To the incredible movers & shakers of Colorado Springs Food Rescue,

We have a saying here at CSFR that goes something like this: “A tree’s branches are only as long as its roots”. To us, deepening roots means learning the history from which our inequitable food system sprouted. It means expanding kinship ties to include our neighbors. It means being resilient and adaptive in a region that only sees 18 inches of rain each year. And most importantly, it means getting our hands dirty.

When I look back on CSFR’s work in 2019, I see roots strong enough to crack asphalt. Last year, on a vacant plot of land donated to CSFR in 2018 by the Legacy Institute, we began digging in and developing the Hillside Hub. The Hub will be a community-driven space integrating programs & social enterprises in fresh food access, education & growing. Alongside dozens of Hillside residents, a handful of whom guide our work as CSFR staff, we hosted community clean-ups, created a community learning garden, held educational food systems programming on-site, expanded our composting social enterprise, and, with our partners at Haseya Advocates Program, constructed an Indigenous Healing Garden. As one of our 2019 F.L.Y. Farm Mentors & Palmer H.S. student, Christian Murillo, puts it: “I’m looking forward to helping a food sovereign community. There are many people that don’t have access to healthier food or food markets”.

Helping to build a food sovereign community in which community members have the power to determine how food is grown, shared, and cooked, is going to take transformation. And the Hillside Hub is going to foundationally shift how CSFR generates grassroots impact in our community. We’re excited to share more of this transformative process in due time. But for now, I ask you to consider a question as you look through our 2019 report: How can I deepen my roots in our community? Afterall, if transformation is what we’re seeking, it’s going to take all of us pitching in.

In deepest gratitude & solidarity,

Zac Chapman
MISSION

To cultivate a healthy, equitable food system in the greater Colorado Springs community.

Food Donation Sites

- Grocery stores
- Schools
- Restaurants
- Others
Food Rescue

336,650 lbs of fresh food, non perishables, and flowers and non-edible household items rescued
  Non edible lbs: 36783
  Edible lbs: 299867

25,326 total people served
12% was delivered on bikes
76 volunteers
Almost 1500 volunteer hours almost equally almost $40k in time

No Cost Grocery Programs

Number of programs: 8
600+ lbs of food distributed per week
People served at NCGPs: 13,438 adults, 7,600 children, 4,288 seniors
Click here to learn more about our grocery programs, their participatory structure, and locations.

Farmacy

Pounds of food distributed: 10,165 lbs
We would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to our health care partners in this program.
Matthews-Vu Medical Group since partnering in 2017 distributed 28,213 lbs of fresh food to their patients and Sunrise Health Care, P.C. who has distributed 7,355 lbs since partnering in 2018!

Hub Club

Number of interested members who have signed up: 15
Boxes sold: approximately 30
SNAP Double Up Bucks approved
Launching Hub Club in 2019 was our first attempt at a low-cost food buying club and we will be the first to admit that we experienced some challenges with the pilot of this program.
Click here to learn more about the lessons learned and how we will be improving in 2020.
**Food Production**

**Soil Cycle**

*20,000+ lbs* of food waste collected and composted

*70+ volunteers*

*1,000 lbs* of compost distributed back to gardeners and members

*117 members* in pickups

*2 drop off sites* served *77 members*

If all the food waste collected by Soil Cycle in 2019 had been sent to the landfill, it would have created *38,000 pounds of CO2e emissions*—equivalent to *1,539 days of electricity for the average 3-person household.*

[Click here](#) to learn more about Soil Cycle, its environmental impact and how you can be part of the solution.

**Fresh Food Connect**

*Number of active gardeners this year: 27*

*Produce donated: 752 lbs*

Interested in growing a little extra produce this year to benefit your community? [Click here](#) to get the app and sign up!
FOOD EDUCATION

Food Systems Assessment
Phase 2 of assessment
4 neighborhoods of opportunity
670 residents engaged through cold calls and canvassing
26 in-depth resident interviews conducted
Click here to learn more about the FSA, see a sneak peak of the info we are gathering through ground truthing and read the phase 1 results

Community Education
Educational collaboration with 4 local colleges
40 middle school students engaged through SEATO mentoring
Link to kids rap video?
125 individuals reached through Food Shed Forum
5 community events hosted
FLY
Atlas Preparatory School
  12 interns
  4 youth mentors employed
  55 volunteer hours
  6 educational field trips

**FLY at Atlas Prep** was our flagship youth education program. The past few years, we have met some of the most incredible young leaders through this internship and employment program. However, as we focus our resources at the Hillside Hub, we will be relocating all of our F.L.Y. programming to the Hillside Hub in an effort to expand the reach to students from all over the Southeast side of COS and provide more hands-on, experiential food educational opportunities.

In the summer of 2019 we piloted our first FLY program at the Hillside Hub Community Learning Farm.

**Interns in the program: 6**
**85 volunteer hours** from students, families and people who donated their time
**30 new neighbors engaged**
**108 Student Educational Hours**
Skills-shared with interns: community-ownership, carpentry, planting, watering, fertilizing, landscaping, fence-building, sheet mulching, harvesting, construction, design

This year we began work on the **Hillside Hub property** by:
F.L.Y. interns and neighborhood residents began the design and construction of the Community Learning Farm
Soil Cycle began building soil on site for future growing success
**Hosted 2 community events**
Haseya Advocates created Colorado Springs’ first Indigenous Healing Garden

**$1,489,569 CONFIRMED OF $2,168,549 TOTAL PROJECT BUDGET**

If you are interested in learning more about the Hillside Hub and how you can get support this innovative new project, contact Zac Chapman at zac@coloradospringsfoodrescue.org.
Investing in the health of our community and food system benefits us all. We would not be able to cultivate a healthy, equitable food system in our community without the hundreds of passionate, enthusiastic supporters that believe in and contribute to our goals. Donate today to ensure the continued success of this important work.

**2019 MAJOR DONORS**

These dedicated foundations, families, and individuals contributed more than $500 throughout the 2019 Fiscal Year.

- Colorado Springs Health Foundation
- Colorado Health Foundation
- The Jobar Foundation
- El Pomar Foundation
- The Colorado Trust
- Mary K. Chapman Foundation
- Clif Bar Family Foundation
- Slow Food Pikes Peak
- Pikes Peak Community Foundation
- Edson Fund
- Quick Foundation
- Quail Roost Foundation
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- Moniker Foundation
- Luther T. McCauley
- San Francisco Foundation - The Hellman Trust
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- The Bloom Foundation
- Walter Chapman
- Zac Chapman
- Shandy Clinic
- Kirkpatrick Bank
- Chapman Foundation
- El Pomar
- Colorado College
- The Colorado Trust
- The Legacy Institute
Friends of CSFR is a monthly giving program that provides CSFR with financial security through consistent, reliable support. The 2019 Friends of CSFR contributed between $5 and $500 a month in unrestricted funding to support our general operations. Becoming a Friend is one of the most meaningful ways to invest in our work, [click here](#) to become a Friend today!

**2019 FRIENDS OF CSFR AND HARVEST CELEBRATION LIST**

Donella Berry  
Pam and Wayne Bland  
Lisa Blattner  
Patti Canova  
Monika Chapman  
Zac Chapman  
Kathy Crandall  
Jacquelyn Douglas  
Megan Gillespie  
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We are incredibly grateful for the support of all of our sponsors and business partners whose dedication and commitment helped make 2019’s Harvest Celebration our most successful fundraising event to date! When you support these businesses, you are supporting us!

**Harvest Fiscal Sponsors**  
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The Colorado Trust  
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