



2022 ANNUAL SUMMARY



Staff & Contractors

Tonia Lordy, Executive Director
Meagan Mckenney, Communications
Specialist
Emily Horton, Arboretum Assistant

Board Of Directors

Corynne Lowenthal, President
Chris Konieczka, V.P.
Anthony Yeznach, Treasurer
Nicki Youngsma, Secretary
Nicole Dunbar, Co-Secretary
Chantal Wikstrom, Director
Beth Gandara, Director

OUR MISSION

To celebrate and explore horticultural education, provide equitable access to healthy food, and support systems that promote intergenerational community connections.



YEAR AT A GLANCE

- **107** community members of all ages volunteered to work and learn in the Home Orchard Education Center (HOEC) orchard, contributing a total of **3,919** volunteer hours!
- **46** horticultural workshops were hosted on-site, with more than **566** students in attendance.
- **157** additional students from outside educational programs, ranging from preschool to college age, attended tailored programming & field trips in the orchard.
- The Fee Waiver fund awarded **15** workshop fee waivers and **10** fruit share fee waivers, helping bring us closer to our goal of providing more equitable access to fruit and horticulture education in our community.
- **43** volunteers participated in a community orchard work-trade program- **12** with the Worker's Share, and **31** with the Harvest Share.
- Over **154** visitors came to the orchard during open hours for fruit growing advice, recreate in the space, and gain inspiration for their home gardens.
- Over **9,611** pounds of organic fruit was grown in the orchard, and distributed throughout the community; including but not limited to **43** volunteer households & **77** Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) participants.
- In addition, **\$9,524** worth of fruit and propagation materials were gifted to local farms, educational programs, food banks, and more.



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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



Volunteer Programming

Volunteers of all ages and experience levels signed up to work and learn year-round with the HOEC team this year. Rain or shine, they contributed essential services, gained new skills, learned about growing fruit, and took home a share of the bounty. Volunteers form the backbone of HOEC, in the orchard and out of it, and we extend a profound thank you and our deepest gratitude to the **107** individuals who donated their time and energy to this amazing volunteer community they helped create! It continues to grow, flourish, and thrive because of you. ♥



Worker's Share and Harvest Share Program

Continuing the success of 2021's trial Community Orchard Volunteer program, which enabled volunteers to trade work hours for a share of the bounty, we refined the options in 2022 and created the Worker's Share and Harvest Share Program, available only to volunteers. These add-ons gave volunteers the choice of whether they wanted to trade a set amount of hours, or pay a sliding scale amount in addition to hours spent in the orchard in exchange for a share of the harvest to take home. The program was a success, and will continue on in 2023.



Community Education Workshops

Expanding on the successes of 2021's Community Education Workshop series, we increased the number of educational workshops offered from 37 to an unprecedented **46**. New popular hands-on subjects were added to our lineup, including a Garden Tool Care workshop and a Soil Health and Mushroom Inoculation workshop!



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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Fee Waivers

2022 saw the creation and launch of a new Fee Waiver fund for Workshops and Homesteader's Bounty fruit shares. For the first time, community members enrolled in qualifying financial assistance programs (SNAP, Section 8, Oregon Health Plan, or Free and Reduced Lunch) could apply to attend a workshop or receive a fruit share at no cost to them. In total, this program awarded **15** workshop fee waivers and **10** fruit share fee waivers, helping bring us closer to our goal of providing more equitable access to fruit and horticulture education in our community.

CSA Program

Our 2022 CSA Program continued to be a successful avenue for distributing fruit grown in the orchard directly into the hands of our local community. It was once again our second-largest source of funding, but also one of the most labor intensive operations, as this year we offered an option for pick-up in the orchard or at a host site in Portland. The hiring of a new part-time staff position, Arboretum Assistant, proved to be a major asset for all orchard operations, but for the CSA in particular!

Online Learning Resources

We continued adding content to the HOEC blog in 2022, expanding the archive to include an extensive collection of articles all about fruit, useful horticultural tips and information, and other orchard-related topics. You can learn about the history and lore of unusual fruits; propagating plants; harvesting, storing, & cooking with fruit; tool selection; organic orchard care; mason bee stewardship; resources for further education; and more!

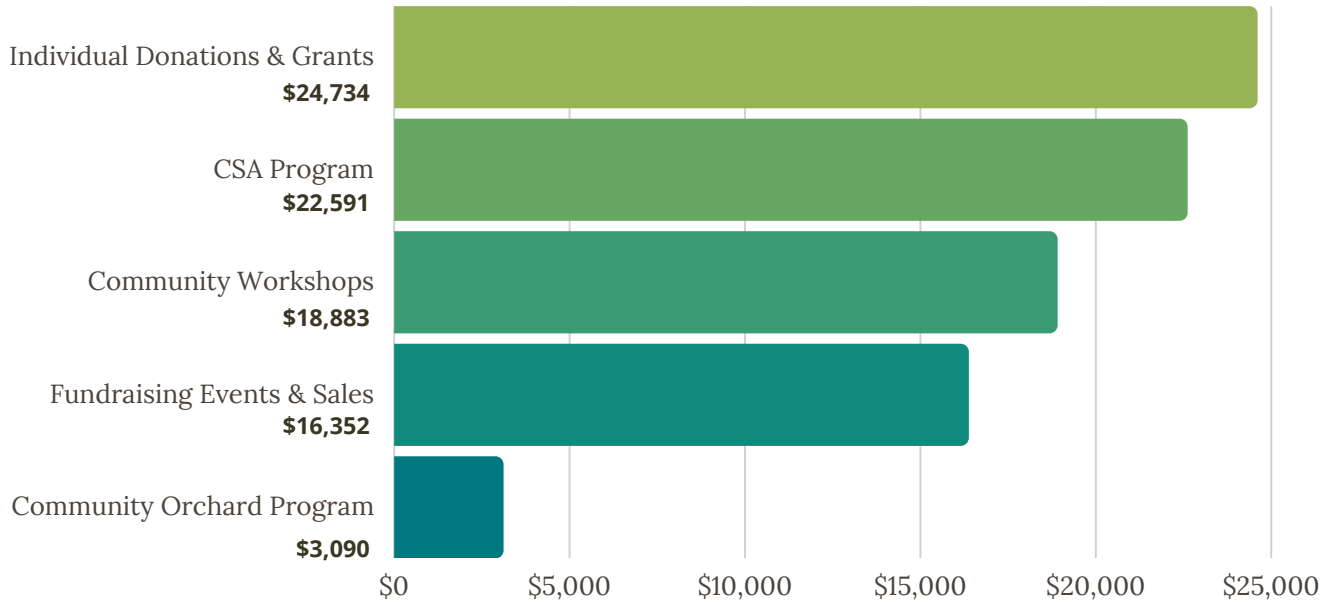


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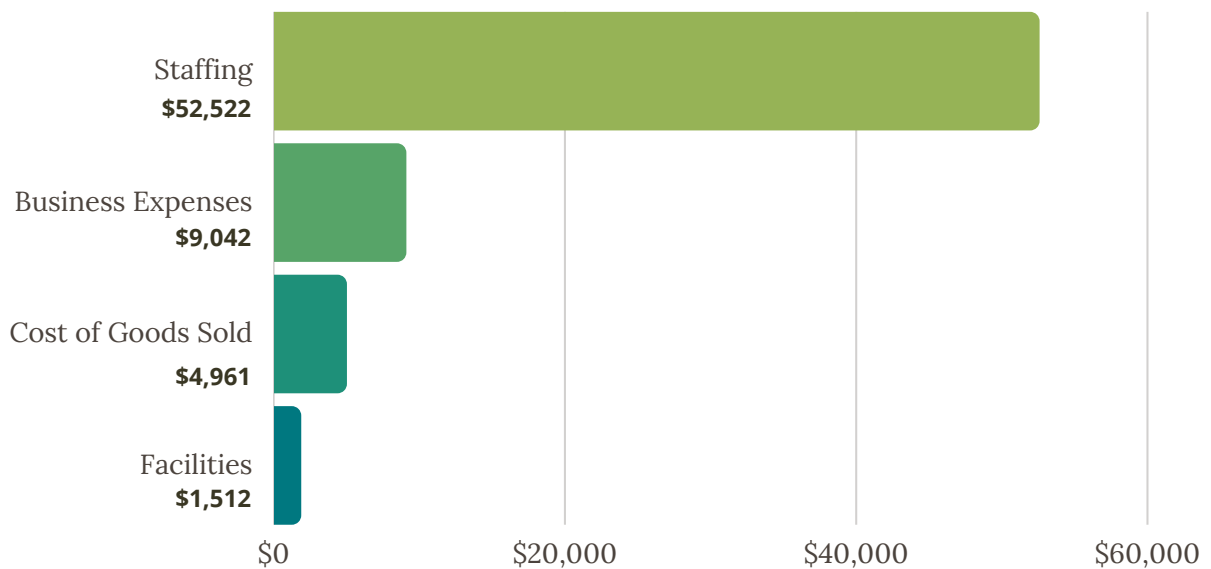
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2022 FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

Income: \$85,907



Operating Expenses: \$68,037



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LOOKING BACK

How did we do on our GOALS for 2022?

- We expanded our educational offerings by offering more workshops on new topics.
- We raised funds for and then launched our new Fee Waiver Program, furthering our goal to provide equitable access to food and educational programming for our community.
- We enriched the benefits of the Community Orchard Volunteer Program by creating the Worker's Share and Harvest Share Add-Ons.
- Thanks to a generous grant from the Portland Garden Club, we broke ground on a brand new Bee Demonstration Area and adjacent pollinator garden, to be completed in 2023.
- We hired a part-time Arboretum Assistant.



GOALS for 2023

- Develop a long term strategic plan.
- Develop a fundraising plan.
- Add to the pool of community educators.
- Seek out and cultivate mutually beneficial relationships with complimentary organizations.
- Work to make access to our CSA Program more equitable for everyone in our community.
- Raise funds for infrastructure upgrades; including a new walk-in refrigerator and educational signage.



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WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF



Communications Specialist & Arboretum Assistant

Emily Gregory

Emily G. was born and raised in Northern California to a botanist father and gardener mother, and attributes her love of plants—both wild and cultivated—to both. She is a proud fourth-generation Japanese American, and is pleased to return her familial roots to the beautiful, rainy Pacific Northwest that her great-grandparents once called home. Emily first wandered through the HOEC community orchard gate as a volunteer in early 2020, and loved her volunteer time so much that she returned every season since! Her current passions include home-scale permaculture inspired farming, foraging for wild foods and medicines, regenerative agriculture, sustainable food systems, and agroforestry. She lives in a log home just south of Oregon City, and can be found in her free time tending the land, cooking up tasty new recipes, or enjoying the outdoors hiking, camping, or bouldering with friends.



Board of Directors, Vice President

Susan Alexander

Susan was born in Portland Oregon in a family centered on forestry and horticulture. She spent decades working in natural resource management. Her professional career included work as a US Forest Service manager overseeing a wide-ranging national and international body of biological scientific work. She was also a regional expert in economics and land management; a research scientist working on topics in forest economics, policy, and interdisciplinary studies; and held numerous jobs in applied forest management and education. She and her husband are small woodland owners in Clackamas County. Susan was a Master Gardener in Benton County in Oregon, and served on the Juneau Community Garden board in Juneau Alaska for 17 years. Now retired, Susan's hobbies include mycology, gardening, fishing, making wildcrafted products such as salves and teas, and she is trying to learn to sew.



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WELCOME NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF

Board of Directors, Secretary Meghan Brickner



Meg hails from the East Coast, where she was raised with a love for agriculture and working landscapes. Following a BA in Environmental Studies and Sustainable Agronomy, Meg owned her own bakery while continuing to work in agriculture in Northern Vermont. Meg then went on to pursue training in animal husbandry across Ireland and the UK before returning to the States to work as an itinerant shepherdess. After relocating to the West Coast in 2022, she swiftly developed a new fascination with fruiting trees and shrubs by working at One Green World. Meg is very passionate about land stewardship, heritage breeds, and food sovereignty in rural and urban communities.



The future of HOEC is looking bright!



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