



BROOKWOOD COMMUNITY FARM

Annual Report 2012

Dear Friends and Members of Brookwood Community Farm,

Expansion and experimentation were the two dominant themes at Brookwood during 2012. We stretched our growing season, offering four seasons of CSA shares for the first time, and we experimented with storing our produce in a root cellar and vending at two winter markets. We expanded our farm education work, creating a new staff position to share our love for and knowledge of local and sustainable agriculture with community groups and school field trips. We experimented with new strategies for increasing access to fresh food by strengthening our work in Mattapan, supplying a new youth-driven, pedal-powered mobile farmstand with Brookwood's fresh food. We expanded the circle of the Brookwood community, experimenting with new ways to engage our membership and supporters. As we look back on 2012 and reflect on our expansion and experimentation, we are inspired by the support from our members and supporters who encourage us to keep growing good food, and working to make it available for all. We are especially grateful to our partners that make this all possible - the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, The Trustees of Reservations, and the Mattapan Food and Fitness Coalition.

~ Mark Smith, Board President

Farm Operations

We just keep growing and learning how to do things better to reach more local households! This year's highlights include:

- Expanded production, with 5.5 acres at our 3 sites producing over an extended season. We harvested an enormous volume and variety of produce from our fields beginning May 1st and continuing into late December.



- A 4-season CSA that provided fresh produce to 300 member households during the growing season.
- Expanded apprenticeship program with both of our 2011 apprentices returning for a 2nd year and two new 1st year apprentices. This second year apprenticeship provided these serious young farmers an opportunity to take on greater management responsibility for crop production and distribution and to become more proficient with equipment operation and maintenance.
- A field crew of 5 youth (high school and college students) from Milton, Boston and Brookline who worked with us to cultivate and harvest the crops and learn about farming during the summer.
- Site improvements and season extension including: enlarging the greenhouse at Brookwood Farm and putting up low tunnels in the fields for winter growing; restoring a root cellar for crop storage and winter distribution; purchasing new cultivation equipment for more efficient production.

We invite you to join us in celebrating a very successful season!

Congratulations to the 2012 farm crew for an excellent season! Thank you for your incredible dedication.

Judy Lieberman, CSA Manager
Jason McCartney, Farm Manager

Second Year Farm Apprentices:

Emma Keough & Maggie Pounds

First Year Farm Apprentices:

Aaron Korn & Deana Bramley

Field Crew:

- Lindsay Shepard
- Anika Wasserman
- Gavriela Mallory
- Brittney Haynesworth
- Leneric Budron

Education & Volunteer Coordinator

Kim Etingoff

Bookkeeper

Dave Levy



Farm Programs

In 2012 BCF hired a part-time Volunteer and Education Coordinator. This allowed us to reach out and host more groups at the farm. As a result, well over 500 people came to lend a hand, contributing close to 1,000 hours! We had groups from pre-school through seniors. It was great to see so many new faces excited about farming and to involve them in growing food for the local community.



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On-farm education and employment opportunities were also expanded in 2012. We brought on two new apprentices and both 2011 apprentices returned for a second season to deepen their farming knowledge, take on greater responsibility for crop production and distribution, and teach the new crop of beginning farmers at Brookwood. Those 2nd year apprentices gained enough experience to take on management responsibilities as lead farmers at Brookwood in 2013!

Another exciting program, piloted in 2012, was the Mattapan Mobile Market, a collaboration between Brookwood, the Mattapan Food and Fitness Coalition and B+RACE (Building Research + Architecture + Community Exchange). The bike-powered farm-stand was launched in August to bring fresh produce to Mattapan residents at a number of popular locations. Enthusiastic young adults from the MFCC Vigorous Youth group provided the power to pedal the retrofitted bike and sell the produce provided by Brookwood. We are looking forward to continuing the partnership in 2013 and hope to improve the vehicle while expanding the reach of the program during the harvest season.



Farm Fundraising

Fundraising is the way Brookwood meets its commitment to ensure that we make our fresh food accessible to all, not only to those who can afford a CSA share. Every year, we set a goal to raise the funds we need to cover our food justice work, food donations to shelters and pantries, and our farm education. Events like our pancake breakfast, farm dinner, silent auction and annual appeal complement our efforts to raise funds through small grants. In 2012, we raised roughly \$37,000. Looking ahead to 2013, The board has set an ambitious goal to raise \$50,000 as we look to increase our farm education and food justice work.

Farm Finances

This past year marked another successful year in which farm sales exceeded expectations. With significant support from bookkeeper Dave Levy, we strengthened our accounting and reporting systems. We finished the year with a balanced budget, well positioned for the 2013 season.

2012 Income and Expenses	
Category	Amount
INCOME	
Donation	22,589.55
Grants	15,000.00
Miscellaneous	380.24
Produce/Plant Sales	
Sales at Brookwood	8,213.32
CSA, Bulk Order, Egg & Fruit Shares	171,631.03
Memberships	6,987.50
Farmers Markets	38,775.50
Plant Sale	14,264.00
Restaurant Sales	804.50
Programs/Workshops	1,424.40
TOTAL INCOME	280,070.04
EXPENSES	
Capital Equipment	17,709.32
Equipment	4,629.23
Org. Costs (programs/workshops)	7,069.82
Other Costs (vehicles, insurance, etc.)	28,695.52
Purchased Items (fruit, eggs, honey)	24,811.50
Labor	163,397.43
Supplies	26,986.08
TOTAL EXPENSES	273,298.90
OVERALL TOTAL	6,771.14

2012 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



A partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation