



**Clatskanie
Farmer
Collective**

**2023 REPORT
A LANDMARK YEAR**

Photography by
Emily Palmer Photography, Anthony Krueger and community members

Mission & Values

Clatskanie Farmer Collective cultivates a resilient local agricultural system by increasing market opportunities, community engagement, and producer support.

Innovation

We embrace collaboration, creativity, and continuing education to create positive impact and value for our community. In navigating a complex agricultural system affected by social, economic, political, and ecological influences, we look for opportunities to improve outcomes and address unmet needs. Our acknowledgement that “new” is not always better inspires us to integrate elder and ancestral wisdom into strategic innovations.

Accountability

We understand honesty and transparency are essential for building strong relationships and strive to maintain open communication with community members, stakeholders, and partners. We value the trust placed in our organization and take responsibility for delivering on our commitments to address the unique needs of our community.

Resiliency

We believe access to responsibly sourced local food is the foundation of a resilient community and a basic human right. CFC strengthens local community resiliency by building a network of food system partnerships throughout Oregon’s North Coast region. Our programs prioritize crucial assistance to bolster the resilience of those most vulnerable in our community.

Holistic Stewardship

Our recognition that the health of our environment is inseparable from the health of our community drives our holistic approach to resource management. As stewards, we listen to and observe the needs of both our community and the land to make responsible, regenerative choices that foster a complete and harmonious balance in consideration of the next seven generations.



Our Programs

Market Opportunities

Our flagship program offers various market opportunities throughout the year for producers and consumers; these opportunities include the Clatskanie Food Hub, Clatskanie Farmers Market, annual festivals, and season extension markets. Our food assistance programs such as SNAP, FDNP, and Double Up Food Bucks increase access for customers on low incomes.

Producer Support

We provide basic business support services for our prospective and current vendors; assisting with licensing, insurance, packaging, funding, and more. Our annual marketing plan includes social media promotion for our current vendors. We also handle food assistance programs on behalf of our producers.

Community Engagement

We offer multiple ways for our community to engage with our organization. Mission aligned classes and special events are offered throughout the year. Our Community Garden allows for a hands on learning experience and we offer various pathways for youth education such as our Teen Ambassador Program.



Year in review...

New year and a new name! Over the last couple of years the beloved Clatskanie Farmers Market has expanded to include many other beneficial programs, so we needed a name that properly captured all of our work. Introducing... drum roll please... the **Clatskanie Farmer Collective**, an organization whose mission aims to elevate our local agricultural system!

2023 was a landmark year for us in so many ways! We celebrated 10 years of serving our community! We named our first Executive Director, Jasmine Lillich (that's me!) and had many highly qualified community members join our Board of Directors. Our partnerships throughout the region and state have flourished and added much value to our work.

We experienced 183% growth in vendor sales this year!

The Clatskanie Food Hub, a long awaited market opportunity for producers and consumers, opened June 8th, and has far exceeded our expectations in vendor participation and sales. This has been a 100% community driven project and I'm so proud of our little town for having our very own food hub! Local resident Candy Uskoski joined our team this year as Hub Operations Manager; her expertise, passion, and many volunteer hours have been a major contributor to our success.

The seasonal Clatskanie Farmers Market, running every Saturday June-September including monthly festivals, had record growth this year in vendor sales, visitors, and vendor participation. Kelsey Engstrom joined our team as Programs Manager; she has been instrumental in our marketing strategy and achieving these unprecedented market statistics. We're lucky she chose Clatskanie!

Another big milestone was undergoing our first ever five year strategic plan that will be finalized March of 2024. We feel it is a strong representation of our community's priorities and hope you'll read it and tell us what you think!

Our educational offerings have expanded as well, with the addition of the indoor classroom in the Clatskanie Food Hub and our Teen Ambassador Program. The most rewarding part of my job is to help facilitate community sharing of knowledge and skills.

To wrap it up I want to acknowledge our amazing volunteers who continue to show up in so many ways and to the rest of our community, the only reason I'm able to write about these achievements is because of your continued support, feedback, and presence. Thank you for caring about the health and wellbeing of you neighbors because ultimately, that's what we're building here at the Clatskanie Farmer Collective.

Jasmine Lillich
Executive Director



Program Impact



Clatskanie Food Hub

The Clatskanie Food Hub is a year-round local marketplace, open four days a week.

Thanks to financial contributions from our community, regional partners and foundation & government grants, we were able to open our doors for the first time June 8th! Since then, we have been pleasantly surprised by sales and vendor

participation, and have learned so much in just six months! The North Coast Food Web and Food Roots, our sister organizations, have provided invaluable guidance and collaboration that set us up for the success we're experiencing today. Our partnership with the Oregon Community Food System Network lead to us receiving funds from Oregon Food Bank to purchase food from socially disadvantaged producers and distribute to people with low incomes. We have been able to help facilitate food distribution and aggregation between Warren, Clatskanie, Astoria and Tillamook with our partner North Coast Commons. We expect to see even more growth in 2024!

BY THE NUMBERS

\$100,080
Total Sales

3,760
Transactions

\$6,109
Total Food Assistance Sales

\$70,272
Paid to vendors

60
Total Vendors

\$89,071
Food Sales

Opening day
"lettuce cutting" ceremony!



Program Impact



Clatskanie Farmers Market

Another fun-filled summer in Cope's Park along the beautiful Clatskanie River!

BY THE NUMBERS

\$118,331 Direct to Vendor Sales	8,644 Visitors
\$4,549 Total Food Assistance Sales	\$73,365 Food Sales
70+ Vendors	47% Annual growth

Every Saturday June-September we host a Farmers Market with live music and educational experiences. This year we expanded our festivals to include Sprouts Fest, a day for kids, in addition to our staples: Pollination Celebration, Garlic Festival and Harvest Festival. Our Garlic Festival brought in 1,891 visitors and \$38,545 to over 60 vendors; it was a big day for Clatskanie! It was also our organization's 10th birthday, so we had a party! Under the wise management of our new Programs Manager, Kelsey, our Farmers Market achieved unprecedented growth in 2023 and continues to offer many food assistance programs for those on low incomes. Our market is known as a "fun, quirky & unique experience," we love that. Thanks to all our vendors for their work in bringing high quality local food, art, and crafts to our community and thanks to those who choose to shop local at our Farmers Market!

PLUS WINTER MARKET!

\$5,160
Direct to Vendor Sales



Program Impact



Community Engagement

Our newly opened classroom in the Clatskanie Food Hub hosted the largest Seed-to-Supper class in Columbia County, an eight-week canning and food preservation class series, Bone Broth Basics, and Winter Folk School, with a total of 105 participants. We heard so many positive reviews from this year's students and we learned so much about the kinds of classes our community wants us to help facilitate.

“Such a beautiful & fun event. Super fun way to learn some lost arts & new skills. It’s so amazing seeing so many passionate and talented people coming together to bring wonderful programs like this to the community.”

-anonymous Winter Folk School student

We launched our Teen Ambassador Program which allows teens to volunteer with our organization, learn about local food systems, and gain work experience. We are so proud of the three bright, amazing teens that graduated from this program in 2023! We also hosted seven special events including five concerts, our first annual community seed swap and annual Farm to Table Dinner (this year at Low Tide Farms!) All of these events were either sold out or well attended; we love seeing our community come together to celebrate food & culture!

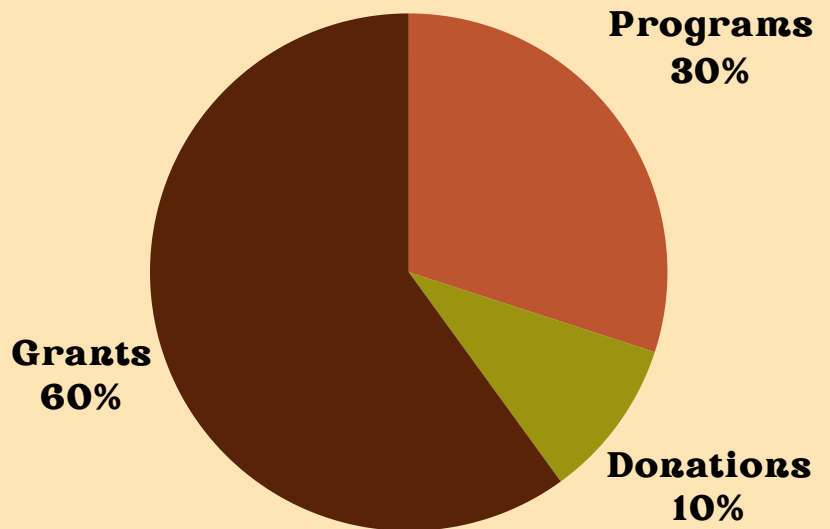


Financials

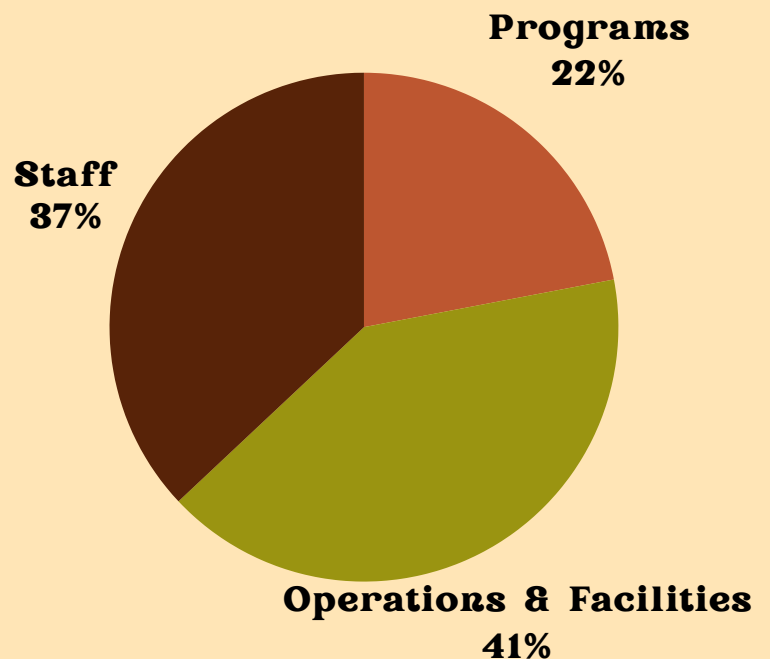
This year we were supported by many foundation and government grants, our community, and increased program revenue. Initial start up for the Clatskanie Food Hub was funded by the USDA Regional Food System Partnership administered by Columbia Pacific CCO, as well as the Ford Family Foundation, Oregon Coast Visitors Association, community members, and many in-kind donations. The Oregon Community Foundation expanded our Farmers Market Manager position into a Programs Manager, which significantly increased our capacity. Our program revenue from the Clatskanie Food Hub has been sustaining our Hub Operations position, many of our food hub related operating expenses and even supporting our other programs (which is so awesome!) Funding from Farmers Market Fund and Oregon Food Bank contributed to and expanded our food assistance programs, and the Columbia County Cultural Coalition funded another year of our live music series at the Farmers Market.

Lastly, we want to recognize the individual donations from our community. We saw an increase of donations at the food hub checkout and as always so much generosity at our annual Farm to Table dinner, thank you!

Income



Expenses



Words from producers:



"CFC offers many opportunities for us to market and distribute our farm goods to our local community. Both venues allow us to engage directly with our community either through in person interactions at the market or by providing fresh nutrient dense locally grown produce at a central location four days a week. The organization is passionate and well managed; with a focus on building and sustaining an eco-friendly food system. They have created a fun and inviting space for local produce and goods to be accessible to our community members. As a producer, we particularly admire their ability to be inclusive, rather than competitive, when providing an avenue for local farms and producers to connect with customers."

Corey Wahl and Susie Stopa of Hildaberry Farm & Nursery



Pippinstock's mascot "Pip"



"The CFC organization has been nothing but a positive and valuable addition in helping our small farm develop new markets. Not only does this organization reach out to lift up various producers in the region, they have provided us with the opportunity to build our own brand by hosting their Annual Farm to Table dinner on our property. With the addition of the Food Hub, our product has reached a wider audience and allowed for increased sales. We are so fortunate for the support, education and direction that the Clatskanie Farmers Market and Food Hub gives us, as we grow our business."

Brenda Vassau of Low Tide Farms

"The Clatskanie Food Hub provides our community with seasonal, high-quality, local food that is free from the environmental impact of long-distance transportation. The opportunity to sell our pastured eggs and fresh produce this year not only minimized the food waste on our farm but also established a direct connection between Pippinstock and our community. With the Hub's presence, we are fostering our farm's growth by adding more layer hens and the installation of a second high-tunnel to maximize produce production. The community's support has been instrumental in facilitating these expansions and we are excited about our growth. Thank you for being an invaluable part of this community!"

Heather Mohan-Gibbons of Pippinstock



Thank you!

To all our donors, volunteers, shoppers, and producers, we are so grateful to be in community with you and we always love to hear from you! Share your thoughts & feedback, sign up for our newsletter, and get involved through the info below.

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