

Salvation Farms

2013 Annual Report



2013 was certainly an exciting and challenging year for Salvation Farms. Our programs continue to grow and become stronger all the time. The Vermont Commodity work at the SE State Correctional Facility is expanding and we are getting closer to the financial goal that will pay for the renovation of the building on the property. Program evaluations collected from the inmates make it clear that there are significant benefits beyond the reduction of fresh-food waste on farms.

The Gleaning Collective has four Member Organizations and we know this will be a very productive season for each. We have been hard at work building and bring to life the Gleaners Interface, an online tool to support gleaning across Vermont. We are excited to launch the Interface this spring.

You may have seen us on the road as we were able to purchase a truck through the combination of a grant, restricted donations, and a loan. Theresa has become a successful grant writer, finding a wide variety of funders impressed with our vision and the work they see occurring within communities across Vermont. Funders appreciate the approach that Salvation Farms is taking as we are creatively building systems that interconnect the programs and services that already exist in communities, not simply building another program.

Salvation Farms is at a pivotal time in our development. We must expand our staff by two this year to support our organization's growth and expand our services in Vermont. This is always a scary time for an organization, but we will move forward with confidence that the financial support exists to continue building food system resilience in Vermont. It is with great thanks to you for your commitment to our work that we will make these growth steps with focused dedication.

Respectfully,
Susan Bartlett, Board President

What is your understanding of Salvation Farms' work?

"A vital part if not crucial to Vermont life."
James, SESCOF Inmate

Salvation Farms' mission is to increase resilience in Vermont's food system through agricultural surplus management. Our mission is achieved by fostering collaborative, cross-sector partnerships that engage and utilize available resources, skills and knowledge to create efficient practices for managing Vermont's farm surplus.

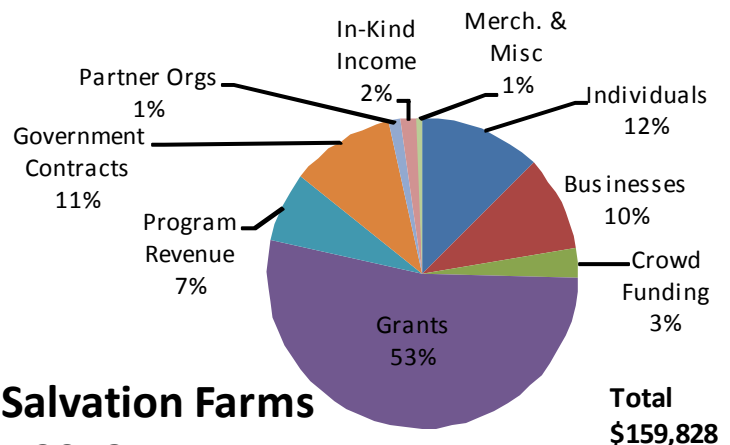
We are driven by three primary goals:

1. Reduce food waste on Vermont farms
2. Decrease our dependence on food from afar
3. Increase citizen appreciation for and understanding of our state's agricultural heritage and future

We are deeply rooted in the philosophy that farms are, were and always will be our salvation; small, diversified farms are the cornerstones of healthy, wholesome and stable communities and cultures. We believe that the best way to build lasting change is to involve people in the process; this creates ownership and intrinsic value. A common and essential resource, **food is an extremely effective tool for social change.**

Board of Directors

Susan Bartlett *President*, Dorigen Keeney *Secretary*, John Mandeville *Treasurer*, Amy Shollenberger, Chip Conquest



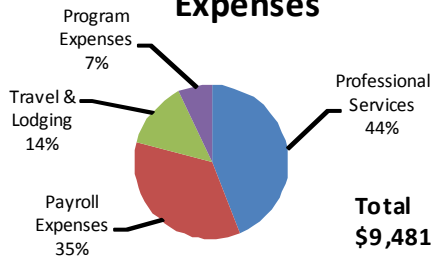
Salvation Farms 2013 Income

"Tuberville is an organization that looks at finding efficiencies in our system that already exist. What we admire in the work of Salvation Farms and the philosophy of Theresa Snow is the fundamental belief that through collaboration and honest work the system can be changed. Their ideas are of an entirely different magnitude than those Vermont currently uses to supply its charitable food system."

Ralph Perkins, Tuberville

Tuberville has been a HUGE contributor of potatoes to the Vermont Commodity Program activities at the SE State Correctional Facility.

Vermont Gleaning Collective Expenses



Register as a gleaner with the Vermont Gleaning Collective Today!
www.SalvationFarms.org

Salvation Farms led the Rutland Area Farm & Food Link's (RAFFL) gleaning program, the Glean Team, through pre-season farm visits and an overhaul of their operational systems. We provided staff training and support throughout the season, assisting with building program budget projections and identifying assets in the community to support the Glean Team's activities. As a result, their program saw a 25% increase in gleanings and a 99% increase in volunteer involvement.

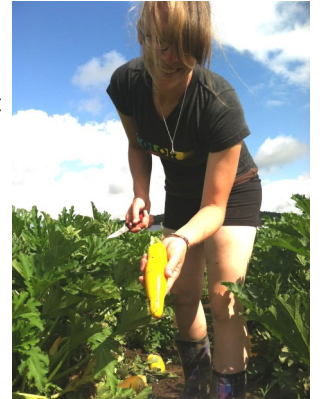
"RAFFL has seen firsthand the benefit of being a member of the envisioned Vermont Gleaning Collective... As a direct result of receiving technical assistance, staff training and assessment of our region's resources we've expanded the consistency, reliability and professionalism of our program resulting in more frequent gleaning activities, deeper partnerships with area farmers, and a solid base of volunteers."
 Tara Kelly, Executive Director, Rutland Area Farm & Food Link

Exploring an expansion of the Intervale Center's gleaning program to serve the greater Chittenden County region through farm visits led to four collaboratively coordinated gleanings at Yates Family Orchard. More than three dozen volunteers including UVM students, AmeriCorps VISTA Members, and City Market Members contributed an excess of 200 hours resulting in 19,730 pounds of apples. The apples were shipped to the SESCOF for packing by the Vermont Commodity Program crew.

In our journey to stabilize, expand, and professionalize gleaning in Vermont through identifying resources that will create statewide connectivity, we successfully engaged the *first ever* incarcerated work crew in the activity of gleaning in Vermont. A crew of ten men gleaned 7,090 pounds of winter squash and 466 pounds of peppers from High Mowing Organic Seeds production fields. Salvation Farms believes that a strong relationship with the Vermont Offender Work Program will be an essential component to creating responsive farm surplus management programs.



We coordinated a glean at Pete's Greens with students from Sterling College and the Vermont Foodbank that yielded more than 1,500 pounds of summer squash. After



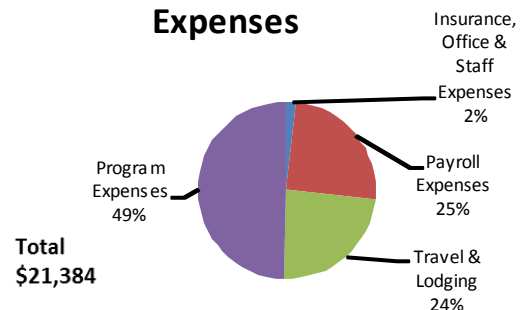
the harvest, a dozen students joined Salvation Farms to create minimally processed, frozen Vermont Commodity products.



This year at the SE State Correctional Facility (SESCF) we engaged 22 inmates and received 85,250 pounds of potatoes, winter squash, apples, carrots, onions, and rutabaga. Majority of crops were transported to and from SESCOF by Black River Produce. Salvation Farms also transported 14,325 pounds to several sites throughout the year with our new company truck. The Vermont Commodity product, cleaned and packed at SESCOF, was provided to the following food access sites/institutions: Bellows Falls Our Place Drop-In Center, Boston Area Gleaners, Keene Community Kitchen, Lamoille Community Food Share, SESCOF Meal Program, Springfield Family Center, Trinity Church Food Shelf, Willing Hands, Windsor Schools, and the Vermont Foodbank.



Vermont Commodity Program Expenses



Will you list the work experience and any certifications/trainings you receive while on the Vermont Commodity Crew on your resume?

"Yes, so they would see that even though I'm locked up I'm still learning and want to be a big help to the community when I get out. All the training that comes out of this would help me further, to have a better chance of success on the street."

Trevor, SESCOF Inmate

Did you learn anything that you didn't expect to?

"Yes, I never realized the amount of safety that goes into a successful operation. Everything has its place and everyone has their task. Without proper training of SOPs (Standard Operating Procedures) everything can go wrong."

Kyle, SESCOF Inmate

I have watched Salvation Farms grow from a project on our farm in 2004 into an organization with a sophisticated and admirable mission. I am impressed by the dedication and innovation Salvation Farms brings to further the development of Vermont's food system.

Pete Johnson, Pete's Greens



Executive Director Theresa Snow and Board Member Dorigen Keeney stand by our new truck after gleaning a High Mowing Organic Seeds production field.

Minimally processed product development, part of the Vermont Commodity Program, continued at the Vermont Food Venture Center with summer squash and bell peppers. In total, 425 pounds were processed into 148 packages appropriate for food shelf distribution and 97 packages appropriate for prepared meal site use. Seventeen volunteers were engaged on two different days contributing 70 hours to process these gleaned veggies for the purpose of continued product development and end user testing.



"As winter turns to spring, I'm closing in on a full year of service as an AmeriCorps VISTA with Salvation Farms. I'm grateful indeed to be part of this organization. Not only do I resonate with the mission of building resilience and the practical objective of better managing agricultural surplus...I also take inspiration from the commitment and tenacity of our small team. I'm delighted to have the chance to extend my service year though this upcoming season."

Marcella Houghton, Program Capacity Builder



Funding the Vermont Commodity Program Renovation at the Southeast State Correctional Facility

OUR GOAL: \$126,000 by June 1st 2014

Source	Secured	Pending
Corp. Contributions		\$5,000.00
Corp. Contributions	\$2,750.00	
Crowd Funding	\$7,400.00	
Gov. Grants		\$30,000.00
Ind. Contributions	\$11,900.00	
Non-Gov. Grants		\$17,500.00
Non-Gov. Grants	\$20,000.00	
Program Revenue	\$5,000.00	
Total	\$47,050.00	\$52,500.00

"After spending a week with the men who pack produce for Salvation Farms' Vermont Commodity Program, it is clear that this program gives inmates a chance to engage in meaningful work. While brainstorming a "values statement" on why it is important to them to follow good handling practices for food safety one of the points they agreed on is that the program gives them an opportunity to 'give back to the community'."

Ginger Nickerson, GAPs Outreach Coordinator, UVM Center for Sustainable Agriculture

Salvation Farms send a Special Thanks to:

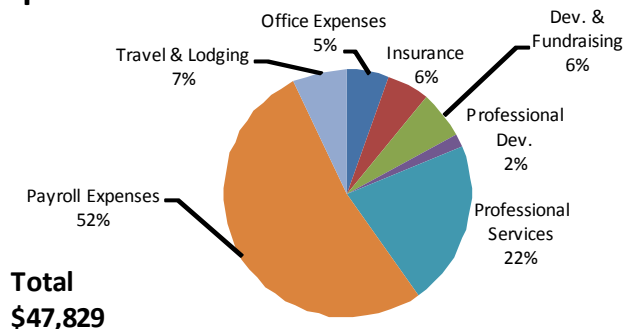
- **Gregg Stevens** for his dedication to creating a high quality video to tell the story of the SESCO building renovation needs; Check it out: www.tinyurl.com/help-sf.
- **Marcella Houghton** for her dedication to the mission of Salvation Farms and hard work to support the creation of the Gleaners Interface.
- **Tim Clifford** for contributing endless hours developing the Gleaners Interface.
- **Rebecca Kraemer** for assisting with several graphic design projects.
- **Megan Connolly** for her dedication to sharing our message with Rotary Clubs across Vermont.
- And to **Christina Goodwin, Cynthia West, Brenda Snow, Cathy Snow,** and **Kris Coville** for assisting with our fundraising efforts.

To Our Partners, Thank You! Black River Produce, Center for an Agricultural Economy, Intervale Center, Laraway Youth & Family Services, Rutland Area Farm & Food Link, Sterling College, Tuberville, Vermont Department of Buildings and General Services, Vermont Department of Corrections & the Southeast State Correctional Facility.

Thank You Farmers! Cedar Circle Farm, Chappelle's Vermont Potatoes, Dog River Farm, Farm @ VTC, High Mowing Organic Seeds, Peaslee's Vermont Potatoes, Pete's Greens, Riverside Farm, and Yates Family Orchard.

And to the Bees Knees & Moog's Place, Thank you! for hosting fundraising events at your establishments.

General & Administrative Expenses



Staff

Theresa Snow Executive Director, Marcella Houghton AmeriCorps VISTA

802-522-3148
info@salvationfarms.org

Salvation Farms, PO Box 1174, Morrisville VT 05661

Salvation Farms is made possible by the support of many generous donors!

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