



BROOKWOOD

community farm

2013

Annual Report

Farm Staff

Thank you to the wonderful 2013 farm team:

CSA Manager, Judy Lieberman
Farm Manager, Maggie Pounds
Market & Food Access Manager,
Emma Keough

Assistant Grower, Megan
Browning

Apprentice, Karen Chaffee

Field Crew:

Hannah Chenkin
Kitty Sargent
Leneric Budron
Grace Li

Volunteer & Education
Coordinator, Kim Etingoff

Bookkeeper, Dave Levy

Farmers Market, Aaron Korn,
Leah Kisiel & Naomi Porper

Part-Time Field Hands:

Nicolas Berinstein
Siobhan O'Grady
Hilary Crowell
Julia de Guzman

Letter from the President

One of the primary pillars of Brookwood Community Farm's mission is to improve access to fresh food, and especially in areas where fresh food is scarce or non-existent. Our vision for a local, sustainable and equitable food system drives the farm's commitment to food justice and informs our work to improve food access. The farm is committed to the idea that all people have a right to enjoy the benefits of eating fresh, organic, locally grown food. The second pillar of our mission is to use the farm as a way to build a strong community of people who share our commitment to food security for all. As this report confirms, Brookwood's financial condition is strong and its impact on surrounding communities is making a profound difference. All of our accomplishments are made possible by the strong support of our members and donors, and our farming partnerships with the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation and The Trustees of Reservations, for which we are extremely grateful! Thank you for your ongoing support and I look forward to seeing you down on the farm come planting time!

Mark Smith, President



Board of Directors

Julie Callahan
 John Gardner
 Beth Greenawalt
 Simca Horwitz
 Eric Johnson
 Judy Lieberman
 Nick Macke
 Jolie Olivetti
 Helen Russell
 Cathy Smith
 Mark Smith
 Mercedes Tompkins

Farm Operations

The farm had another successful season in 2013. Despite challenging growing conditions, our hard working farm team produced an abundance of produce for farm members, farmers markets and donations, and hosted more visitors and volunteers than ever! This year's highlights include:

- Cultivated 5.5 acres at three sites.
- Provided more than 375 member households with fresh, weekly produce through a four-season CSA.
- Managed the fields and greenhouse at the Bradley Estate to grow produce for the BCF CSA and TTOR's City Harvest program, which provides jobs and training to urban youth who grow food to sell at low-income markets in the city.
- Continued our successful apprenticeship program and provided management positions to our 2011 apprentices who returned for a second season in 2012 and were hired as co-managers in 2013. In the three years of offering apprenticeships, we have trained five beginning farmers, most of whom have continued on in the field.
- Employed an outstanding field crew of

four youth who worked with us to cultivate and harvest the crops and learn about farming during the summer.

- Expanded volunteer opportunities for more groups and individuals who were able to participate in farming and food production.
- Implemented new strategies to improve soil fertility and added new equipment to maintain the land and enhance farming practices.

Food Access Programs

In 2013, Brookwood significantly expanded its food access work, donating over \$37,000 of fresh food through a wide variety of partnerships and food outlets. Thanks to our members, our CSA fund (supported by member contributions) provided fully-subsidized CSA shares to five low-income families. Brookwood provided regular donations to six food pantries and family shelters in Boston, Canton, Quincy and Milton, including the Germantown Neighborhood Center Food Pantry in Quincy, Rosie's Place in Boston, Canton Food Pantry, Milton Food Pantry, Roslindale Food Pantry, and Haitian American Public Health Initiative

in Mattapan. In addition, we donated to Fresh Fridays International Potlucks (a community event in Dorchester), Real Food Boston College, the Milton Crew team, Fresh Food Generation, and the Mattapan Moving for Life event. Brookwood also partners with Boston Area Gleaners to harvest excess produce from the fields for distribution to food pantries around Boston through the organization Food for Free.

In 2013, Brookwood supported three different farmer's markets in low-income communities in Boston. Brookwood worked closely with the Mattapan Food and Fitness Coalition to launch a farm stand at the new Mattapan Health Center. Through our partnership with The Trustees of Reservations' City Harvest Youth Corps, Brookwood donated produce every week from July-September to the Bowdoin Geneva Farmer's Market in Dorchester and the Mattapan Farmer's market. In addition to providing produce for the markets, Brookwood farmers worked with the City Harvest program to provide opportunities for the youth to work in the fields planting, weeding, and harvesting.



Education Programs

Brookwood's Farm Education program offers visitors a chance to see and volunteer on a working organic farm, and to gain knowledge of sustainable agriculture right in the Boston region. We offer several educational programs, including one-hour tours, work visits, and themed-lessons for young children, students of all ages from preschool to college, and adults. In 2013, we hired a Volunteer and Education Coordinator to help facilitate these programs. The education program attracted both return groups and new visitors. Education visits always include an overview of Brookwood's commitment to organic farming methods, seasonal growing highlights, community food security and of course, some taste testing. Highlights from our farm education in 2013 included:

- Educational programming from May-October.
- 26 education groups visits for over 450 people.
- Two programs for homeschooled students and their families.
- Over 500 hours of farm work was completed by participants in the education groups.
- Key partnerships with theMove, the Massachusetts Department of Families and Children, and area schools.

By the Numbers

37,737

Dollar value of food donated to local food pantries.

11,925

Dollar value of food sold at food access markets.

7,858

Seedlings donated to school garden programs.

539

Work hours contributed by farm visitors.

26

Educational visits by school and community groups.

Finance & Fundraising

Brookwood had another strong year in 2013. Although the budget projected a shortfall, CSA operations were fully self-supporting and produce sales, including Roslindale and winter markets, exceeded expectations, helping to close the gap and end the year with a positive balance of almost \$16,000. Fundraising continues to be a board focus. This year, individual donations exceeded our goal although grant funding fell short of our goal. For more detailed information on the organization’s budget, please see the consolidated Income and Expense report below.



2013 Income & Expenses

Category	Amount
Income	
Donations	\$42,516.23
Grants	\$9,000.00
Membership Fees	\$7,695.97
CSA Income	\$185,139.55
Non-CSA Produce Sales	\$58,043.62
Plant Sales	\$17,023.30
Fall Bulk & Honey Sales	\$8,601.25
Program Revenue	\$620.00
Miscellaneous	\$89.37
TOTAL	\$328,729.29
Expenses	
Production Expenses	
Labor	\$172,787.14
Farmers Market Expenses	\$9,105.76
Supplies, Tools, & Hardware	\$32,184.48
Capital Equipment, Vehicles, Repairs	\$24,766.67
Shipping Freight & Delivery	\$1,906.36
Resale Produce	\$29,875.05
Organizational Expenses	
Meetings & Events	\$803.13
Programs	\$7,727.27
Administration	\$22,260.39
Lease Obligation	\$7,270.00
Payroll Taxes	\$1,998.24
Miscellaneous	\$2105.18
TOTAL	\$312,789.67
Net Operating Income	\$15,939.62