

2023

IMPACT REPORT



FOOD
WELL
ALLIANCE



Food Well Alliance provided more direct services and resources to local growers in our 2023 fiscal year than ever before. This report shows the tremendous impact we made thanks to strong support from the metro Atlanta community.

Helping Farms Thrive with Hands-on Support

Farms and gardens get more done in less time with labor and mechanical assistance.

“It’s really nice to be able to partner with a skilled group of individuals that are very pointed and passionate about what they do.”

- Chris Lemons, Director of Programs & Outreach, Food Well Alliance



“It’s a win-win situation. The farms get support and the growers working as part of the Eco-PARADIGM team get real-world experience and earn a liveable wage.”

- Charles Greenlea, Owner, Eco-PARADIGM



Food Well Alliance engages Atlanta-based agriculture services provider Eco-PARADIGM to complete challenging projects for local farmers.



\$90,687

2,174 hours of labor assistance to 19 farms

\$33,000

in labor support stipends to 11 farms

33

walk-behind tractors and tools loaned through Atlanta Community ToolBank partnership

\$19,200

in tractor assistance at 14 farms

*Small Farmer at Large
Chris Theal preps farms for planting with his Kubota tractor.*

Planting For Tomorrow

People gain skills to grow their own food and connect with others in the local food movement.

Moe Hemmings of Atlanta Botanical Garden leads a gardening workshop at Soil Festival.



52

growers and local food entrepreneurs trained at workshops on food safety, business development and more

915

Soil Festival attendees educated on pollinators, composting and gardening

1,837

people equipped with home gardening skills at Plant.Eat.Repeat. workshops in partnership with Atlanta Botanical Garden

25

growers informed about large-scale composting at CompostNow tour



Booker T. Washington intern Shanii Armour prepares eggplant from the Compost Connectors garden.

Students K-12 in 3 metro school systems engage in food waste diversion, composting and urban agriculture through Compost Connectors.



“I’ve learned more about my community, and most importantly, I’ve learned how to plant and grow my own food. All while having the unique opportunity of being paid 15 dollars an hour.”

- Harmoni Griffin, Compost Connector Intern, Booker T. Washington High School

\$45,000

paid in wages to high school interns

4,314

pounds of food waste diverted from school cafeterias

7,310

students reached through awareness campaigns and cafeteria collections

Farms and Gardens are equipped to grow and give back.



"I definitely wouldn't be as far along without Food Well... They enable me to get the resources I need to grow as fast as I have grown and give me the relief to try new ways of doing things."

- Lelo Jones, farm grant recipient and owner of Outdoor Fresh Farm

"I love that Food Well is flexible, nimble, agile, and listens to growers. They adapt to what we need and make the resources as available as possible. I feel like Food Well has shown a real commitment to inject resources in building up a local food system."

- Stephanie Simmons, farm grant recipient and owner of PolyCulture Productions at Gaia Gardens



"Without Food Well, we wouldn't have the infrastructure that we have. They have been a major, major help and a wonderful contributor."

- Beth Arechiga, garden grant recipient and garden manager, Creative Enterprises Community Garden



\$260,000

in grants to 34 farms

\$117,500

in grants to 67 community gardens

3,007

volunteer hours served by 1,020 volunteers

40,000

seedlings distributed to farms and gardens in partnership with Love is Love Cooperative Farm

211,685

pounds of produce donated through Plant a Row for the Hungry in partnership with Food Well Alliance and growers





Strengthening Our Soil

Growing spaces are enriched by compost deliveries and distributions.

Compost is the "black gold" that grows healthier vegetables.

30

cubic yards of compost distributed at the Earth Day Compost Giveaway and Soil Festival

230

tons of food waste diverted and turned into compost at the Community Compost Lab in partnership with Truly Living Well Center for Natural Urban Agriculture

946

cubic yards of compost delivered to 178 farms and gardens

\$160,500

invested into producing and delivering healthy soil

Cultivating Fruitful Work

Communities access healthy fruit for years to come through new orchards.

Volunteers plant new orchards across metro Atlanta.

889

fruit trees, vines and berries planted

\$28,215

raised at annual Fruit Tree Sale to benefit the Orchard Project

33

new orchards installed



“When the new orchards start producing, community members can potentially harvest up to 323,400 servings of fruit and nuts annually.”

- Kate Conner, Executive Director, Food Well Alliance

Building Healthier Cities

City and community leaders come together with growers and residents to prioritize local food through City Agriculture Planning (CAP).



“We are humbled and grateful to be chosen to execute upon the Atlanta Regional Commission and Food Well Alliance City Agriculture Plan.”

- Tommy Henderson,
Jonesboro Chief of Police

405

Jonesboro residents, growers and leaders involved in CAP community engagement activities

120

Alpharetta residents, growers and leaders engaged in planning and implementation phases

1,115

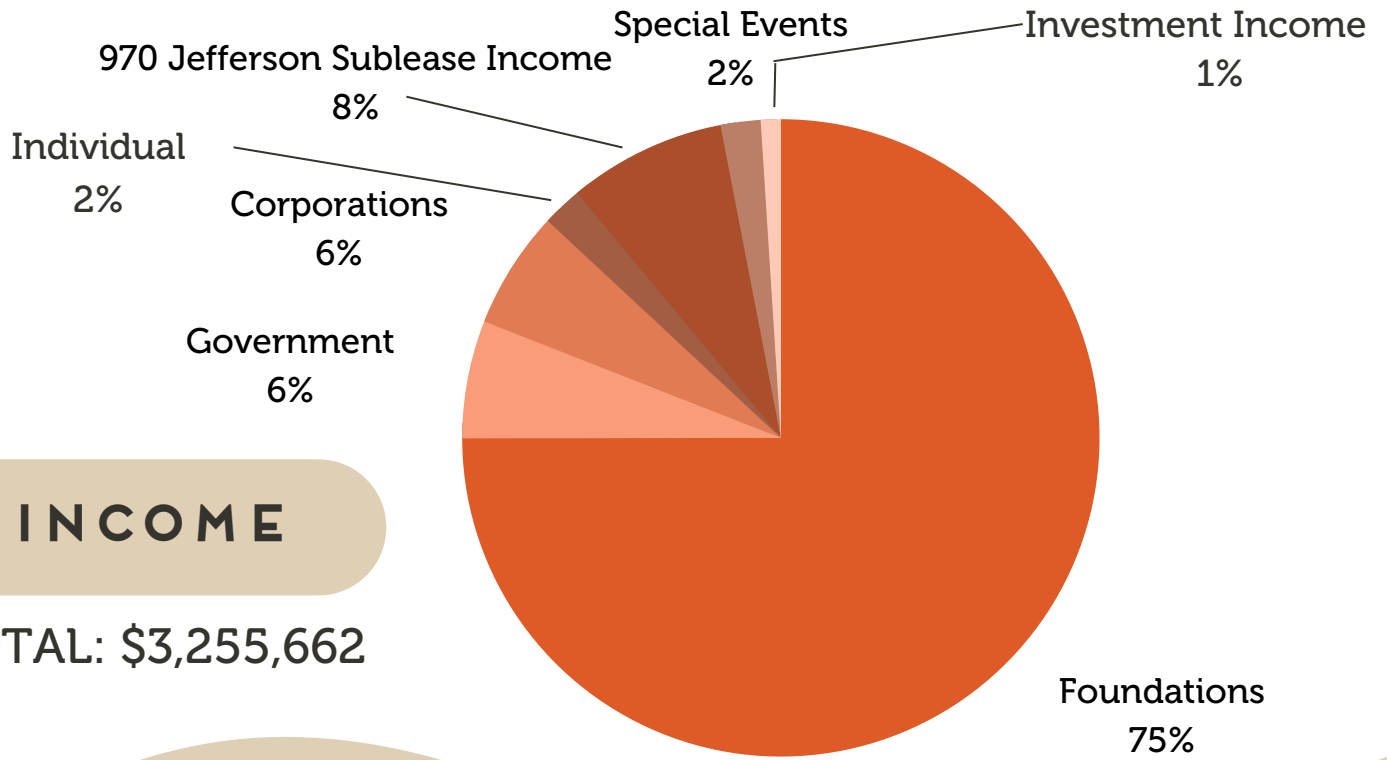
East Point residents, growers and leaders at East Point Grown-sponsored events



Jonesboro Chief of Police Tommy Henderson (left) joins Jonesboro Mayor Donya Sartor at the celebration of their selection as the third metro city to create a City Agriculture Plan.

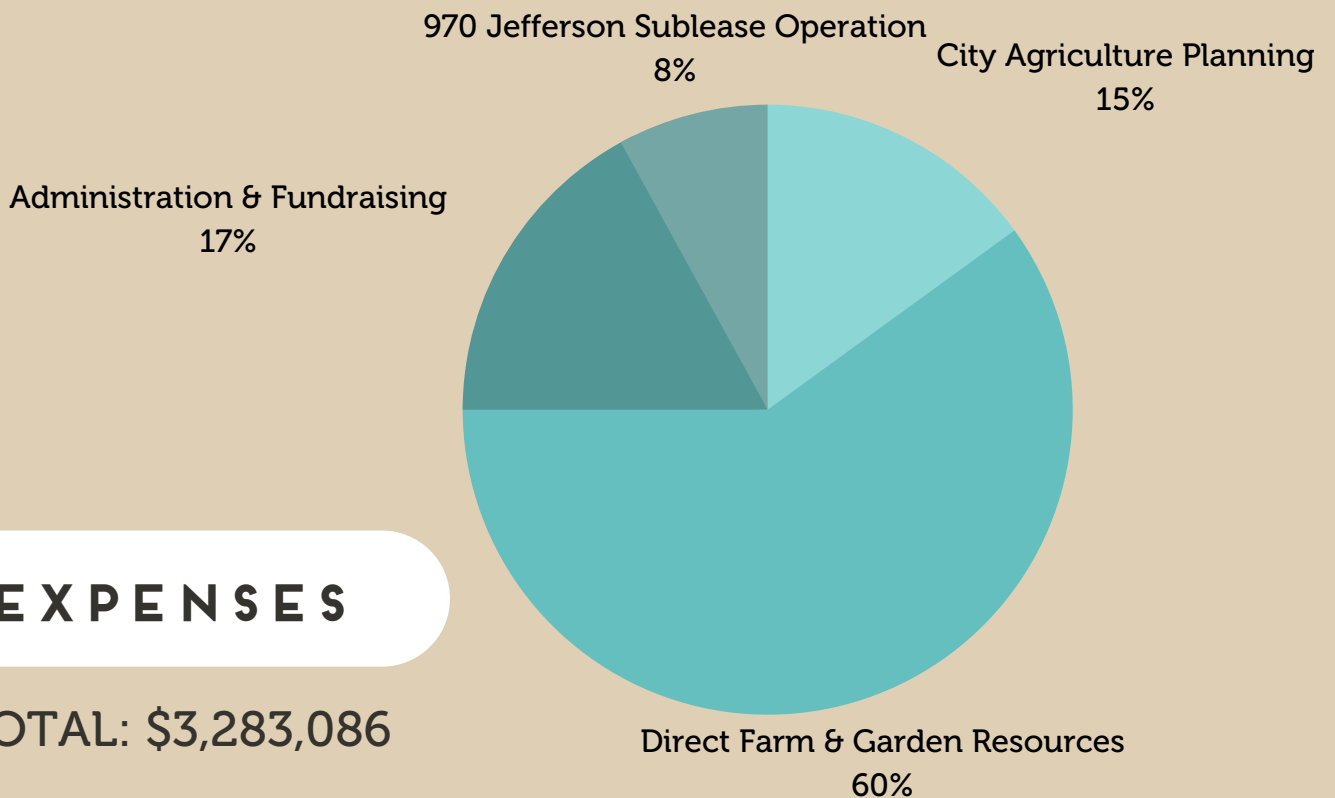
Financial Highlights

**unaudited financials*



INCOME

TOTAL: \$3,255,662



EXPENSES

TOTAL: \$3,283,086

We are grateful for your support! Learn more ways to get involved at foodwellalliance.org.



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Photo credits: Brandon Crumsey, Caleb Jones and Ashley Wiley



The creation of Food Well Alliance was made possible through funding from the founding benefactor, the James M. Cox Foundation, and through the vision of Jim Kennedy, chair of Cox Enterprises, and Bill Bolling, founder of the Atlanta Community Food Bank. Together, they saw an opportunity to build healthier communities across metro Atlanta by supporting and connecting members of our local food movement.

