



Mission of Mary
COOPERATIVE

2020 Annual Report

2020 In Review



Cultivating Healthy Food

- Grew and distributed 60,000 lbs. of fresh produce up 9,000 lbs. from last year's 51K last year - the most food we have ever grown
- 341,000 servings - up from 290k last year
- Serviced over 90 diverse families through our CSA Veggie Membership Program
- Constructed two new Greenhouses on Steele Ave - Our 5th farm site in the neighborhood



Educating Our Community

- Grew Backyard Garden Program with 9 total home garden installations for neighbors
- Welcomed many people through video farm educational tours online - pre-recorded and live.
- Hosted 10 virtual workshops
- Trained and educated 15 individuals through our internship program



Caring For The Land

- Campus wide - created more renewable energy than we consumed making us the first overall Net Zero Organization in Dayton
- Planted over 1000 native plants, trees, and seeds for the purposes of increasing biodiversity, carbon sequestration, and to enhance ecosystem services
- Our total renewable energy creation onsite offset 43,000lbs of CO2 from being released into the atmosphere



Director's Notes — Mike Schulz

Dear Community,

Mission of Mary Cooperative celebrated our 10 year anniversary rooted in the Twin Towers neighborhood!

We adapted many of our programs to continue to live out our mission and meet the growing needs during the covid pandemic. Our theme this year was to be a 'People of Hope' even amidst the biggest challenges of our generation. We were able to develop a safety plan that kept all of our staff, interns, and the people we serve covid free.

Mission of Mary yielded an abundance of fruit from our long standing commitment to the people and environment in Dayton. With strong partnerships and dedicated volunteers a few of the fruit of our labor are as follows: served 87 low-income pregnant moms with veggies, built and started operating 2 greenhouses at the new Steele St. garden, grew and distributed over 30 tons of produce, organized 10 digital educational workshops, and planted 1,000 native trees, plants, and seeds.

Mission of Mary will continue to be servant leaders to meet the growing needs in our community in our second decade by being a catalyst and partner for sustainable urban development through food access, education, and restoration.

Please join us in our rooted commitment.

Thanks a million!

Michael Schulz



Celebrating Our 10 Year Anniversary

A Commemoration

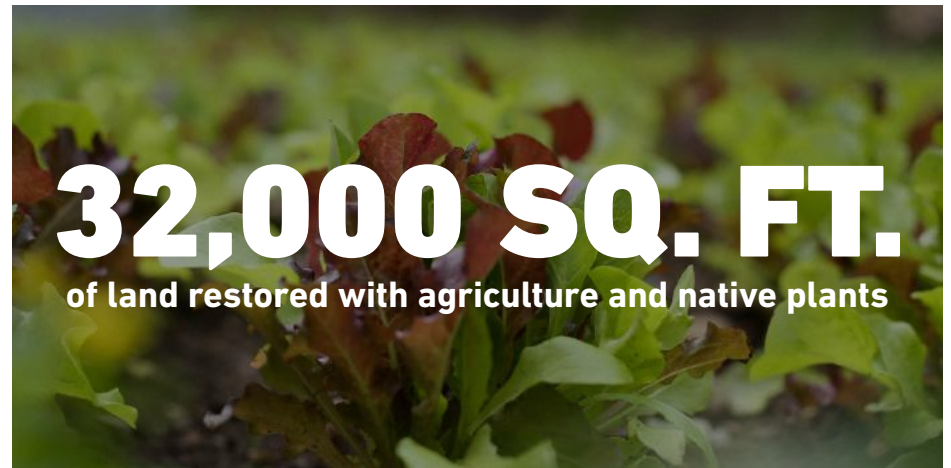
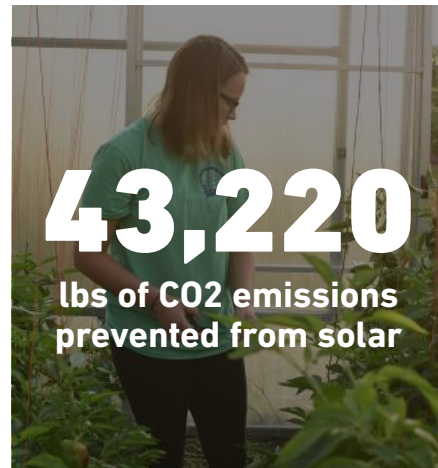
Mission of Mary Cooperative became the first Lay Marianist founded, operated, and sponsored nonprofit in the U.S. in 2010. Mission of Mary Cooperative was created by a group of residential Lay Marianist communities that were founded in 2007 in the Twin Towers neighborhood of Dayton. In 2009 the first urban farm site was created. The residential Lay Marianist communities invested half a million dollars of value through sweat equity and financial donations from 2007-2014. Through this investment our community founded Mission of Mary Cooperative in 2009 by starting a grassroots urban farm on vacant lots that was based on the Twin Towers neighborhood needs we witnessed through being present to the people and land.

With Bro. Ray Fitz SM and Bro. Tom Pieper SM being spiritual mentors to our community from the beginning as well as currently long-standing board members, they helped us attain legal services through the generous support of the Society of Mary's lawyer to apply for nonprofit status. We were excited to celebrate our 10 year anniversary this past year and look forward to serving and growing as servant leaders for the 2nd decade!



Celebrating 10 Years

By the Numbers

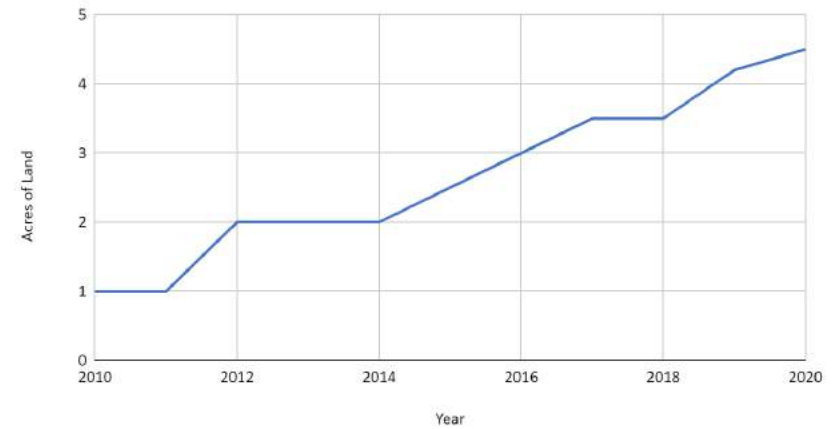


Celebrating 10 Years

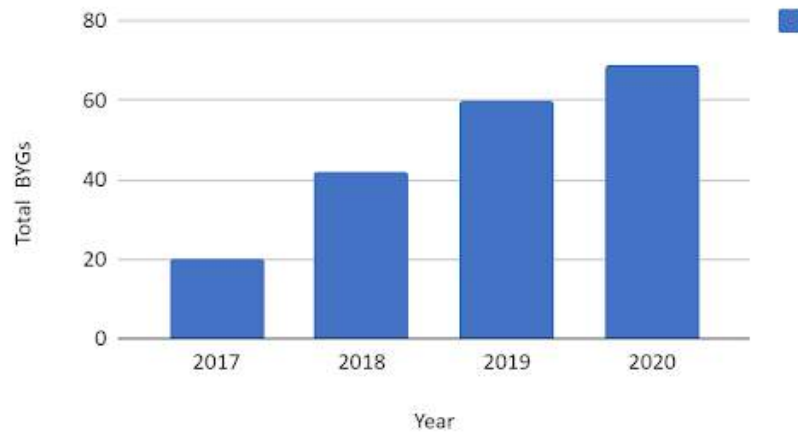
A Decade of Growth



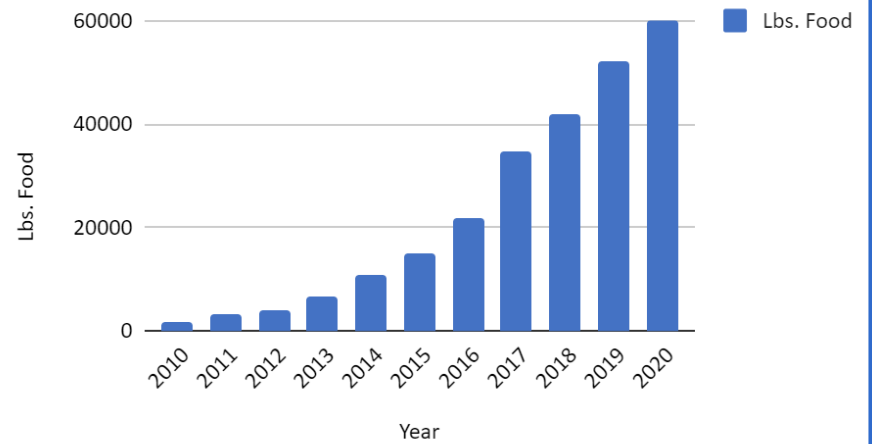
Acres of Land vs. Year



Total BYGs vs. Year



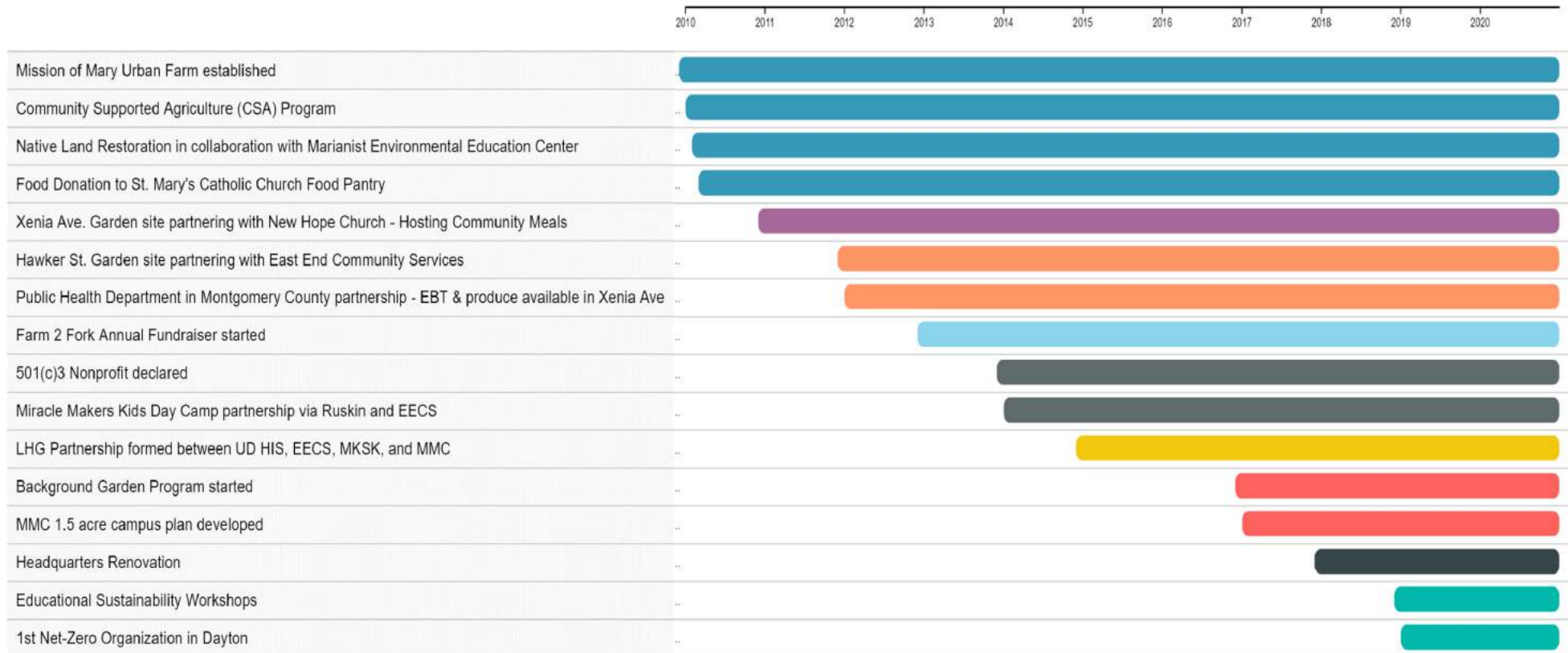
Lbs. Food vs. Year



Celebrating 10 Years

A Decade of Accomplishments

Accomplishments vs Year



Celebrating 10 Years

A Decade in Photos



Celebrating 10 Years

A Decade in Photos



Celebrating 10 Years

A Decade in Photos



Celebrating 10 Years

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Your ministry was made for times like this. Although feeding the hungry and helping them feed themselves is always important, but you have been able to take a timely ministry and adjust it to today's crisis. Truly, you've read the "signs of the times" and found a way to adapt. Chaminade would be proud of your work, and I am too.

I'm especially happy to also read about your becoming a net-zero energy organization. You've been able to address both immediate human need with the long term need of humanity.

- **COMMUNITY MEMBER**

”

“

Congratulations on an outstanding 10 years. The Marianist Family is very proud of what Mission of Mary has accomplished. Not only have you developed an outstanding urban farm, your outreach with the Backyard Gardens in the Neighborhood and the Produce Prescriptions' for pregnant mothers is making a real difference in people's health.

- **BROTHER RAY FITZ SM**

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“Mission of Mary Farm began with a small group of University of Dayton graduates who wanted to live in community together as Lay Marianists and make a difference in the neighborhood in which they chose to live. As I recall, their intention was not necessarily to become involved in urban agriculture but to respond to the needs in their area.

My husband and I watched their commitment and their skills grow and develop into Mission of Mary Cooperative over these last 10 years. Their energy, faith, devotion, resiliency, growth in knowledge and competence, their sense of peace and calm, their openness and willingness to adapt and learn - all these qualities and more have contributed to making MMC an example of excellence in urban agriculture.”

- **ANN HIRT WESTERNDORF**

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Adaptation and Change

In the light of COVID-19, Mission of Mary Cooperative has adapted many of our programs to continue to live out our mission and meet the growing needs during the covid pandemic. Food insecurity has doubled locally. Our theme this year was to be a 'People of Hope' even amidst the biggest challenges of our generation. We were able to develop a safety plan that kept all of our staff, interns, and the people we serve covid free. From our in-house online store ordering facilitated by contact free pickups to several virtual farm tours and educational videos on social media to continue educating our community.

- **Switched to online store for produce sale and plant sale fundraiser with 361 customers**
- **Created a 'Pay it Forward' option, giving people the opportunity to cover costs for others food access needs -donated over 3,900 lbs of veggies through this program**
- **Hosted our biggest annual Farm to Fork fundraiser virtually, receiving the most support since inception**
- **Expanded current infrastructure - wash-pack and storage area to meet growing food access needs**

“
**NEW TIMES DEMAND
NEW METHODS.**

- Blessed William Joseph Chaminade (A Marianist Founder)

”

“The outbreak of COVID was a challenge, and being furloughed from my position created a deep sense of insecurity. Stepping into a restoration internship with Mission of Mary was a nourishing, hands-in-the-dirt opportunity to contribute my skills, learn from others, and join in the creation of community even in that difficult summer.

I appreciated the flexibility, the opportunity to contribute, and most especially the opportunity to witness MMC's staff support the other interns in developing projects, adding their mark towards a common vision, and creating community together.”

- Leah Ceperley (2020 Intern)



Produce Prescriptions

- Formed a new partnership with Dayton Children's Hospital - 15 Produce Prescriptions for patients in their Healthy Me Clinic each week. - October 2020 - April 2021
- Continued Produce Perks partnership with a Produce Prescriptions Expansion at Five Rivers Maternal Health Systems and Centerpoint Health - low income pregnant moms
- 87 low-income pregnant moms and their families received our veggies during 2020.
- Provided a CSA share to patients and their families for six month intervals



Achievements Towards Our Mission Goals

Cultivating Healthy Food

We aim to grow and distribute as much food as we can to our neighbors and the surrounding Dayton community. We distributed produce all 12 months of the year and in total grew 60,000 lbs. of food.

55% increase in the CSA memberships in 2020

31% of participants were low income pregnant mothers who received CSAs through our partnership with the Produce Prescription Program

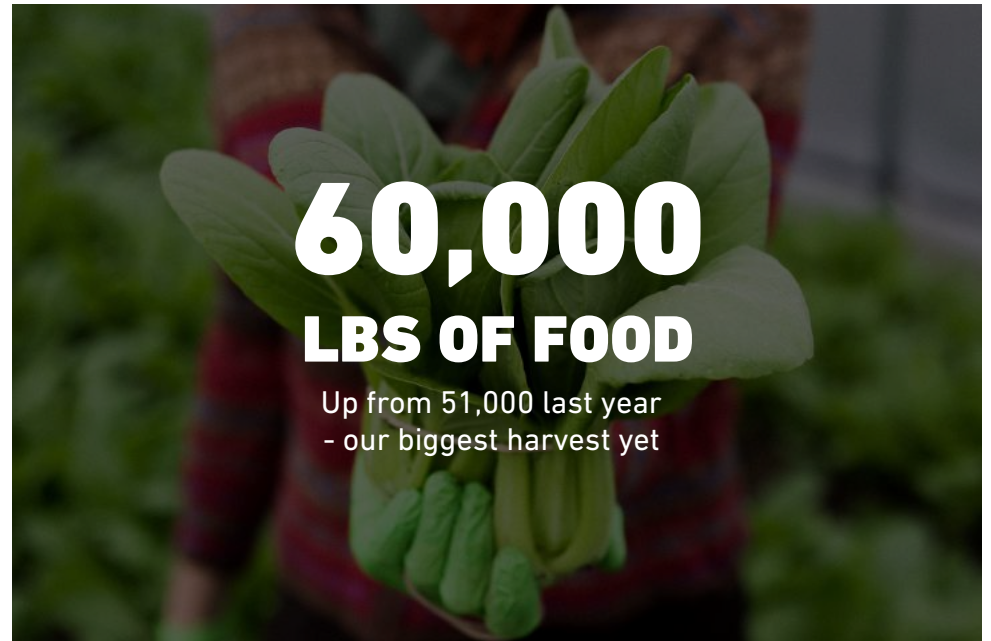
352 families purchased from our online produce & plant store - a brand new outlet for us this year



Achievements Towards Our Mission Goals

Food Distribution Highlights

- **324,000 servings of vegetables** - up from 290k last year
- **87 low-income pregnant mothers enrolled** in Produce Prescription Program
- **3500 lbs of produce donations made** (most donations ever done)
- **2 new greenhouses installed** at Steele Ave garden



Educating Our Community

- Educated hundreds of people through online farm tours
- 15 young adults were formed through our internship program or semester co-op
- 4800 volunteer hours served in and around our gardens
- Distributed 50 weekly newsletters with recipes and veggie storage and cooking tips to our CSA and Produce Prescription Members
- 10 online and pre-covid educational workshop events
- Several educational videos on social media - how to plant a tree, garlic and more
- Hosted farmer social gathering in February as part of OEFFA tour of our farm for statewide organic farming conference with over 50 guests over the year



Educating Our Community

Backyard Garden Program

The most rewarding part of the work that we do is awakening others to the joys of being outside and connecting to their food. We strive to educate the whole person about creation, about their food, about their health, and about their community. Creating a more just and equitable world starts with enlivening the passions of our neighbors and visitors.

**9 NEW BACKYARD
GARDENS INSTALLED**



**ALL 22 COMMUNITY
GARDEN BEDS RENTED**

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I love my backyard garden as it's helped me to feed my family in a healthy way during this pandemic as well as get my children's hands in the soil.

- BACKYARD GARDEN MEMBER

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Caring for the Land

Our overall vision for the land we steward in our neighborhood is to create beautiful green spaces out of formerly vacant and neglected land. This involves cleaning up dumping, removing invasive plant species and working closely with property owners. We are blessed to now manage over 4.5 acres of land on five separate parcels on which we have organic vegetable production, natural areas repopulated with native vegetation, hoop houses, a community building with a barn and green energy creation, a fruit orchard, and welcoming greenspaces.

We're increasing biodiversity by planting native plants, trees, and seeds for the purposes of increasing biodiversity, carbon sequestration, and to enhance ecosystem services.



Caring for the Land

Accomplishments Around the Neighborhood

- Installed two new greenhouses on Steele Ave for food production
- Educated 7 interns on native land restoration initiatives
- Conducted tree inventory on MMC property
- Started Greenhouse gas (GHG) inventory
- Planted over 1000 native plants, trees, and seeds for the purposes of increasing biodiversity, carbon sequestration, and to enhance ecosystem services



1ST NET ZERO ORGANIZATION IN DAYTON

OVER 2,500 VEGGIE AND FLOWER SEEDLINGS PROPOGATED

INSTALLED 100% LED LIGHTING ON PROPERTY

100% OF COMMUNITY GARDEN BEDS RENTED



Thank You for Your Continued Support!

The opportunity to work towards our mission, Mary's mission, comes directly from our supporters. We have been blessed with amazing volunteers, donors, customers, neighbors, area foundation partners, community partners, friends, and families over the years. We are incredibly grateful to each of you because in some way, big or small, you have made a difference. In a special way we want to recognize and thank our board members and our community partners:



MMC Board

Ann Westendorf Hirt - Secretary
Andy Badinghaus – Treasurer
Robert Brodrick – Chair
Mike Schulz – Executive Director
Br. Raymond Fitz S. M.
Br. Tom Pieper S.M.
Beth Schulz

Community Partners

East End Community Services
Ruskin School & Miracle Makers
University of Dayton – Hanley Institute
UD ETHOS Center
New Hope Community Church
University of Dayton Campus Ministry
Marianist PULSE Volunteer Program
UD Business School - Flyer Consulting
Public Health- Creating Healthy Communities
Society of Mary and FMI (Marianists)
City of Dayton – Planning and Comm. Dev.
Five Rivers Metroparks
UD Fitz Center & Riverstewards
Marianist Environmental Education Center

Dayton Marianist Family Council
Marianist Lay Community of North America
Partners for the Environment Dayton Urban Grown
St. Mary's Catholic Church
Premier Health
CareSource
CPPS Heritage Mission
Iddings Family Foundation
United Way of Greater Dayton
The Dayton Foundation
Produce Perks Midwest
5 Rivers Health Centers
UD Dietetics Department
CityWide
Clean Energy 4 All



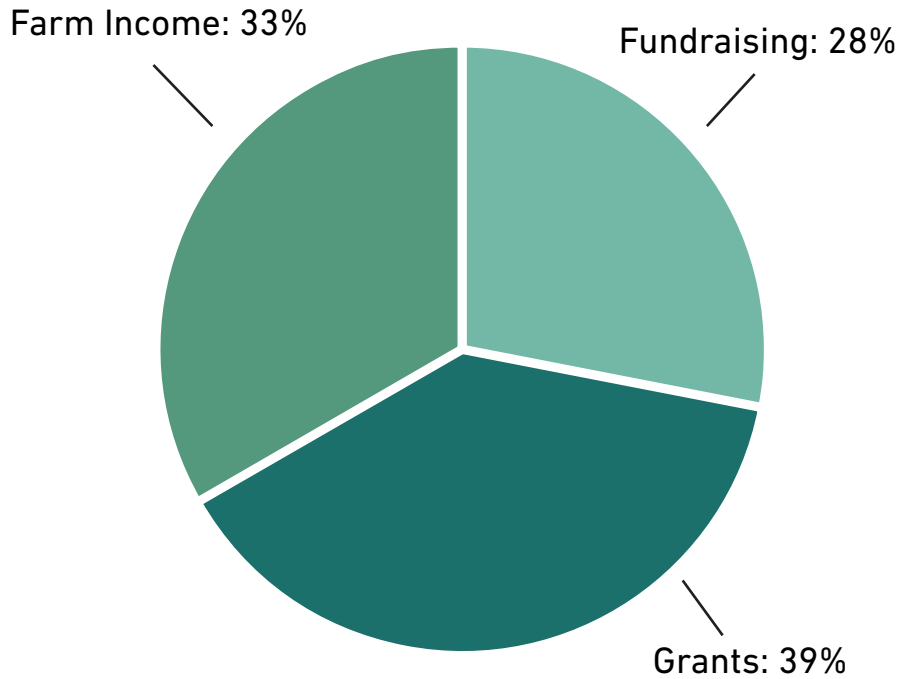
The Year Ahead

In 2021 we will focus on continuing to provide quality programming for youth and adults in our neighborhood who are seeking to become more active and more involved with their food system and their community.

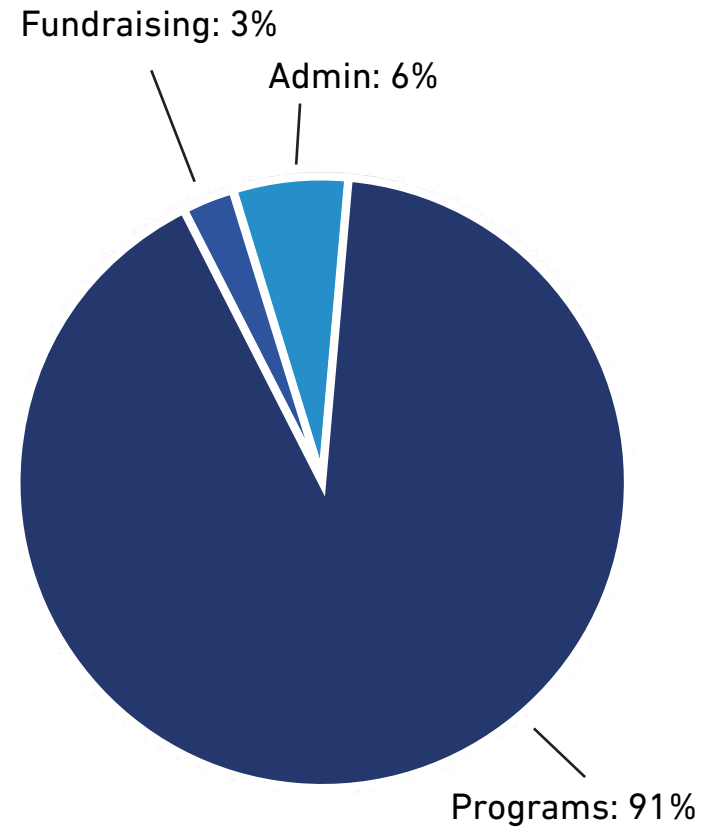
- Install more Backyard Gardens and engage more neighbors in gardening educational programming
- Conduct a greenhouse gas inventory with continued net-zero efforts
- The collaborative development of the Lincoln Hill Gardens site
- Hiring more staff to meet demand for food access needs and community education programs
- Make capital improvements to help meet growing food access needs
- Move towards Carbon Neutrality
- Create five year expansion plan to make capital improvements to meet growing food access needs



2020 Financials



Revenues
\$333,446



Expenses
\$253,144



Help Us Grow

- Attend upcoming events
- Donate online
- Volunteer
- Purchase our produce
- Take a tour

Connect With Us

www.missionofmary.org

missionofmaryfarm@gmail.com

Facebook: Mission of Mary Cooperative

Instagram: @MissionofMary



