culturally and linguistically responsive to the communities we serve.

Collaboration

We value collaboration, inclusivity, and community partnerships. We bring together different voices within the local food system to build connections, respond to community needs, and ensure a positive impact in the community.

Education

We believe that by sharing knowledge with and between everyone in our community including aspiring and beginning farmers, community members, food system professionals, and others, individuals can stay informed, deepen their personal learning and growth, and engage in the local food system.

Environmental Stewardship

We believe that we have a responsibility to protect, preserve, and replenish the earth. We support regenerative and sustainable farming and business practices and consider environmental impacts with everything we do.

Accountability

We honor the charitable intentions of our donors, and we hold ourselves to the highest standards of fiduciary responsibility and ethics.

Our Mission

GoFarm trains and supports local farmers, connects people with local agriculture, and increases equitable access to nutrient-rich food grown in Colorado.

Our work strengthens our community's local food system (the process of how food gets from nearby farms to our plates). We focus on how we grow food, how we distribute food, who can access and afford food, and how we build community around food.



A Message from GoFarm's Executive Director



When we look back on 2023, we recall the challenges and days of celebration, as we worked toward our vision of a local food system that is equitable, resilient, environmentally sustainable, and inclusive. One in which farmers and farm workers have the resources they need to thrive and farm safely, community members have reliable and affordable access to healthy, local, and sustainably grown food, and community members feel inspired to engage in their local food system.

The members of our Board and Staff remained steadfast and committed to ensuring that our Local Food Share, Community Food Access, and Farmer Development and Support programs trained and supported our local farmer partners and made locally grown food affordable and accessible to our constituents. We honored community leaders and organizations for their commitment to creating a stronger, inclusive, and equitable local food system, including State Representatives Serena Gonzales-Gutierrez and Dafna Michaelson-Jenet, State Senators Rhonda Fields, Brittany Pettersen, and Dominick Moreno, Hunger Free Colorado, Karsten Electric, The Denver Foundation Melinda Middleton, Ivan Soto and Anica Wong, and Meredith Quenzer.

At GoFarm, we believe that our success is attributable to the core values that guide our organization. We believe that racial, social, and economic equity is fundamental to a strong local food system and healthy community. We value collaboration, inclusivity, and community partnerships. We believe that by sharing knowledge, community members and food system professionals are informed and able to deepen their personal learning and growth. We believe that we have a responsibility to protect, preserve, and replenish the Earth. We support regenerative and sustainable farming and business practices. We honor the charitable intentions of our donors, and we hold ourselves to the highest standards of fiduciary responsibility and ethics.

Though we experienced a few challenges in 2023, the celebrations were so much more, and we finished the year strong and ready for 2024. With support from individual donors, foundation, and government funding sources, we advanced our mission, and we remain grateful for your support and confidence.

Sincerely,

Virginia A. Ortiz
Executive Director



Farmer Development and Support

Local agriculture remains critical to our community, our environment, and our economy. Though in today's landscape, the average age of a farmer is 50 years old, 50% of farmers are expected to retire in the next 10 years, access to capital and resources to start a new farm remains extremely hard to obtain, and less than 2% of farmers self-identify as people of color.

In recent years, there is a resurgence of people from all backgrounds interested in careers in farming. GoFarm helps train this next generation of farmers by providing training, land, mentorship, and other resources to help them launch their own farms. We commit to supporting local farmers, increasing equity in agriculture, and advocating for sustainable growing practices that combat climate change.

In 2023, GoFarm's Farmer Development and Support Program achieved the following outcomes:



Supported **111** sustainable farms and paid **\$277,164** to local farmers and producers for food, mentorship, stipends, and teaching workshops.



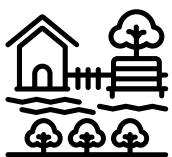
Educated and supported **19** beginning farmers in learning about farming and running a farm business, and offered **935+** hours of farming mentorship.



Hosted **19** farming workshops for local farmers and designed a **20** week Whole Farm Planning course for our Beginning Farmer Training program participants.



Loaned out **16** farming tools and pieces of equipment through our Equipment Rental Program for beginning and local farmers.



In 2023, we recruited the most diverse group of students and facilitators to date!



Community Food Access

We know that transportation, price, and stigma are significant barriers to accessing locally-grown food, and inflation and rising food costs is making food insecurity more prevalent. The current food system caters to only a portion of our community, with 33% of Coloradans experiencing food insecurity, according to a report from Hunger Free Colorado.

Through a myriad of programs and offerings, GoFarm works to make our local food system more inclusive and equitable, where everyone has reliable and affordable access to locally-grown food and feels empowered to participate in their local food system.

In 2023, GoFarm's Community Food Access Program achieved the following outcomes:



Made food more affordable and accessible for more than **1,777** households.



Hosted **86** low-cost food markets using our mobile market, Chuck the Truck. Continued using the **flexible pricing model** we launched in 2022. This allows people to choose a price that best fits their needs!



Welcomed **\$52,862** in food purchased through SNAP, Double Up Food Bucks, discounted Local Food Shares, and incentives from the Women Infants and Children (WIC) program and other community partners.



Donated **1,654** pounds of fresh, locally grown food to **6** food pantries and food access points.



Through our participation in local and state Food Pantry Assistance Grants, sourced **\$30,770** worth of locally grown food to **3** food pantries.



Active in **4** community collaboratives: Hunger Free Golden, JeffCo Food Policy Council, JeffCo Food Recovery Grant Cohort, and Triad Health in Early Childhood Collaborative.

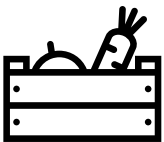


Local Food Share

Most people do not know where or how their food is grown, and only a small portion of the population consistently purchases locally-grown food throughout the year. This reality can cause people to feel disconnected with their farmers and food, unknowing of the critical benefits local agriculture brings to a community.

GoFarm connects hundreds of families to local agriculture through the Local Food Share program, where we offer a full season of fresh, sustainably-grown food from local producers. Local farmers benefit from this wholesale market where they set their prices and reach new audiences, and consumers benefit from nutritious, fresh food and feeling more connected to local agriculture.

In 2023, GoFarm's Local Food Share Program achieved the following outcomes:



Hosted **3** seasons of the Local Food Share that spanned **29** weeks of the year.



Provided food to **590** Local Food Share members across **3** distribution locations in Jefferson County. Offered **147** varieties of local vegetables, fruit, and other artisan items.



Shared a plethora of education resources, including **25** in-person cooking demonstrations, **20** Farm Fresh Features, and a full database of recipes and storage tips!



Offered **3** ad-hoc markets for community members to purchase bulk peaches, bread, holiday pies, and plant starts.



Sustainability, Education, and Workforce Development

Education, environmental-sustainability, and workforce development are essential components of a strong local food system.

Through events and workshops, GoFarm builds knowledge and understanding about local food and agriculture in the community. We prioritize activities that combat climate change and care for our planet, and we create meaningful and equitable jobs within the food system.

In 2023, GoFarm achieved the following outcomes in Sustainability, Education, and Workforce Development:



Hosted **3** farm tours several workshops on topics including soil ecology, drip irrigation set-up, seed saving, compost making, and greenhouse construction.



Hired **8** paid interns who were given the opportunity to explore meaningful careers in farming and local food systems. Interns received experiential and in-field training, 1 on 1 mentorship, and were invited to all **19** workshops, including some workshops that were paid.



Offered free compost service for all customers, composting **21,589** pounds of food waste.

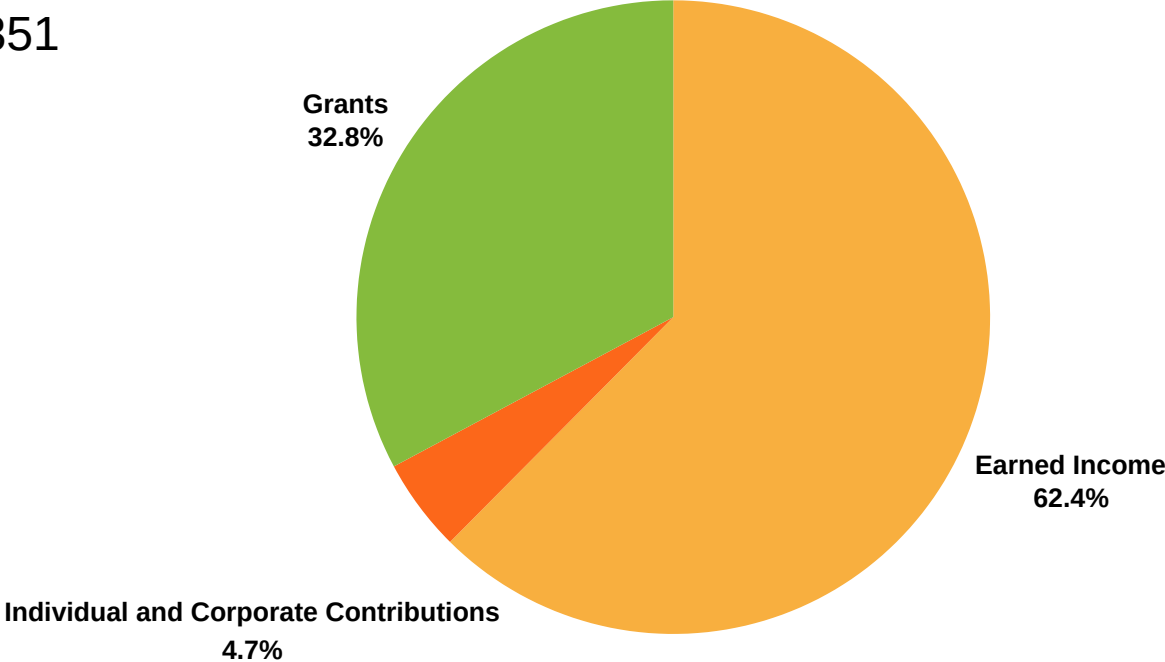


Partnered exclusively with farmers who use sustainable growing practices and prioritize soil health and climate resiliency. We advocate for organic and regenerative farming practices through our Beginning Farmer Training program.

Year End Financials

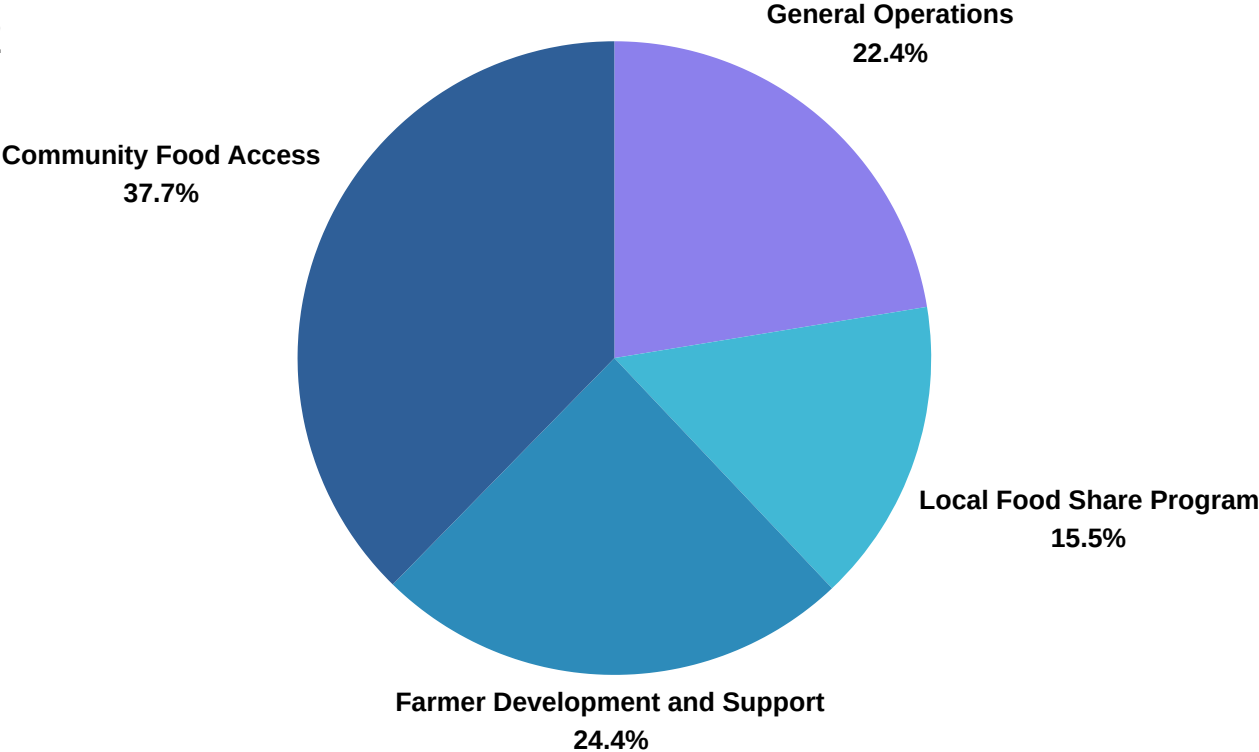
2023 Total Revenue

\$1,615,351



2023 Total Expenses

\$1,050,192



Thank You To Our Supporters!

GoFarm is grateful for the major contributors who gave \$1,000 or more in 2023:

Foundation & Government Grants

Anschutz Family Foundation
City of Golden
Colorado Department of Agriculture
Colorado Department of Human Services
Colorado Housing and Finance Authority
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Laura Wassmuth
Louis Karsten
Morgan Young

Special Thank You

to the companies and organizations that sponsored GoFarm's Sunrise Awards Breakfast and Harvest Dinner.





GoFarm

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