



2021 ANNUAL REPORT

FROM THE CO-DIRECTORS

This year we wrapped up our 5-year strategic plan spanning 2018-2021. Back when we were creating it, we couldn't anticipate the challenges our entire world would face. In the midst of an ongoing global pandemic and powerful racial justice uprising, the existing cracks in our food system became even more clear – and worsened. In contrast, we've also experienced incredible generosity, seeing people connect more powerfully than ever around where their food comes from and the importance of investing in our local food systems.

With these unprecedented changes at Zenger Farm and in our community, one thing has held constant; our belief that communities thrive when people have a direct connection to their food and where it grows. We feel empowered to continue cultivating personal and communal well-being when we are connected to the land, food, and community. As we look ahead, we are entering a new phase of strategic planning for the next 3-years and are seeking your input and investment.

Through our ongoing visioning and planning, we aim to help model a just local food system. A food system where our community can connect to sustainably grown, nourishing, culturally-relevant produce and to transform a narrative of injustice and insecurity into one of thriving community and sovereignty. This vision isn't possible without your involvement, thank you for all you helped us achieve in 2021.

In appreciation,

Rob Cato and Colleen Dixon

Zenger Farm Co-Executive Directors



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



We improved our facilities with maintenance projects – including a new arbor and lots of native plantings to increase greenspace, habitat and make the farm more welcoming to all. We also started a new monthly donor program – Zenger Farm Seedlings – to improve on and expand our monthly donation options.

EDUCATION

- Hosted weekly Open Farm Days each Saturday for community members to visit the farm and experience seasonal activities like herbalism and wildcrafting. Our Community Chefs prepared free food for over 1,400 youth and adults who participated in 2021.
- Offered Farm School again – after a COVID hiatus last school year – in partnership with the David Douglas School District. We hosted trips to the farm with every district 5th grader.
- Partnered with Immigrant and Refugee Community Organization's SUN program to distribute more than 4,500 educational activities, 1,300 food samples and recipes to their food pantries.
- Partnered with Rose Community Development for Summer Programming and hosted groups of children from Rose CDC buildings for fun, interactive farm visits.
- Opened field trips to the public in October. More than 500 youth participated – from pre-K to high school. Our farm visits included tours and land stewardship projects.



PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

FARMING

- Trained 4 farm apprentices and 6 farm interns during the growing season. Fostered educational and skill-development opportunities to advance their food system careers.
- Renewed our CSA pickup model to allow pick-your-own shares with COVID safety still in mind.
- Provided 135 CSA shares with our unique sliding-scale model, feeding over 400 community members.
- With a new delivery model, we provided 6,600 CSA Partnerships for Health (CSAP4H) program shares across the metro area to clinic patients.
- Launched a NEW winter season pilot for CSAP4H, running November through March and serving 81 local families.
- Created a relationship with Medicaid to support reimbursements for CSA shares to clinic patients through our CSAP4H program.

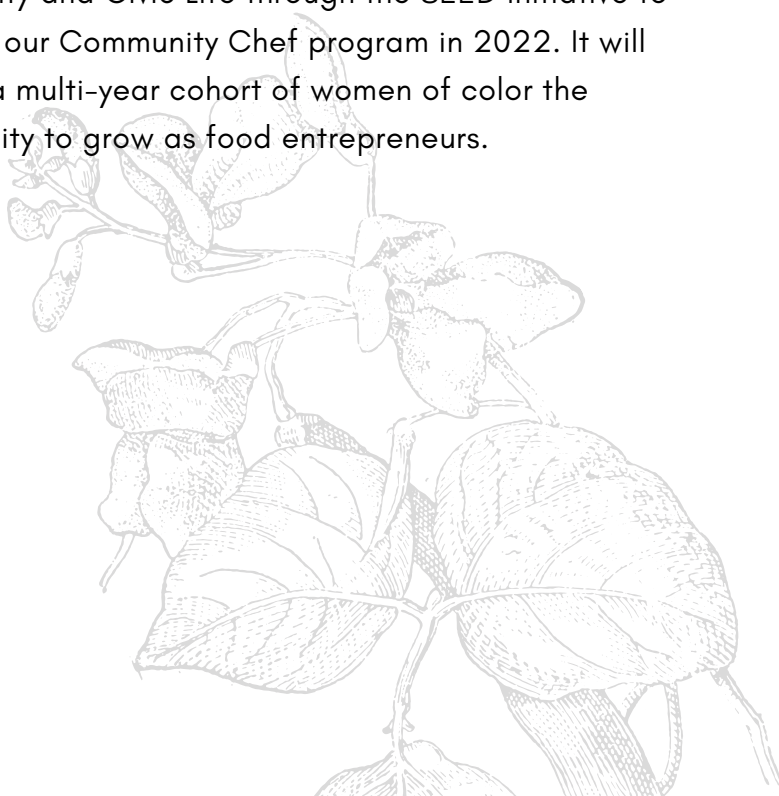


PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



COMMUNITY

- Planned exciting community events with safety in mind – like this year’s Spring for Zenger, Community Harvest Festival, Juneteenth and Dia de los Muertos celebrations!
- Welcomed over 200 community and corporate volunteers for close to 1,200 hours of land stewardship projects around the farm.
- Hosted a new, three-part Community Chef dinner series that highlighted our talented Community Chefs who prepared culturally significant dishes and helped to fundraise for our programs.
- Launched Community Chef videos, in partnership with CSA Partnerships for Health, to share healthy/culturally significant recipes and demystify vegetables that were uncommon to some participants.
- Offered Community Chef cooking demonstrations in Spanish via zoom, in partnership with Latino Network, to share recipes using vegetables often found in food pantry boxes.
- Received a generous grant from Portland’s Office of Community and Civic Life through the SEED Initiative to relaunch our Community Chef program in 2022. It will provide a multi-year cohort of women of color the opportunity to grow as food entrepreneurs.



FINANCIALS

ZENGER FARM EXPENSES AND INCOME

