



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

At Zenger Farm, we envision a just food system that dismantles the root causes of systemic inequity, fostering lasting connections between people, food, and the environment.

2023 was a year of growth and transition here at the farm. We completed the second year of our strategic plan, launched our winter farm site at Furey Field, and saw the transition out of our Co-Executive Director Colleen Dixon. Colleen co-led with me for four years. In this time she greatly impacted the farm and community, bringing the organization into a healthy financial state and advocating for systemic change. Co-Executive leadership was intended to create a stable foundation for Zenger Farm to sustain and grow intentional community-centered programming. Now that these goals have been achieved, I will continue to lead Zenger Farm as the sole Executive Director in 2024.

As we move into our 25th year as an organization, I want to express gratitude for all who have connected to this land and the food grown here. Together we have paved the way for food systems change in our local community and worked in partnerships to more holistically fulfill our mission. We are committed to continuing intentional food justice programming in East Portland for another 25 years!

Sincerely,
Rob Cato,



STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS

COMMITMENT ONE: HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION

- Hosted **1,501 youth** for field trips covering herbalism, native trees, nature crafting, and natural life in the wetland.
 - **645 kids were David Douglas School District (DDSD) 5th grade Farm School students**, satisfying DDSD Next Generation Science standards via ongoing, seasonal, hands-on field trips.
- Hosted **384 1st-6th grade Summer Campers** who experimented with outdoor cooking, herbalism, nature crafting, and wetlands exploration themed camps.
 - 20 campers came from our neighborhood ROSE Community Development buildings, thanks to our neighborhood partnership.
- Graduated **4 Apprentices** from our Beginning Farmer Apprenticeship. Apprentices graduated ready to work in leadership positions at similar scale farms in the region.
 - 3 out of 4 2022 graduates were actively farming in 2023.
- **5 local food justice leaders** completed the two-year Community Chef cohort, where they participated in workforce development, education, and peer support programming.
 - All 5 graduated cohort members are currently working in the food industry, either as entrepreneurs or in elevated food service roles.





STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS

COMMITMENT TWO: ACCESS TO NOURISHING FOOD

- Provided **7,480 home-delivered prescription produce** boxes to 300 Multnomah County Health Clinic clients across 8 Federally Qualified Health Clinics. This includes 22 weeks of produce boxes from spring to early fall and 11 weeks of larger, biweekly produce boxes to 80 clients from late fall through winter.
 - Increased the number of shares provided in North and Northeast Portland.
 - Increased the number of shares provided to uninsured and underinsured clients.
- Provided **116 shares** of our Neighborhood CSA – which operates under a sliding-scale model – that fed over 348 people from June to October.
 - 65 of these shares were distributed to the Mid County Health Center clients as part of our CSA Partnerships for Health program.
- Extended our growing season into winter, utilizing our acreage at Furey Field.
 - Hired Winter Farm Coordinator, Lukas Maurer, who has implemented no-till, and is experimenting with dry farming practices to produce winter CSA shares. These 30 shares, or **330 produce boxes**, are distributed to our clients at the North and South East Portland Clinics.

STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS

COMMITMENT THREE: BUILDING STRONG COMMUNITIES

- Welcomed **1,306 participants** to our family Open Farm Day programming, of which **48% were BIPOC**. This is a third space outside of school and work for families and friends to connect with each other and the land.
 - Hosted a STEAM night in January 2023, where we engaged in science activities and plant education. 103 people participated, of which **95% were from DDS**. In 2024, we will host weeknight family programming once a month .
- Community Chefs prepared over **1,500 culturally relevant meals** and over 20 menus featuring farm fresh produce for Open Farm Day programming, along with our other 2023 community events: Juneteenth, Día De los Muertos, and Diwali.
 - Brought together **160 attendees** at our annual Día de los Muertos Celebration, led by Community Chef alum, Paula Hernandez, to honor ancestors with traditional altars, food, music, and dancing.
- Distributed over **1,200 plants** to community members at our Spring for Zenger event, along with seeds and other gardening supplies.
 - Hosted Baylasan Botanicals, Tanager Farms, and Good Rain Farm (farmer apprenticeship alum) at a Farmer Panel about farm management, food justice, and community building.
- **Redistributed a total of \$224,000** through our CSA Partnership for Health Program to other farms – mainly Happiness Family Farm, Lomita Farm (farmer apprenticeship alum), and Full Cellar Farm.
- Hosted over **300 volunteers** and 11 volunteer groups that contributed over 1,000 hours of volunteer service.



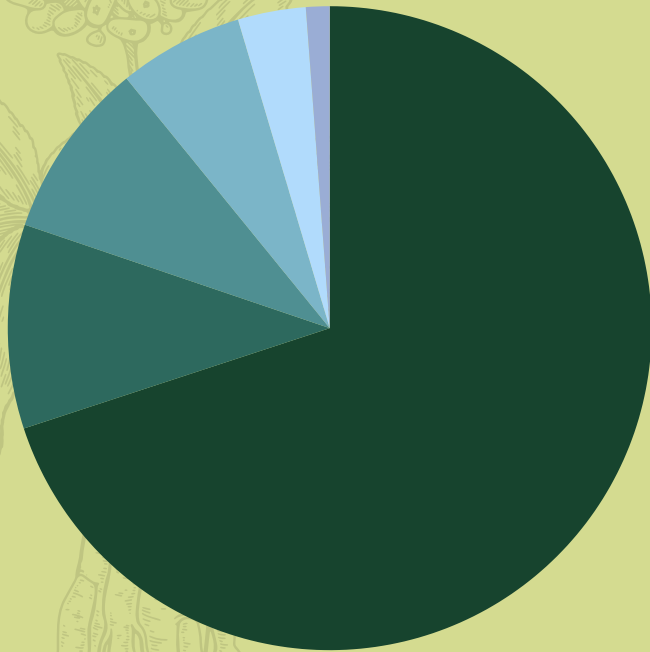
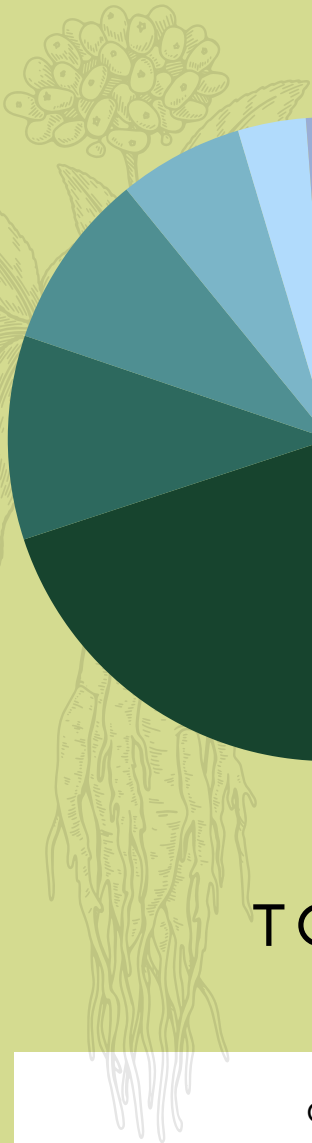


STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS

COMMITMENT FOUR: STRENGTHEN ORGANIZATIONAL CAPACITY

- Transitioned to a **32 hour work week**, and continuing this schedule through 2024.
- Instituted a biannual **Employee Engagement Survey** to learn more about the impacts of organizational changes and culture.
- Streamlined program evaluation and tracking processes to ensure participant feedback is addressed and programming reflects community input.
- **Improved staff and participant safety** with ongoing safety exercises and updates to the Safety Manual and procedures.
- Grew corporate donations by **40%** through new partnerships and volunteer opportunities.
- Improved facilities with maintenance projects, including updated signage and ground improvements to Furey Field for winter growing.

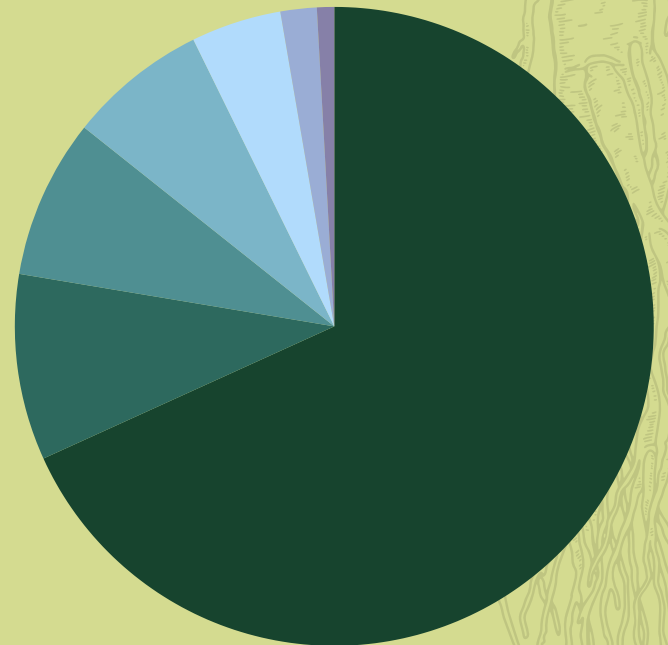
TOTAL INCOME | \$2,395,886



- GRANTS (GOVERNMENT & FOUNDATION)
\$1,674,762 | 70%
- MEDICAID CSA REIMBURSEMENTS
\$245,376 | 10%
- FEES FOR SERVICES (INCLUDING PRODUCE SALES)
\$213,588 | 9%
- CORPORATE DONATIONS
\$150,202 | 6%
- INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS
\$81,729 | 3%
- FUNDRAISING EVENTS
\$28,425 | 1%
- INTEREST EARNED
\$1,006 | >0%
- IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS
\$798 | >0%

TOTAL EXPENSES | \$2,380,158

- COMPENSATION AND STIPENDS
\$1,622,722 | 68%
- PURCHASED CSAP4H SHARES (FROM OTHER FARMS)
\$224,000 | 9%
- PROFESSIONAL SERVICES/CONSULTANTS
\$191,885 | 8%
- BUILDING AND GROUNDS
\$167,390 | 7%
- SUPPLIES AND EQUIPMENT RENTAL
\$108,617 | 5%
- TAXES & FEES
\$43,651 | 2%
- TRAININGS & TRAVEL
\$20,746 | >0%
- PRINTING & POSTAGE
\$1,147 | >0%





2023 GRANT FUNDERS

\$400,000+

- United States Department of Agriculture
- City of Portland

\$50,000-\$150,000

- Marie Lamfrom Foundation
- Oregon Health Authority
- East Multnomah Soil and Watershed Conservation District
- Oregon Department of Agriculture
- Oregon Department of Education

\$20,000-\$50,000

- The Collins Foundation
- CareOregon
- Harbourton Foundation
- Lora & Martin Kelley Foundation

\$6,000-\$20,000

- Maxwell/Hanrahan Foundation
- Detwiler Family Foundation
- Dudley Family Foundation
- The Hampton Family Foundation
- Big Green DAO

\$5,000

- Herbert A. Templeton Foundation
- Swigert Foundation

Under \$5,000

- Jackson Foundation
- Kate Svitek Memorial Foundation
- NW Natural
- Oregon Jewish Youth Community Organization
- Whole Kids Foundation



Photo Credits:

Kristie Winberg, Assistant Farm Manager, pages 1,3,4,5, and 7.
Kai Neuenschwander, Farm Educator, page 2.