

COMMON GOOD CITY FARM

2020 ANNUAL REPORT



WELCOME TO THE FARM



Common Good City Farm is an urban farm focused on affordable food access, community education & engagement, and sustainable food production. Our mission is to create a vibrant, informed, and well-nourished community through urban farming.

Since January 2007, Common Good has provided over 41,000 pounds of fresh produce to the community, engaged more than 4,400 adults and 5,600 young people, and hosted over 3,400 volunteers on our 1/2 acre farm site in LeDroit Park.

LETTER FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Dear Community,

The year 2020 was, in many ways, remarkable. While everyone in the world--from people on each continent, to our neighbors in LeDroit Park, faced unthinkable adversity, Common Good City Farm realized opportunities to engage community and partners in new ways and undoubtedly better position ourselves to participate in serving the community for years to come.

The Board of Directors continues to collaborate with staff to hone the organization's mission and vision. While we reflect on evolving needs, we remain steadfast in our commitment to making fresh produce accessible. This year we extended thanks to foundational directors who have moved on and welcomed new directors who with varied experience have continued and intensified our focus on equity and inclusion. Keep your eyes open for opportunities to get involved!

Partnerships have long been a strategic focus of our organization. They were key in our ability to reshape programs in response to trials facing our nation and neighborhood. Considering we could not safely gather, browsing and mingling had to be reimaged. Rather than sell the farm's freshly grown produce at our weekly market, we joined forces with community partners and local farms to distribute pre-packaged boxes of produce. Rather than a celebration at the farm, we took A Night on the Farm virtual with live cooking demos and discussions with nearby restaurant's chefs. Through these new partnerships we engaged many new friends and distributed tens of thousands of fresh produce servings - at no cost - to those in need in our community.

Your support in 2020 was incredible. We saw the highest yearly totals of individual giving that we ever have as an organization. For that, and for all of the ways you partner with us, please accept our sincere gratitude. For those of you who are new to the Common Good community, welcome! Please do check us out and explore additional ways you may be able to support our efforts and partner in service to the community. May your families be safe and healthy, keep distance when you can, wear your mask, and wash your hands!

Warm regards,



KENAN DUNSON

Chair of the Board of Directors





FARM

Common Good has always been committed to small-scale agriculture that is both approachable and sustainable. However, the COVID-19 pandemic has brought the vulnerabilities inherent in our food system into sharp relief and highlighted the importance of local food chains and community-sourced food. As such, in 2020 it was even more essential for Common Good to continue to provide a large quantity of healthy, affordable produce while relying on sustainable agricultural techniques to protect our soil's fertility and ensure our farm's productiveness for many years to come.



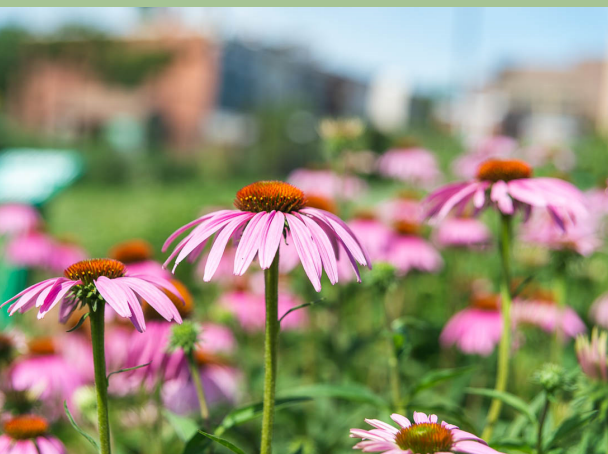
- Produced 49,135 servings of fruits and vegetables
- Donated all produce not committed to the CSA
- Produced 2 gallons of honey

HIGHLIGHTS



Hired 2 new Farm Managers to handle year-round crop planning, sustainable small-scale vegetable production, lead volunteers and staff, and manage weekly produce distribution

Safely hosted 19 City Farmers who completed 677 hours of volunteer work to support the farm's mission



Designed and executed a crop plan to incorporate the interests and preferences of Common Good community members and customers.

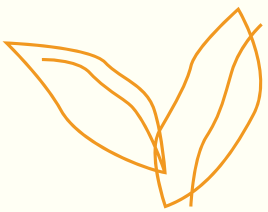


EAT

In the face of all the unique challenges 2020 brought to our community, Common Good continued to be a hub of community-supported agriculture. Stepping up to the challenges of COVID-19, Common Good created the Produce Giveaway program which distributed free produce boxes to anyone in need, and made sure the Farm Stand continued to provide members of our community the opportunity to eat a diverse diet of fresh, local, and inexpensive seasonal produce.

2020 Highlights:

- Implemented new market safety rules to ensure the health of all market attendees and farm stand vendors
- Hosted weekly produce giveaways in LeDroit Park
- Introduced the Plant of the Month CSA program to enable more than 10 members to grow their very own herbs, flowers, vegetables, and houseplants at home
- Distributed more than 25,000 pounds of free produce in LeDroit Park with priority for people participating in SNAP (food stamps), Senior FMNP (Farmers Market Nutrition Program), WIC (Women, Infants, & Children) FMNP, and people in need who do not have other ways to access produce
- Worked with partners to deliver 125 boxes of free produce per week through the Produce Plus Direct program for residents who are immunocompromised, elderly, or unable to leave the house for any reason





LEARN

Throughout 2020, Common Good continued to serve as an essential resource for communal experiential learning, bringing together local instructors to provide skills training in the areas of sustainable agriculture techniques, nutrition, cooking, and more. We strive to develop workshops that are relevant to our community's needs and interests to provide information that can empower individuals to make a sustainable urban lifestyle a reality.

Although operating in a largely virtual environment, Common Good offered adult educational workshops throughout the course of 2020, focusing our virtual programming on herbalism, medicine, and overall well being. Our major fundraising effort, A Night on the Farm, also went virtual this year. The remote environment allowed us to incorporate additional cooking demonstrations, Q&As with DC chefs, and tips for sourcing local ingredients to further educate our supporters about urban agriculture and sustainable nutrition.

HIGHLIGHTS



Engaged over 230 attendees in live cooking demos & chef chats in partnership with 6 restaurants as part of our A (Virtual) Night on the Farm

Offered 6 free virtual community herbalism classes on topics including herbs to manage stress, edible and medicinal spring weeds, herbal first aid, herbs for healthy digestion, herbs for immune system support reaching 247 attendees

**HERBS FOR
IMMUNE SYSTEM
SUPPORT**

**Fri, Sept. 11
6 - 7 pm**



Created engaging social media videos with how-tos and Q/A with the Farm Manager



DISCOVER

One of Common Good's most exciting initiatives is the Youth Education Programming, which provides learning opportunities for youth in our region. This year Common Good did not let COVID-19 get in the way of connecting with our community and switched to hosting a variety of virtual classes and at home programs for the area's young people.

LEAF Youth Program

With everyone spending more time at home, learning how to make healthy recipes was more important than ever. This year through our **Learning for the Environment, Agriculture, and Food** program we created kids cooking and gardening kits, which we provided for free to children and families in the DC region, with a virtual series of classes hosted on Instagram and Zoom.



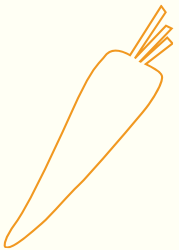
2020 Highlights

- Hosted 41 Classes (in-person, on Zoom, and via Instagram Live)
- Distributed 544 Home Kits for students to garden and cook at home

DISCOVER

Field Trips to the Farm

While we didn't see big yellow school buses at our farm this year, we were still able to bring the farm adventures to homes virtually. We partnered with Washington Youth Garden and City Blossoms to create virtual tours of farms and gardens in our neighborhoods. Throughout the summer, curious explorers were invited to share their own videos of their adventures at home and in their communities.



2020 Highlights

- Hosted 7 virtual field trips for 163 students
- Created 5 videos available on-demand for the DC Virtual Farms Field Trip



Commitment to Equity

Common Good believes that equity is an essential component of a healthy and vibrant community. We acknowledge that our country's agricultural history was founded on inequity and that many inequities still exist in our food system. We recognize that systemic inequities are often interconnected, resulting in our city and our community experiencing inequities not only in the food system, but in housing, education, employment, the justice system, and beyond.

We also recognize that urban agriculture has been seen as a determinant of gentrification. As Common Good City Farm is located in a gentrifying neighborhood, we must be cognizant of this. We recognize that it is our responsibility to ensure that our organization serves the community equitably. While accessibility and inclusiveness guide Common Good's work, we acknowledge that removing barriers to access is not sufficient to ensure equity. We must incorporate equity principles into all aspects of our organization. To that end, we are committed to continually providing avenues for input, representation, and decision-making for all community members, especially those most impacted by food injustice, to furthering our own education on how to build an equitable food system, and to creating an equitable organizational culture.

As an urban farm, promoting equity and self-sufficiency in regards to food access is central to our work. While the food system is our area of work, we can use this spirit of community self-reliance and independence from an unjust system to support our community in other areas in which they experience inequities. As such, we are committed to: connecting diverse individuals to each other; fostering connections between marginalized community members and local representatives and community groups; and informing ourselves and others about policies, laws, regulations, or decisions that may negatively impact our community.

Creating an equitable organization and local food system is an ongoing process. We view this as a working document from which to build concrete steps and evaluate our progress as we work towards honoring our commitment to equity.

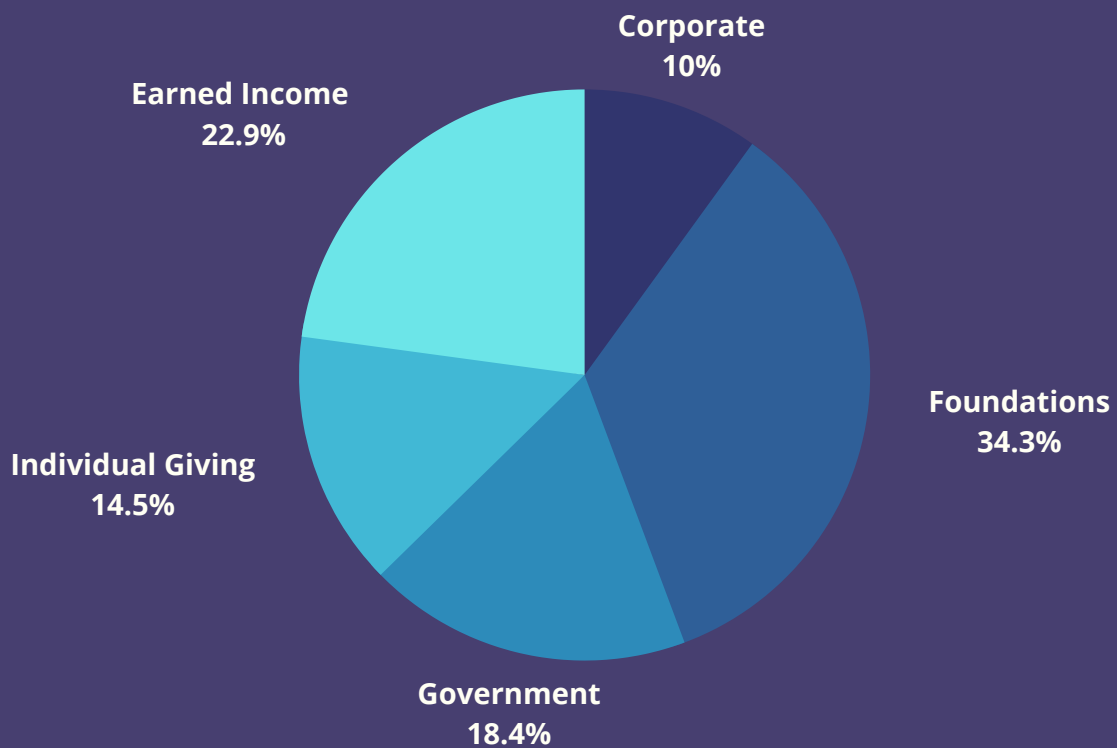
MEET THE TEAM



COMMON GOOD CITY FARM FINANCIALS

Funding Diversity

Diversifying our funding portfolio has been a priority of the organization since 2018.
In 2020 we achieved our most diversified funding year ever!



Thank you, Tracy!



For the last two years, Tracy has managed all aspects of the farm space, growing, training staff and volunteers, and planning for the future. Now, we wish her the best success on her latest venture, coming in February 2021!

Tracy, thank you for everything you've created here and the amazing work you've left behind. We love you.

Thank you, City Farmers!

This year, we had only 16 City Farmer volunteers, due to the challenges of having groups of people on the farm. We could not have had a successful season without you!



A big thank you to Kelsey, Emilia, Trina, Carolyn, Andrew, Caroline, Joseff, Paige, Ben, Nathan, Troy, John, Mike, Ruth, Jeff, and Krista!