



# BROOKWOOD COMMUNITY FARM

## Annual Report 2011

Dear Friends and Members of Brookwood Community Farm,

Every year at Brookwood, we experiment with new ideas, programs and methods to increase our impact and improve our efficiency. In 2011, we launched three major new initiatives that are described in more detail below: our farmer apprentice program, our farm-to-table education series, and a new food distribution strategy to increase access to fresh food in Mattapan. Each of these initiatives were only possible due to the support and involvement of our members and community partners with whom we carry on our work. We are especially grateful for the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation for supporting our passion to bring community farming – and all its benefits -- back to Brookwood and to the Trustees of Reservations for their continued support. A community farm is successful to the extent that the *community* is engaged in the broader vision and mission of the farm. All of us who toil at Brookwood are truly inspired by our community of supporters -- you were there when we broke ground in 2006 and you are with us still as we look to the future. On behalf of Brookwood's board of directors, thank you for accompanying us in this visionary work.

~ Mark Smith, Board President

### Farm Operations

The farm operation continued to grow and improve in 2011. Some highlights from the season include:

- Five acres of mixed vegetable production on 3 sites in Milton and Canton that achieved impressive yields through intensive agriculture practices such as successive plantings, cover cropping and season extension techniques.



- A 3-season CSA consisting of spring, summer and fall shares, extending the harvest to 30 weeks, from May first to Thanksgiving, while providing over 200 shares to 230 local households.
- Participation in the Roslindale & Milton farmers' markets, and a pilot market at Gallivan Housing in Mattapan.
- Produce donations to local food pantries and shelters of over 5,000 pounds. A significant portion of the harvest was delivered weekly to: the Gremantown Neighborhood Pantry in Quincy; Rosie's Place; BNAN's Produce to Pantries program; and the Milton Food Pantry, as well as other sites during the season.
- A new and highly successful apprenticeship program to provide education, training and meaningful employment to 2 aspiring farmers who worked full time in the fields, from April through October, and contributed to every aspect of the farm operation.
- Youth summer internships for 6 high school students from Boston, Milton and Brookline.
- Expanded volunteer opportunities for groups and individuals, who are able to participate in farming and food production.

Congratulations to the 2011 farm crew for an excellent season! Thank you for your incredible dedication.

Judy Lieberman, CSA Manager  
Jason McCartney, Field Manager  
Anna Wei, Assistant Grower

#### 2011 Farm Apprentices:

Emma Keough & Maggie Pounds

#### 2011 Farm Interns:

- Nina Berinstein
- Jarell Cooper
- Courtney Driscoll
- Branden Gordon
- Devon Kesseli
- Maya Midzik
- Sarah Robinson

### Farm Programs

In 2011, BCF's launched a new series of educational workshops with a focus on farm to table cooking. The workshops, taught by Brookwood staff and local culinary professionals were both well attended and well received and we look forward to expanding this series in 2012. From tomato canning to baking with local fruit, CSA and community members alike learned many new techniques for using and preserving their farm fresh foods.



We also launched a new Food Access program at the Gallivan Public Housing complex called the Good Food Market at Gallivan. In this program Brookwood operated a weekly farm stand at Gallivan, providing low-cost bags of produce to residents and other community members. Youth from the



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Mattapan Food and Fitness Coalition conducted market outreach and operated the stand.

This year we also began a new farmer apprenticeship program, providing practical training to two aspiring farmers. This highly successful model is something we look forward to expanding in 2012.

### Farm Fundraising

With the support of donors, members and several foundations, Brookwood enjoyed its most successful fundraising year in 2011. Brookwood's fundraising committee continued its three primary fundraising strategies in 2011: special events, cultivating new and major donors and establishing relationships with foundations whose funding criteria aligns well with Brookwood's programs and goals.

The two primary fundraising events were the annual Wake-up the Farm Pancake Breakfast and plant sale and our mid-summer Farm Dinner aimed at bringing in new donors, which



together raised over \$7000. In 2011, Brookwood received financial support for the first time from the Clippership Foundation and renewed support from the New England Grassroots Education Fund and the Copeland Foundation. We also are very grateful to the dozens of members and friends who made a tax-deductible contribution to Brookwood in 2011.

### 2011 Board of Directors

Mark Smith, President	Julia Khodabandeh
Helen Russell, Treasurer	Paul Krasinski
Jim Buckle	Judy Lieberman
Simca Horwitz	Suzanne Lombardi
Eric Johnson	Cathy Smith



### Farm Finances

This past year was a strong year for Brookwood. We have utilized the skills of CSA member and volunteer, Dave Levy, to improve bookkeeping. Although our budget grew, we were on target with projections. This has allowed us to purchase much-needed equipment, including a tractor.

2011 Income and Expenses	
Category	Amount
<b>INCOME</b>	
Produce	183,689
Donations	38,972
Grants	14,800
Programs	9,639
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>247,100</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Production Costs/Labor	121,691
Other Costs	36,871
Capital Equipment	24,583
Supplies	22,167
Equipment	3,229
Program Costs	3,091
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>211,632</b>
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>35,468</b>



A partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation

P.O. Box 870093 Milton Village, MA 02187 • [www.brookwoodcommunityfarm.org](http://www.brookwoodcommunityfarm.org)