



**YEARS OF VOLUNTEER
FARMING FOR HUNGER RELIEF**

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Alicia Cianciola
Susan Conant
MaryHope Gardner
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In 2021 some aspects of our work returned to normal, while other areas remained affected by the pandemic. Even with about half of our usual volunteer staff, supply chain disruptions slowing all aspects of the food distribution cycle, and a much greater need for our services, we exceeded productivity goals for the year. We continue our success as a local source of fresh food for the hunger relief network so that one step in the process of delivering needed nutrition to the food insecure could remain dependable yet flexible in a changing environment.

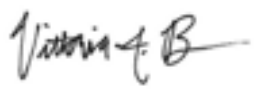
Together we grew and harvested 289,662 pounds (1,331,521 servings) of produce for donation to 31,328 unique, food-insecure individuals. This included over 5,000 lbs. of peaches from our new trees in their second year of production and over 185,000 lbs. of apples - made possible with the help of 4,428 volunteers working every task from pruning apple trees in January to putting the farms to bed in December.

We rely on a network of distribution agencies to ensure our produce gets into the hands and on the plates of our neighbors experiencing hunger. This year our network expanded to 23 agencies spanning Worcester, Middlesex, and Suffolk counties. Our partners range from traditional food banks and pantries to medically-tailored meal programs, to free fridges so that produce can reach people exactly where they are.

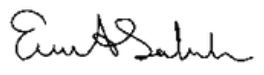
The continuing effects of the pandemic, coupled with increasingly erratic weather have shown the importance of a resilient supply of local fresh produce. A sustainable and stable food system is important to all of us, especially the most vulnerable populations. As we execute our new Strategic Plan and enter our 20th year of farming, we will adapt our growing processes to the changing world, deepen our impact with our partners, and better amplify the voices of those in need.

We hope you can join us at the farm this season as we celebrate 20 years of farming for hunger relief, and look forward to the next 20 years of growing and changing.

Sincerely,



Tori Buerschaper
Executive Director



Evan Soderstrom
Board President

Farming for All, With All

Vision: Connected communities ensuring access to healthy food for all.

Mission: Community Harvest Project engages and educates volunteers to grow fruits and vegetables for hunger relief.

Values:

Respect: We believe in the inherent value of all people and will be respectful, honest, and open.

Healthy Nutrition: People should have access to healthy food, and ensuring access is a community responsibility.

Inclusivity: We provide a welcoming and engaging environment for all to work together.

Environmental Sustainability: We use sustainable practices to protect our natural resources.

Education and Advocacy: Awareness of hunger and its impact on health is critical to achieving the change we seek.



How We Started

The seeds of Community Harvest Project were planted in the 1970s when a Hopkinton couple noticed their neighbors could not afford fresh produce. Though many things have changed since then, the vision is the same; connected communities ensure access to healthy produce for all.

"So many of the world's problems today seem too large for us to have a meaningful impact; a perception that can lead all too easily to complacency and cynicism. In the face of this, the message of Community Harvest Project is profound and empowering: together, as volunteers, we can and do make a difference in the lives of thousands of our neighbors. We do so by answering one of the most essential human needs – having a reliable source of healthy food.

It started back in the 1970s, when Bill and Rose Abbott began a grassroots effort on their Hopkinton farm to grow a small crop of vegetables to be donated for hunger relief. This early work inspired the founding of the Grafton farm which became what we now know as Community Harvest Project. In its new home, CHP has blossomed into a powerful response to food insecurity in our region, while also contributing to the transformation of our neighborhoods into a community of caring."

- Ken Crater

1970s

Bill and Rose Abbott founded Food for the Needy in Hopkinton, MA to provide their neighbors fresh produce.



Bill & Rose Abbott

2001

Food for the Needy moved to Grafton.



Groundbreaking at the Grafton location. (2001)

2002

Food for the Needy re-incorporated as Community Harvest Project.



Middlesex School Pepper Harvest (2002)

The first season of volunteer farming in Grafton produced 35,000 pounds of produce with the help of 300 volunteer visits.



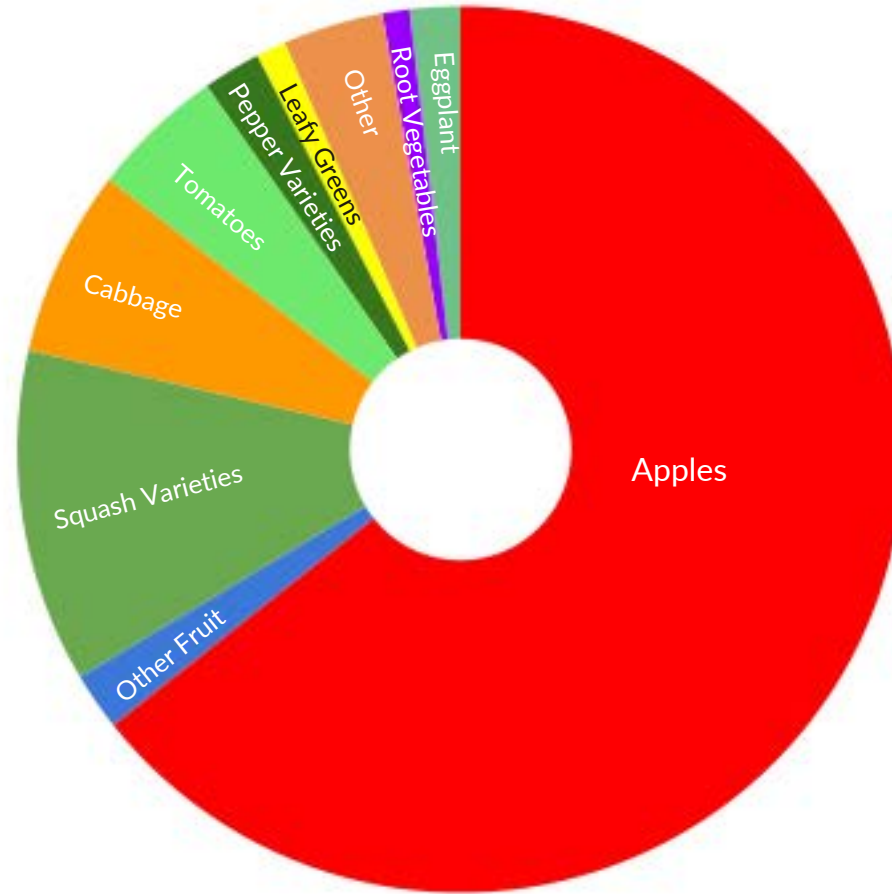
Peg Ferraro and Ken Crater pack produce for distribution (2002).

2003

First paid staff member and volunteer coordinator hired.

Why We Farm

According to Feeding America, 84% of households who use food pantries also buy the cheapest food instead of healthy food just to have enough to eat. High consumption of processed and calorie-rich but nutrient-poor foods increases individual risk for a host of preventable diet-related illnesses such as Type 2 diabetes, obesity, poor heart health, and more. Once developed, such diseases are considered underlying conditions and can complicate subsequent illnesses, like COVID-19.



2021 Season
 289,662 Pounds Harvested
 1,331,521 Individual Servings

Vegetables

- Asparagus
- Beans
- Beets
- Broccoli
- Cabbage
- Celery
- Collards
- Cucumbers
- Eggplant
- Kale
- Leeks
- Lettuce
- Okra
- Peppers
- Peas
- Sweet Potatoes
- Summer Squash
- Tomatoes
- Winter Squash

Fruit

- Apples
- Peaches
- Blueberries



Volunteers sort tomatoes (2010)

2010

CHP starts farming at White's Farm and leasing trees at orchards across MA, increasing the amount of produce provided for hunger relief.



Volunteers harvest eggplant at White's farm (2011)

2013

CHP formalizes internship program. Since 2013, we have hosted 119 interns.



Interns pack a distribution (2015)

Two Crops

Bill Abbott always said the farm has two crops: the produce that is donated for hunger relief and the volunteers whose lives are impacted by their experience. Though our name has changed over the years and our acreage has grown, the mission has not. Volunteers are the key to CHP's success.



Team Leader Denise washes cabbage (2010)



Interns and staff work along (2021)

2021 Volunteer Numbers

18

Interns

21

Tuesday Crew

33

Team Leaders

4,428

Volunteers

14,396

Volunteer Hours

Hunger Relief Partners

In our first year of farming, we had 1 hunger relief partner, The Worcester County Food Bank. Now, twenty seasons later, we partner with **23 hunger relief organizations** throughout Massachusetts. New partners served exclusively by our orchard include Townsend Ecumenical Outreach, Acton Community Supper and Food Pantry, New Hope Community Church, and Stone Soup Kitchen. These partners expand our healthy hunger relief in North Central Massachusetts and Middlesex County, all serving families in need through regular food distributions.



Distribution Pickup (2009)



YNIA helps load the WCFB truck (2009)



Orchard Distribution Pickup (2021)

2021 Hunger Relief Partners

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Acton Community Supper and Food Pantry | Jeremiah's Inn * |
| Boston Area Gleaners | Kylee's Kare Kitz |
| Burncoat High School | Loaves and Fishes |
| Catholic Charities Worcester County * | New Hope Community Church |
| Care Services Project * | Sharing is Caring |
| CENTRO * | Stone Soup Kitchen |
| Community Servings | Townsend Ecumenical Outreach |
| Family Health Center Worcester | The Virginia Thurston Healing Garden |
| Fountain of Life * | Visitation House |
| Grafton Food Bank | You Inc |
| Hector Reyes House | WooFridge |
| | Worcester County Food Bank |

*Direct distribution to Worcester County Food Bank partners

Events and Campaigns



Volunteer green bean harvest (2012)

Plantaplooza

520 home gardeners purchased heirloom tomatoes, specialty hot peppers, and a variety of vegetables via the Plantaplooza online sale and raised over \$28,000 to support hunger relief.



Plantaplooza Plant Sale (2019)



Carolyn's Garden Summer Flower Festival (2021)

Adopt-A-Row

Each spring we invite community members to adopt full rows of crops at our farm. This provides the funds to seed, water, and fertilize crops so we can grow the best possible produce for hunger relief. In 2021, 183 donors adopted 310 rows.

2014

CHP is gifted the Prospect Hill Orchard.



First year of harvest from the Prospect Hill Orchard (2015)

2015

Visit from Congressmen McGovern and Nancy Pelosi.



CHP expands to 5 hunger relief partners





Volunteers harvest apples (2012)

2016

High-density trees are planted in the orchard.



EMC volunteers harvest potatoes (2018)

2018

CHP expands to 14 hunger relief partners

Peach trees planted at our Harvard orchard

Harvest Home Fall Festival

We were thrilled to host the Harvest Home Fall Festival in person again. It was a wonderful day spent celebrating the 2021 harvest season with over 400 community members. Thank you to all our event sponsors, auction item donors, and volunteers that came together to help us make a memorable day!



Harvest Home Fall Festival (2008)



Wegmans Volunteers harvest cabbage (2014)

Giving Tuesday

Gators are essential to our farm operation, and allow our limited staff to efficiently access all our land and maximize the impact our operations can have. We would like to extend a special thanks to Team Leader Larry Iannetti for providing a \$1,000 matching gift on Giving Tuesday, inspiring an additional 45 donors to raise the over \$7,465 needed to replace our gator.

Cultivating Resilience

Our year-end appeal surpassed its goal of \$55,000 by over \$20,000 with the help of a generous matching gift from an anonymous donor, and 253 other individual donors.



Youth Volunteers (2009)

Monthly Givers

CHP Monthly Givers donated more than \$18,000 in 2021. These funds support the planting, tending to, harvesting, donating, and distribution of over 54,000 pounds of fresh produce.

2021 Monthly Givers

- | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------|
| Kristen Albright | Emily Herzfeld |
| Caroline & Eric Alper | Jane Jackson |
| Victoria Amodio | Samuel James |
| Steven Backhaus | Audrey Kavanagh |
| Elizabeth Bafaro | Alexander Keeler |
| Kristin Bafaro | Paul Keohane |
| Kathleen Baker | Pamela Kosiba |
| Julie Baldwin | Paula Krumsiek |
| Krista Blome | Scott Leavitt |
| William & Pam Bohan | Elissa Lindsay |
| Richard & Carol Boulanger | Leigh Linsley |
| Elliot Calamari | Lisa Lyon |
| Marybeth Campbell | Lawrence MacDonald |
| Jesse Chang | Jeremy Martin |
| Stephen Chanis | Cathleen McElligott |
| Susan Chase | Sreelochana Mitta |
| Andrew Clarke | Douglas Muzzy |
| Liz Colgesi | Jennifer O'Connor |
| Kathleen Connolly | Cynthia Orejola |
| Sharon Corazzini | Max Orejola |
| Michael & Lisa Cozzolino | Meghan Pavasaris |
| Sherry Deuyour | Kristin Pliakas |
| Jeremy DiTullio | Anna Scott |
| Roxanne Donahue | Elizabeth Spinney |
| Darlene Dube | Patricia Stoico |
| Nathaniel Eckman | Paula Sulmsay |
| Kathryn Egnaczak | Rajesh Velagapudi |
| Joseph Ellsworth | Maria Vokes |
| Beth Farwell | Jennifer Weyler |
| Beth Foley | Olaug Wheat |
| Frank Gaetano | Kathleen Wynne |
| David Gillerin | Christina Zarboe |
| Kathleen Grim | Yuquing Zeng |

2019

1,000,000 pounds of produce donated since moving to Grafton.



Team Leaders (2011)

2021

CHP named Points of Light Certified Service Enterprise.



Tomato sorting (2017)



Tomato washing (2015)

2022

2022 - 2024 Strategic Planning is put in place.



YNIA Volunteers set up irrigation (2009)



Tomato Harvest (2015)



Squash Wash (2011)



Wash Station (2013)

Thank You to Our Corporate and Foundation Donors

\$25,000 - \$50,000

The Fletcher Foundation
Fred Harris Daniels Foundation
Harvard Pilgrim Health Care Foundation
Hermann Foundation Inc
Ludcke Foundation
TJX Foundation
Yesod Foundation

\$15,000 - \$24,999

Bemis Associates Inc
George I Alden Trust
The White Companies Charitable Trust
Vela Foundation

\$10,000 - \$14,999

Albert W. Rice Charitable Foundation
Bank of America
Charles River Laboratories
DCU for Kids
Dell Technologies
Doe Family Foundation
Fallon Health Community Benefits
George R. Wallace Foundation
Greater Worcester Community Foundation
MA Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs
Osterman Management
Ruth H. and Warren A. Ellsworth Foundation
Unibank
Wegmans

\$5,000- \$9,999

Avalon Bay Communities
Change Healthcare
The Clif Bar Family Foundation
Dell Technologies

Hanover Insurance Group Inc
Hoche-Scofield Foundation
French Family Foundation
Greater Worcester Community Foundation -
WCFB Fund to End Hunger
Mathworks
The Mildred H. McEvoy Foundation
Target
People's United Community Foundation
Winning Home Inc

\$1,000 - \$4,999

Abbvie Bioresearch Center
Agnes M. Lindsay Trust
Avidia Bank
Berkshire Bank
Clifford & Rano Associates
Clinton Savings Bank
Cornerstone Bank
Digital Credit Union
Eastern Bank Charitable Foundation
Eberstadt Family Foundation
Frederick E. WEber Charities Corporation
Gaudette Insurance
JCSI
J.J. Bafaro Inc
The J. Irving and Jane L. England Charitable Trust
Koopman Lumber
Lampin Corporation
Leominster Credit Union
Liberty Mutual
Munroe Morrow Wealth Management
Nypro - A Jabil Company
Polar Beverages
Rafferty Aluminum
Reliant Foundation
Target
TD Bank
Tufts University



Carolyn's Garden Summer Flower Festival (2021)



Youth Volunteer (2015)



Cabbage Sorting (2012)



Apple Sorting (2015)

Savers Bank
Schwartz Charitable Foundation
Walmart Leicester
Walmart Worcester
Webster Five Foundation
Window Logic
Workers Credit Union
Rockland Trust Bank

\$500 - \$999

Charities Aid Foundation of America
Intel
The Jarboe Group
Lincoln Investment
Microsoft Matching Gifts Program
National Grid
Templeman Tree Services
Raytheon Company

\$100- \$499

Acorn Business Advisors
Altria Group and Distribution Company
Boston Scientific
Catholic Charities Worcester County
CVS Health Foundation
Elevation Fitness LLC
FM Global Foundation
Friends of the Grafton Public Library
H&M Bay
The Hartford Insurance Company
Halstead Insurance Agency
Hewlett Packard Enterprise Foundation
International Ceramic Engineering
Palo Alto Networks
Salesforce
Sanofi US Services
Scheier Katin & Epstein PC
SPARK
VMWare Foundation
USAA

Donations In Honor

In Honor of Madeleine Ahlquist

Robb Ahlquist
Jim and Pat Carolan

In Honor of Robb Ahlquist

Margot Ahlquist

In Honor of Carolyn Ambrose

Greg Ambrose
Michelle Busharis
Anne Gentry
Nel Lazour
Elisabeth Morgera
Timothy and Veronique Pitney
Dave and Raluca Snook

In Honor of Jeff Belanger

Vicki Griffin

In Honor of Black Lives Matter

James Steele

In Honor of Rachel Blum

Tara Cassery

In Honor of Ann Buerschaper

Emily Jones

In Honor of Ken Crater and Peg Ferraro

Steve and Debbie Crater
Sima Brason

In Honor of CHP Staff and Volunteers

Kate Rafey
Joel Simonson
Mary Stegink
Connie Woolcock

In Honor of Liam Clinton

Simone Pio-Clinton and Dan Clinton

In Honor of Patricia Corcoran

Sigmund Waraszkiwicz

In Honor of Mary Joan Driscoll

David Driscoll

In Honor of Barbara Fargo

Christina Nicolson Eaton

In Honor of Paul Florent

TJ and Shelley Hartnett

In Honor of Sam Fox & Kiley Knowlton

Daniel Fox

In Honor of Dr. Greger

Richard Durandr

In Honor of Edward and Eleanor Hayashi

Ross Hayashi

In Honor of Frances and S.G. Higginbotham

Roxanne Donahue

In Honor of Marc Kaijala

Steve Blumenstock
Holly Campbell
Deborah and Werner Uhlin

In Honor of Hunter Kissam

Leslie Berhahn
Nancy Hayworth
Melissa Jean Provost
Peach Warren

In Honor of Dad Koeman

Jodi and Kent Koeman

In Honor of Roland James Leveille

Kim and Cynthia Webster

In Honor of David and Diane Libbey

Christopher and Lorraine Libbey
Luanne and John Libbey

In Honor of Rick Maloney

Rebecca Cronin

In Honor of MAPFRE Volunteers

MAPFRE Insurance

In Honor of Garrett Mills

Katherine Mills

In Honor of Rita Monqueau Moore

Matthew Moore

In Honor of Cormac Murray

Leah and Michael McDonough

In Honor of Joy Nicholson

David and Susan Nicolson

In Honor of The Ogonowski Family

Rachel Marolda

In Honor of Charlie Papzian

Leah and Michael McDonough

In Honor of Kurt Partlow

Octavio and Jessica Melo

In Honor of John Rives

Peach Warren

In Honor of Ed Sherwood

Ellen O'Sullivan

In Honor of Emily Shugarman

Amanda Robbins



Green House Preparations
(2004)



Apple Delivery (2019)



Harvest Home 5K (2015)

In Honor of Jim Sicard

Wayne McAuliffe and David Nowell
Kathleen Mandell
Mark Koutonen

In Honor of UMASS Memorial Employees

Rick King

In Honor of Rick Umiker

Allyson Brown

In Honor of Alexandra Valoras

Stacey and Jose Albuquerque
Paul Hartnett
Christian, Paula, and Lisa Sulmasy

In Honor of Dr. Martin Victor

Ann Golub-Victor and Phil Victor

In Honor of Angelina V. Villirili

Janette Racicot

In Honor of Donna Wood

Homefield Credit Union



Team Leader (2015)



"My family and I are clients of the Grafton Food Bank. We are so grateful for the produce we've received from your organization. It's always good to have fresh fruits and vegetables when the season rolls around. Thank you for the hard work and dedication you put in to ensure the residents of Grafton receive healthy and delicious food. With the utmost appreciation, we recognize all you do for our community. God bless you.

- CHP Produce Recipient

I first heard of CHP when my youngest son was involved with a youth group at St. Brigid's. He came home very excited and impressed with the program. When I retired 7 years ago, I met with Wayne and gradually moved into being a Team Leader. I was hooked right away. The mission, the spirit of the staff, the joyful volunteers who came through, and the beauty of the farm itself drew me in. My involvement has varied throughout these years, but I cannot stay away!

-Marc Dauphinais



YEARS OF VOLUNTEER FARMING FOR HUNGER RELIEF

"There has been so much change and growth since my first years at CHP! From the changes in staff and the numbers of people that volunteer to the ongoing improvements in process, organization, and farm technology I couldn't possibly list them all. But, the one constant in all of the years I have been there...the one thing that has always been at the core of it all is people: The staff, the volunteers and the communities they serve together form the driving heart of this organization. I'm not sure what else I can say except that I am honored to be a part of it and look forward to seeing Community Harvest Project flourish in the future."

- Linda McPherson, 10 Year Team Leader

"We began volunteering as Team Leaders many years ago, shortly after the Barn was constructed. At that time, a 20,000 pound yield for an annual harvest was a significant accomplishment! Wayne had yet to enter the picture, the executive director was a part-time position, and our farm manager was also a firefighter. Today, CHP is run by a core group of full-time dedicated, talented, hard-working and incredibly wonderful people, supported by an equally dedicated Board of Directors. CHP provides fresh produce grown not only on Wheeler Road/Brigham Hill Road in Grafton but also from its breathtakingly beautiful orchard in Harvard. Who could have known that CHP would grow in such a way more than a dozen years ago?! One thing that has not changed: CHP cultivates community while staying true to its mission."

-Ann & Phil Victor, 13 Year Team Leaders

"For 20 years, Community Harvest Project has been providing great tasting, locally grown fruits and vegetables for our neighbors. Worcester County Food Bank values its partnership with them and the impact they have on creating a hunger-free and healthy community. We wish Community Harvest Project continued success for many years to come."

*- Jean McMurray, CEO,
Worcester County Food Bank*

"Families in our communities should not have to choose between eating healthy fresh food and simply buying what is affordable, or worse still, going hungry. Community Harvest Project is responding to our changing world in ways to ensure our neighbors will continue to be fed. In recognition of the abundance in my life, I choose to support their efforts."

*-2021 Year End Anonymous
Donor*

Statement of Financial Position at December 31, 2021

| Assets | |
|--|--------------------|
| Cash and Equivalents | \$537,573 |
| Accounts Receivable | \$4,040 |
| Prepaid Expenses | \$3,819 |
| Beneficial interest in assets held by GWCF | \$553,549 |
| Property and Equipment, net | \$3,014,778 |
| Total Assets | \$4,113,759 |
| Liabilities and Net Assets | |
| Liabilities | |
| Accounts Payable and Accrued Expenses | \$17,553 |
| Total Liabilities | \$17,553 |
| Net Assets | |
| Without Donor Restrictions | \$4,006,361 |
| With Donor Restrictions | \$89,845 |
| Total Net Assets | \$4,096,206 |
| Total Liabilities and Net Assets | \$4,113,759 |

Statement of Activities for the year ended December 31, 2021

| Revenues | |
|---|------------------|
| Contributions and Grants | \$726,874 |
| Events | \$68,632 |
| Other Income | \$75,100 |
| Other Charges | \$48,803 |
| Total Revenue | \$919,409 |
| Expenses | |
| Farm and Program | \$528,384 |
| Support and Fundraising | \$210,879 |
| Total Expense ** Includes Depreciation | \$739,263 |
| Change in Net Assets | \$180,146 |

** A complete financial statement is available upon request



2022 Event Calendar

Orchard Open House - Saturday, October 1st

Harvest Home Fall Festival - Sunday, November 6th