



Sugar Beet Food Co-op

Annual Report 2017

Letter from our Board President



Greetings,
2017 was year of exciting growth for the Sugar Beet Food Co-op. We are still a very young organization – we celebrated our second Anniversary July 31, 2017 – but we are working hard to mature as a business and to live our mission even more fully.

As I look back on 2017, I am amazed at the many achievements of the Sugar Beet as a business:

- We grew our sales by 18% over 2016, and we banked about \$100,000 in profit.
- We added 168 Owners to raise our total Owner count to 1712 by year end.
- We were named the “Best Small Business in America” by Rubicon Global and were awarded a \$10,000 grant by the organization.
- We were accepted in National Co+op Grocers (NCG), a business services cooperative that represents 147 food co-ops across the country. Being in NCG means we will get better pricing on many products and services.
- We asked our community to help us fund an exterior sign and, wow, did you deliver! We raised \$9685 dollars for the sign. We were so excited the see the sign erected this spring.

While it is very rewarding, and difficult, to create a profitable business, I am even more proud of our efforts to nurture the health of our local community in 2017:

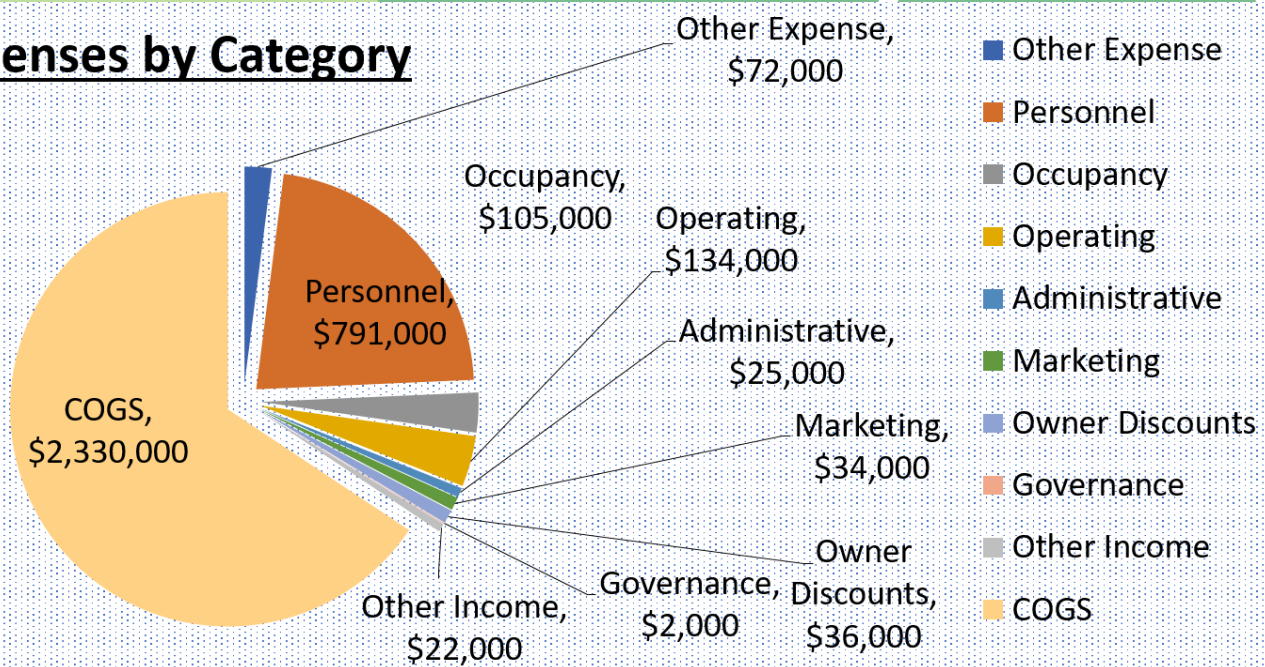
- We purchased about \$1,400,000 from over 200 local farmers and vendors, a 26% spending increase over 2016.
- We expanded access to nutritious food by growing our Healthy Staples offerings of affordable, everyday items.
- We launched Food For All, a reduced price program for folks on SNAP, Medicaid, and other assistance programs.
- Our Beet Bucks program grew significantly in 2017. We supported 36 non-profit and local organizations with donations were \$3,648.
- We continued our support of the Sugar Beet Schoolhouse where our scholarships enabled 23 kids to attend classes.

It is truly an honor to serve as the President of the Sugar Beet Food Co-op. I’m still wonderstruck that we were able to create this unique and beautiful store. We have great momentum as we head in 2018 and we are excited about many initiatives. But please remember, you own this place. The beauty of a cooperative business is that we all have a stake in its success. If you have ideas for how we can make the Sugar Beet even better in 2018, please let us know.

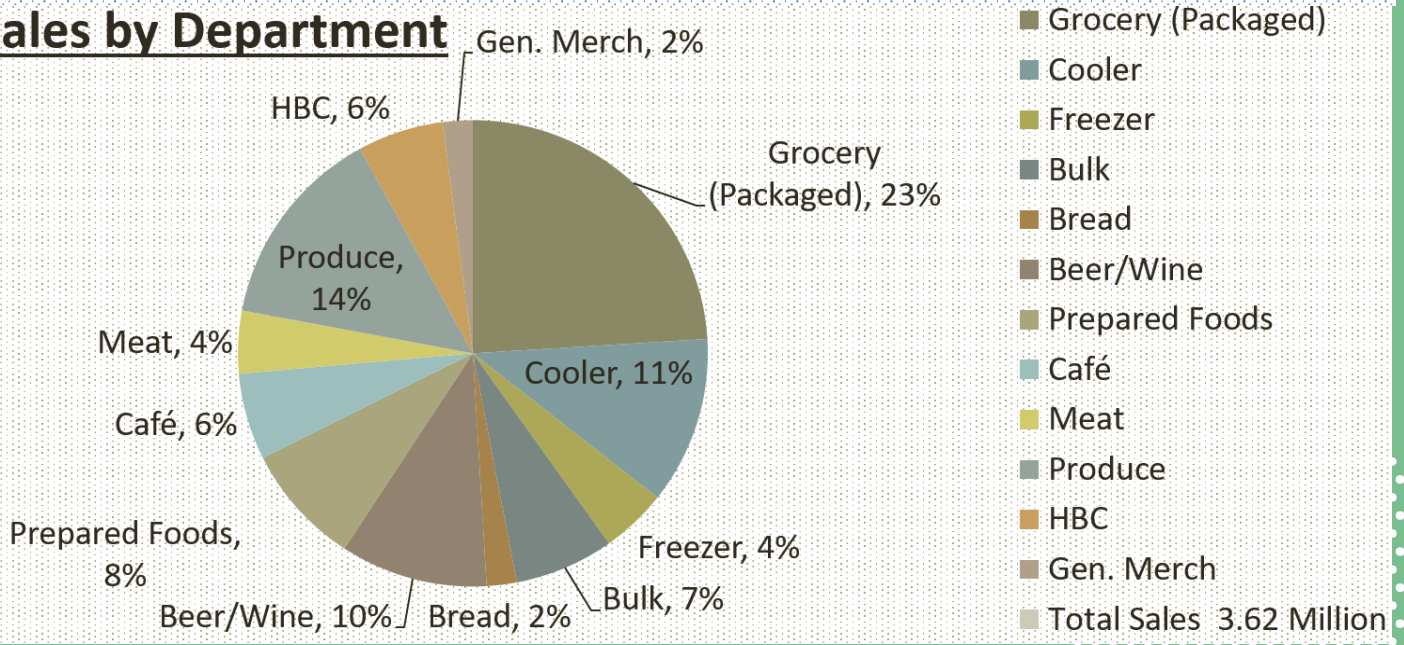
Best Regards,
Peter Nolan
Board President

2017 Financials

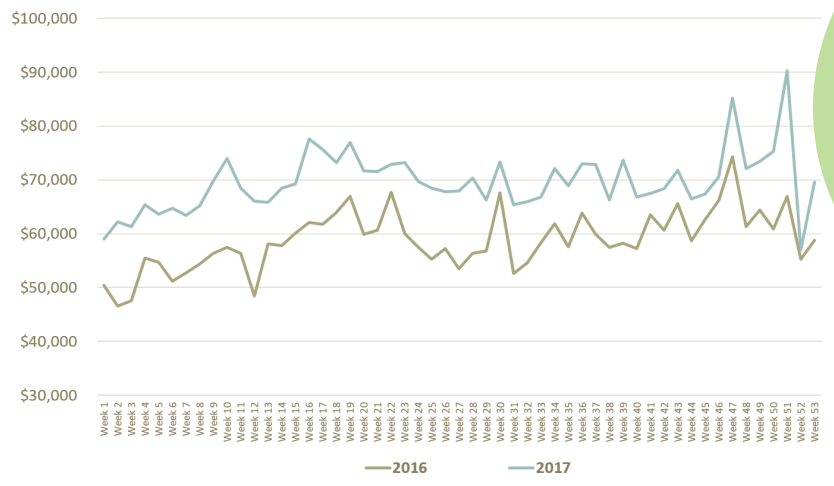
Expenses by Category



Sales by Department



Weekly Sales 2017 vs. 2016



18% Sales growth in 2017!



2017 in review

Raised \$9685
for our sign
through
crowdfunding
campaign

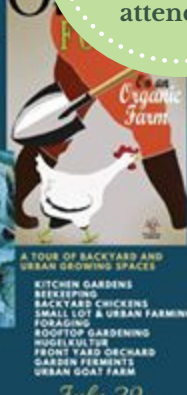
Edible Garden
Tour raised
\$1252.34 and
hosted 100
attendees

168 New
Owners
in 2017

Hosted 25 classes,
local speakers &
educational
events

Happy
2nd
Birthday!

ANNUAL
SUGAR BEET
EDIBLE
GARDEN
TOUR



Earth Day Grant-
nominated and
selected by you!
Donated \$782.86 to
Zero Waste
Chicago

Sent 23 students
to Sugar Beet
Schoolhouse classes
through our
Cooperative Cooks
Scholarship
Program

Earth-friendly
initiatives: cork, bag
& battery recycling
collection, bag tree
& email receipt
program



Increased
local
purchases by
26% in 2017

Supported 36
community
organizations
through our
Beet Bucks
Program

Kicked off food
access program
"Food For All"
offering discount to
shoppers with
barriers to accessing
good food.

Rubicon Best
Small Business
in America
award for
2017

Joined NCG -
National Co-op
Grocers

