



2023 ANNUAL SUMMARY



Staff

Tonia Lordy, Executive Director
Emily Gregory, Communications
Emily Horton, Orchard Assistant
Jennie Delich, Orchard Assistant

Board Of Directors

Corynne Lowenthal, President
Susan J. Alexander, Vice President
Byron Henson, Treasurer
Nicole Dunbar, Co-Secretary
Meghan Brickner, Secretary
Chantal Wikstrom, General Director
Beth Gandara, General Director
Anthony Yeznach, Interim Treasurer

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

- **114** community members of all ages volunteered in the orchard, contributing to a total of **4,562** volunteer hours!
- **36** horticultural workshops were hosted onsite, with more than **496** students in attendance.
- HOEC supported educational programming for **434** additional students from outside organizations, ranging in age from preschool to college - more than tripling the previous years student count.
- **23** participants were granted free workshop fee waivers through our Sponsor a Student program.
- **15** fruit share fee waivers were granted, and **2,949** additional pounds of fruit were distributed to underserved communities with our Feed a Neighbor program.
- **21** community members participated in our Community Orchard Add-On Programs: Workers Share and Harvest Share.
- Over **278** visitors came to the orchard to seek fruit-growing advice, recreation, and inspiration for their own home gardens and community projects - nearly double the previous year.
- Over **12,897** pounds of organically grown fruit was grown, harvested, and distributed throughout the community.



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Home Orchard Education Center. A 501(c)3 non-profit educational orchard located in Clackamas County, Oregon.

HIGHLIGHTS

Increased Access To Healthy Food Through Our: Community Supported Agriculture Program

In 2022, two of our year end organizational goals were to:

- (1) *Seek out and cultivate mutually beneficial relationships with complimentary organizations.*
- (2) *Work to make access to our CSA Program more equitable for everyone in our community.*

To help us get closer to those goals, in 2023 we became a part of the:

Pacific Northwest CSA Coalition:

This partnership allowed us to accept SNAP (supplemental nutrition assistance program) payments for CSA shares, while also participating in the Oregon Double Up Food Bucks Program. Double Up Food Bucks matches half the cost of our CSA Shares for low income participants. HOEC plans to continue partnership with PNWCSA in the coming year.



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HIGHLIGHTS

Increased Access To Healthy Food Through Our: Feed A Neighbor Program

Our Feed A Neighbor Program allows us to grant free fruit shares and bulk fruit drops to individuals and community organizations in need. In 2023, the Feed A Neighbor program was supported by Clackamas County Small Grants, Feed The Mass & Individual Donors.

Through this program, HOEC was able to donate:

\$1,607 in Fruit Box fee waivers, as well as:

2,949 lbs of bulk fruit to local organizations working with underserved communities in Clackamas County, including:

- Clackamas Women's Services
- Pioneer Community Center
- CCC Food Pantry
- McDaniel Highschool

Program Goals: Increase outreach to underserved populations; increase pickup options to best support low income recipients; secure ongoing program funding.



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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Sponsor A Student Program

The 2023 Sponsor A Student Program was made possible by the Metro Council Council Community Support Fund.

This year, HOEC was able to grant:

- \$725 worth of free workshops on a first come - first served basis.

Program funds were available to:

- Recipients of Section 8, SNAP, OHP, Free and Reduced Lunch Program, and/or individuals who self identified as Indigenous, Native American, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, or First Nations.

Future Program Goals:

- Increase outreach to underserved populations.
- Develop additional educational options that best serve program participants.
- Secure ongoing program funding.



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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Increased Community Outreach & Support

HOEC provided hands on horticultural education to over 930 students from more than six counties!

In addition to individual public workshop attendees, HOEC provided education to students from: [Milwaukie Garden Club](#), [Clackamas Community College](#), [Portland Community College](#), [North American Fruit Explorers](#), [Small Farm School](#), [Portland Garden Club](#), and [St. John's Catholic School](#).

Workshops included education related to:

- Pruning, propagation, and grafting of fruit producing plants
- Edible Landscape Design
- Pest & Disease ID
- Growing Edible Mushrooms
- Mason Bee Stewardship
- Organic Orchard Management
- & More

HOEC also donated \$5,222 of plant materials to other local organizations, including: [Agrarian Sharing Network](#), [Clackamas Community College](#), [Boy Scout Group 685](#), [Scotts Mills School District](#), [Portland Community College](#), & [Portland Metro Beekeepers](#).



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PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

Community Orchard Volunteer Program

The HOEC Community Orchard has always served as an important place for intergenerational community connection, and this year was no exception. In 2023, 114 volunteers of all ages and experience levels spent time working and learning with each other as a part of our Community Orchard Volunteer Program.

Rain or shine, they showed incredible commitment and proved to be excellent stewards of the orchard. They practiced and shared new skills, forged new friendships, and took home a share of the harvest.

Volunteers are the heartbeat of this orchard, and none of our programming would be possible without such an amazing team. We are absolutely honored that each and every volunteer in the orchard chooses to give freely of their time to support this special place.



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COMMUNITY EVENTS

Taste of the Orchard

Charcuterie
Cured Meats with Pears and Apples
&
Apples on Crostinis with Goat Cheese

Dinner Menu
Gorgonzola & Pear Salad
Waldorf Salad
Apple, Walnut & Blue Cheese Salad

Wild Rice Pilaf with Apples

Roasted Root Vegetables
with Apples and Pecans

Cider Pulled Pork

Cider-Braised Chicken Thighs

Focaccia with Apple Butter

Taste of the Orchard

2023 brought our first formal fundraising event hosted at the Tumwater Ballroom: Taste of the Orchard. The objective was to raise funds, build community awareness, and begin to identify and build our donor base.

The event consisted of a silent auction, a multi-course meal featuring fruit from the orchard, highlights of our current work, organizational goals, and opportunities for community involvement.

Orchard Picnic Festival

Saturday, August 26th
4-7pm



Orchard Picnic Festival

The Orchard Picnic Festival was held to build community awareness, honor volunteers and donors, and encourage the community at large to get more involved with HOEC. The event consisted of a meet & greet, a tour of the new bee demonstration area, a raffle, family friendly activities, along with snacks & beverages.

JOIN US AT THE
HOEC COMMUNITY ORCHARD

Fruitgiving

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH
11-2:30PM

CIDER PRESSING AND "UGLY" AKA PIE FRUIT GIVEAWAY
BRING YOUR OWN BAGS/BOXES/JUGS/JARS

Fruitgiving

Fruitgiving is one of the ways we chose to show appreciation for the community while preventing food waste this year. We gathered all fruit that was left at the end of the season, collected windfall from every corner of the orchard, opened the gates to the public, and hosted a free community cider pressing and free fruit giveaway.



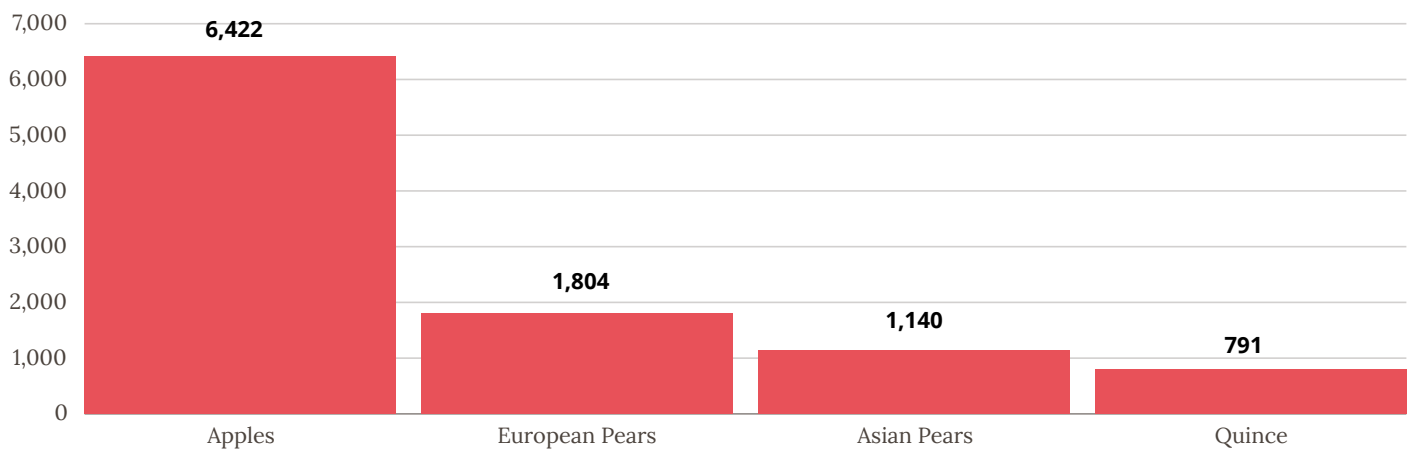
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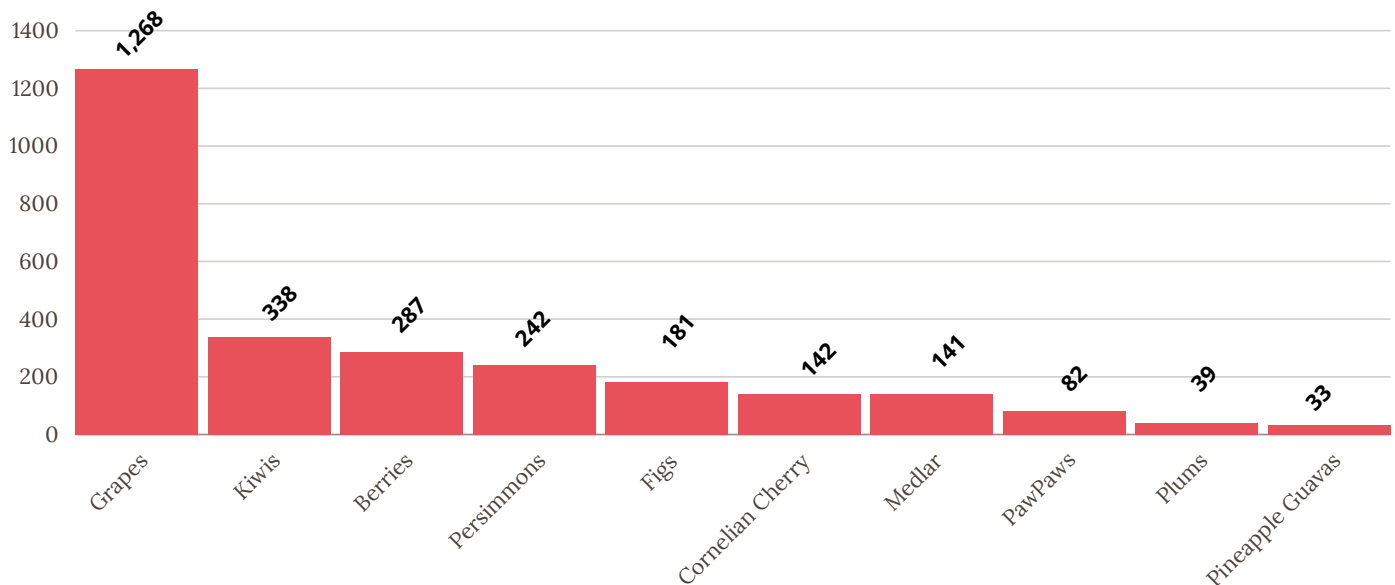
2023 HARVEST TOTALS

The HOEC Community orchard sits on just 1.6 acres and serves as a realistic demonstration of how much food can be grown with limited space when managed organically using only a Biointensive Integrated Pest Management Program. The chart below does not include over 4k of windfalls that were gifted to the community, used for cider pressings, and shared with nearby farmers for livestock feed.

Pomme Fruits: 10,157 lbs.



Other Fruits: 2,683 lbs.

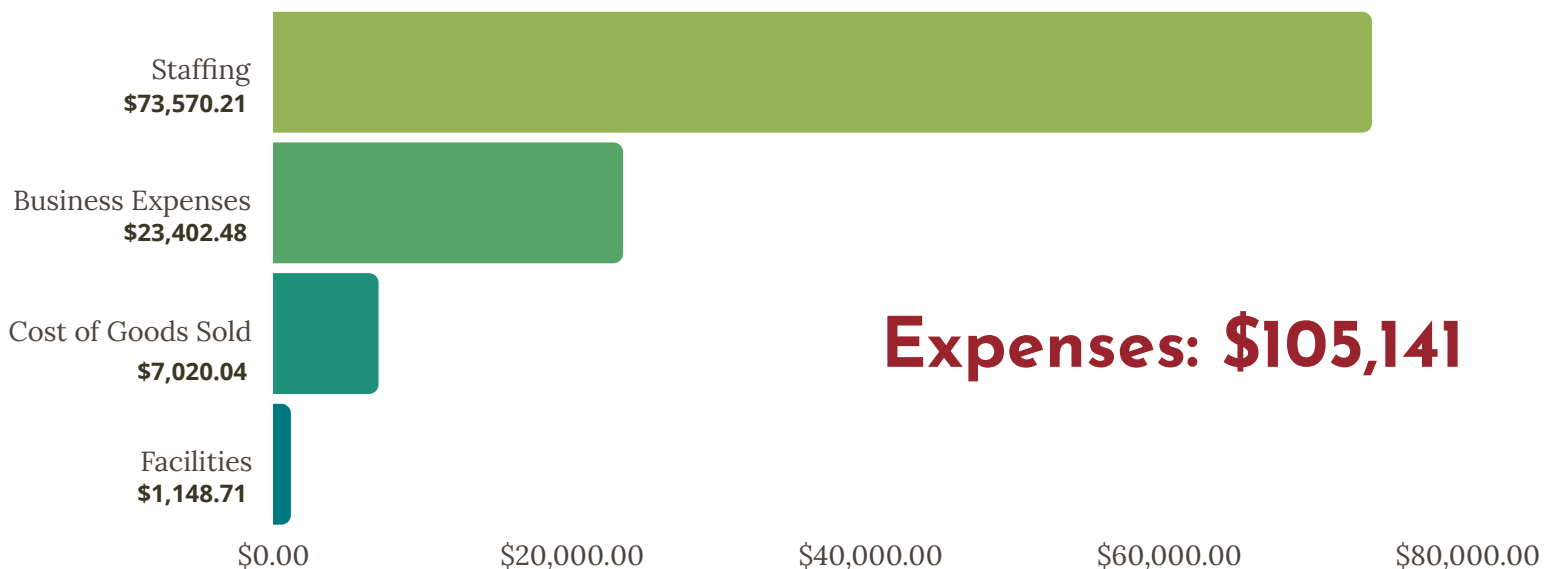
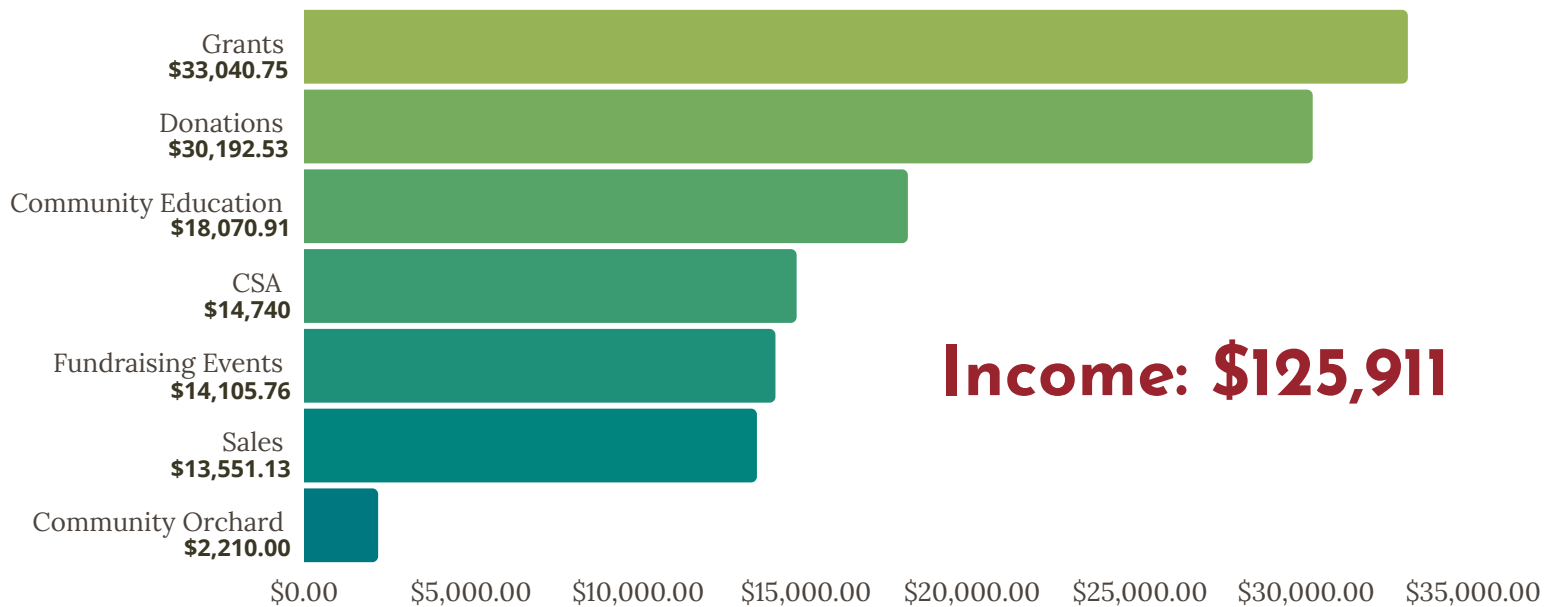


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FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

We made it through our third year as an organization above water - yippee!
We exceeded financial goals in the areas of: fruit sales, public support, grants, guest speaking engagements, public events & more. We fell a bit short in areas of: workshop sales, direct fundraising, and corporate sponsorship.



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MOVING FORWARD

GOALS FOR 2024

- Increase outreach to underserved populations.
- Increase visibility within our local community.
- Increase participation in our workshops and programs.
- Continue to develop connections with community organizations.
- Secure funding to support staffing needs.
- Secure funds to support our Feed a Neighbor and Sponsor a Student Programs.
- Increase donor base & connect with corporate sponsors.
- Improve volunteer retention & enrichment.
- Increase our yearly visitor count.



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Thank You For Your Generous Support

Donors

Whether you have signed up for recurring monthly donations, made a 1 time contribution or an in-kind donation for a raffle or silent auction, we could not do this work without you. Your contribution means so much to our community.

Grantors



Metro



Feed the Mass

Empower, Educate and
Serve through Food

Taste of the Orchard
Harvest Hero Silver Sponsor

