



2023 ANNUAL REPORT

GROWING FOR GOOD

A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN
PCC COMMUNITY MARKETS,
SEATTLE NEIGHBORHOOD
FARMERS MARKETS AND
HARVEST AGAINST HUNGER

FARMER CENTERED COMMUNITY FOCUSED PEOPLE FUNDED



2023 IN REVIEW

What was originally an emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Growing for Good is now an established farm-to-food access program funding and fostering purchasing relationships between local growers and hunger relief agencies. In its fourth year of operation, Growing for Good continued to help meet the need of fresh and nutrient dense food in the hunger relief system, while fine tuning and evolving aspects of the program to best support our farm and hunger relief partners.

PCC's three-year funding commitment of \$100,000 per year has provided both stability and flexibility to the program. In 2023, many of the matchups between farms and hunger relief agencies were consistent from the prior year, allowing for deeper relational partnerships. At the same time, the program brought on two new hunger relief agencies and two new farms. In addition, Growing for Good integrated some program activities with King County Farmers Share, another regional farm-to-food access program, such as monthly cohort meetings and field trips to further develop this network.



OUR SUCCESSES

GETTING HIGH QUALITY PRODUCE INTO THE HUNGER RELIEF SYSTEM

"Customers are thrilled with the quality. We are proud to say that nearly all of our offerings are high quality, but we have heard many customers, upon seeing produce from Regino Farms, exclaim that they are the best looking carrots, or kale, or strawberries they have ever seen. And we on the staff agree! They look like the best food you could hope to find at the priciest farmers market. Customers also appreciate that the food comes in from a farm directly. They see us helping to unload and are very pleased to get such high quality, fresh food directly from a near by farmer. It really demonstrates the power of local food and food systems."

-Renewal Food Bank



FOSTERING PARTNERSHIPS THROUGH GFG AND BEYOND

"We continue to leverage what we learn and gain from GFG to build new farm relationships. We maintained a relationship we had previously with Cooperativa Tierra y Libertad and added another new farm too (Faith Beyond Farm). It is easy to work with Viva and I recommend them to our peer food banks looking to get started."

-University District Food Bank

SUPPORTING LOCAL FARMERS WITH MISSION-ALIGNED CONTRACTS

"Our mission is to provide healthy food for our community. We are a community driven small organic farm. We love providing food to food banks, knowing the customers are receiving the best food we can grow, and as fresh as one day harvest. We understand that without programs such as Growing for Good, the grocery store donation selection might be their customers only source of fresh vegetables, Growing for Good is doing great work. We are honored and grateful to be a part of the program."

-Frey Family Farms



PARTICIPATING FARMS

AG Family Farm
Alvarez Organic Farms
Canales Produce
Cooperativa Tierra Y Libertad*
Frey Family Farm
Hayton Farms Berries
Kirsop Farm
Left Foot Farms
Mariposa Farm
Olsen Farms
Present Tense Farm
Regino Farm
Sno Valley Gardens
Spring Time Farm
Tian Tian Farm*
Viva Farms
Windy Acre Farm

PARTICIPATING FOOD BANKS

Alimentando al Pueblo*
Asian Counseling and Referral Services
Ballard Food Bank
Byrd Barr Place
Chicken Soup Brigade
Des Moines Area Food Bank
Edmonds Food Bank
FamilyWorks
Highline Area Food Bank
Hopelink - Bellevue, Kirkland, & Redmond
Issaquah Food and Clothing Bank
Jewish Family Services - Polack Food Bank
Maltby Food Bank
North Helpline Lake City & Bitterlake
Rainier Valley Food Bank
Renewal Food Bank
University District Food Bank
Vashon Island Food Bank*
West Seattle Food Bank
Westgate Chapel Food Bank
White Center Food Bank

*New partners

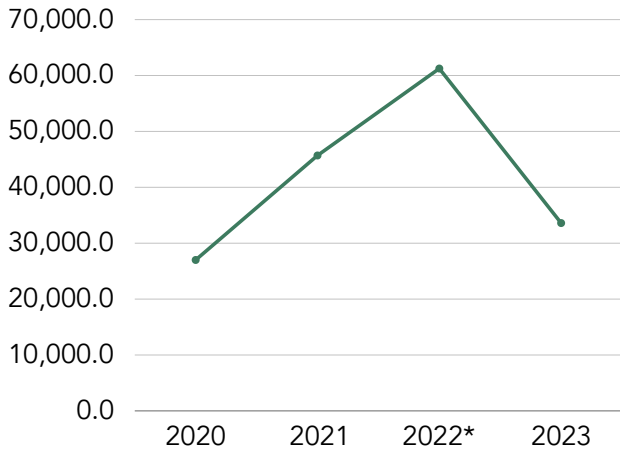
LOOKING FORWARD

Growing For Good enters its fifth year of operations with goals to strengthen established partnerships between its participating local farms and hunger relief agencies. This includes developing future programming such as a Grower Roundtable and refining early season contracting processes for our farmers. With PCC Community Markets raising an additional \$120,000 through community fundraising on top of their committed \$100,000 for 2024, Growing For Good has the capacity to sustain, refine, and grow a values-based regional food system that supports high-quality, nutrient-rich food for all.



SUPPORT

Yearly Poundage Comparison



*increased program funding due to COVID era funding opportunities

"This type of program supports so many players in the local food system: farmers & farmworkers, delivery drivers, farm admin, food banks and their clients. It is a way to both bolster the local food economy and to meet the food access needs of the local population. My vision would be for this type of program to grow at a regional, state and national level over time!"

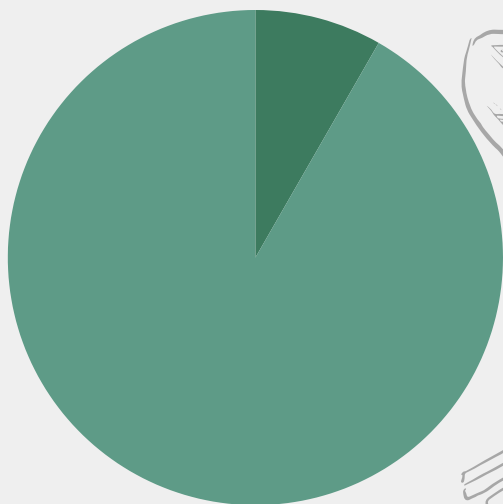
- Viva Farms

Over the past four years of Growing For Good, farms, food banks and their clients have seen the benefits of farm to food access programs.

Their main feedback has been MORE- more partnerships and more funding. We're always looking for ways to expand and develop GFG and aim to be a consistent funding source for our partners. This wouldn't be possible without financial support from our community. If you feel so inclined to donate, please scan the QR code below.

- I'd like to partner with the SAME number...
- I'd like to partner with MORE food banks
- I'd like to partner with LESS food banks

I'd like to partner with the SAME number of food banks
8.3%



I'd like to partner with MORE food banks
91.7%

