



GARDEN CITY
HARVEST
ANNUAL REPORT 2015

grow. feed. inspire.



Garden City Harvest

was established 20 years ago – in 1996, long before the local food movement was a part of the mainstream. This organization came from very humble beginnings, having sprouted from a series of community conversations about food security: How could everyone in our community have reliable access to quality food? How could this be achieved year after year after year?

What came from those conversations were two sites: a two-acre student run farm growing food for the Missoula Food Bank, and a community garden where people could grow food to feed their own families. In addition, people with limited means could volunteer to work in the gardens and get fresh produce in return. This is the essence of what we still do today, expanding upon it to touch even more lives, helping weave the fabric of our community.

Garden City Harvest started with three employees, two sites and one grant to fund its work around food security. Today we manage 20 sites throughout Missoula - a network of neighborhood farms, community gardens and school gardens - where we grow, feed and inspire. We now have 30 employees each season, hundreds of volunteers, and dozens of partnerships with other nonprofit and for-profit entities.

While the focus is still on making healthy food accessible to everyone regardless of income, we realized early on that we started something



that could positively impact people in many ways. Our farms and gardens are safe places where people can connect with the land, and with each other. People are drawn to this. And many are changed by it.

I recently learned about a young man who worked in the Youth Harvest Project years ago. He came from a broken home and was struggling in school. When he left us, he went to serve in Iraq. Four years later, he showed up and walked through the gate of the PEAS Farm. The first thing he said was, "I've been thinking about this place for four years!" He helped the farm grow, and the farm helped him grow. It served as an anchor of hope for him.

I'm incredibly proud to be a part of Garden City Harvest as it begins its third decade. Through the simple act of growing food together, we're building a stronger, healthier and more vibrant community – for today and for our future.

As always, thank you for being a part of what we grow!

Jean Zosel

14 YOUTH from challenging backgrounds spend the summer employed (and 30 volunteer) on two farms, learning life and job skills by growing high quality, low cost food for 300 senior households.

We offer 369 **COMMUNITY GARDEN** plots in ten gardens around Missoula. Each plot can produce over 300 pounds of food at \$0.13/lb. Enough food to feed a family and store for winter.

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT helps teens find a better path in life through farming. We offer this program at two sites: the Youth Harvest Project based at the PEAS Farm, and the Youth Farm. Each site employs teens who are referred by our partners at Youth Drug Court, Youth Homes, Willard Alternative High School, Youth Homes and the Human Resource Council. Through their work on the farm youth learn life and job skills that set them up for success as they transition into adulthood. Participants learn how to run a small business, from counting change to customer service and marketing as they run their famous Mobile Market—setting up produce stands at affordable and senior housing sites around Missoula.

COMMUNITY GARDENS create access to nutritious, affordable produce by teaching people to grow food to feed their own families using sustainable methods. There are nine community garden sites located throughout the city. Each of our community gardens provides participants with a 15-by-15 foot plot, tools, water, compost, straw, common space, and the knowledge and guidance of a garden leadership team. We strive to foster community in our gardens through work parties, shared meals, seed exchanges, and more.

NEIGHBORHOOD FARMS We manage four neighborhood farms in Missoula. Each farm shares a common goal: to grow food for Missoulians in need. That food is distributed by our Mobile Market, the Poverello Center (Missoula's homeless shelter), the Missoula Food Bank, Youth Homes, and many other partnering agencies around town.

FARM TO SCHOOL teaches Missoula's youth about the science, art and downright deliciousness of local food through educational farm field trips, in-class lessons, structured school garden programming, summer camps, and family-focused cooking classes. We take a hands-on, experiential approach with our Farm to School program, encouraging youth to connect the dots between food, agriculture, science, and their everyday lives. This education happens at our farms, in eight school gardens, and in MCPS classrooms. The Farm to School program is a partnership with the Missoula County Public Schools and Montana FoodCorps.

MISSION: Garden City Harvest builds community through agriculture by growing produce with and for people with low incomes, offering education and training in ecologically conscious agriculture, and using our sites for the personal restoration of youth and adults.

Our four **FARMS** grew 46,845 (that's over 23 tons – in one season) of fresh, healthy produce for agencies serving everyone from children to seniors—17,000 individuals at the Missoula Food Bank alone. We distribute food to over 20 service agencies and organizations.

Our newest **FARM TO SCHOOL** project, Farmer in the Classroom, is now in all MCPS 2nd grade classrooms. That's almost 700 students in 35 classrooms who get their own farmer-educator over the winter and two field trips to the PEAS Farm in fall and spring. Our Farm to School program touches the lives of more than 5,000 students each year.



Community gardens

interview:
ELLEN · IVY STREET

I grew up in a little house on the prairie – on a wheat and cattle farm in northeastern Montana in a little Danish pioneering homestead and community. Our neighbors were at least a mile and a half away, I had to travel 13 miles to school, and I graduated from a class of 10. I grew up gardening with my parents. We had a very large garden—maybe a hundred feet by three or four hundred feet.

I wanted to expand my horizons and seek new opportunities in the community that were more suited to my ideals [when I moved to Missoula]. Now that I'm a parent and I have some health issues I can't really work full time. I have a 9 year old so I have to work with his schedule.

I have a certain budget and it's very tight. I haven't been to the food bank in a while but, especially when I first



moved here, there were times when I didn't have a paycheck. I got sick for a while and I was laid off after school got out because I worked [as a substitute lunch assistant] in the school system. [Recently] I've been working in an attorney's office and it really helps me with my budget. You have to do what you have to do as a single mother.

I was really looking forward to having my son have the experience [of community gardens].

He got to see how the seeds actually germinate and develop—the weeds too.

[It is] so enjoyable to see the plants growing and eat fresh squash and spinach and lettuce and beets on a daily basis. It's just a good feeling to be able to look at the fruits of your labor and say, 'I caused this to appear.' It's really amazing to dig the potatoes out of the ground. We had the last of our potatoes on Christmas Day.

" I think the most amazing thing about the community garden as a resource: ...it was so amazing to meet the people from the neighborhood and Garden City Harvest and I just felt like I was integrating into my neighborhood. "

I had a good solid foundation of freezing and canning from the way I grew up. It just came naturally with vegetables because it was like, 'What am I going to do with all these beets?' So I would cook the whole harvest and then put them in containers. They freeze wonderfully after they're cooked.

For my son, too. He got friendly with the family that lives next door and the family

that lives across the street and all up and down our street because we would walk to the garden in the evenings he got acquainted with everybody. He was able to connect with another kid from his class from the garden. He started having play dates with him regularly, playing Minecraft with him and riding bikes. I really feel a lot more at home now.



Crackle Photography



Youth Harvest

interview:
KIANA

Kiana took part in the 2015 Youth Harvest Project at the PEAS Farm. She and three others became the season's Youth Harvest leaders, gaining extra leadership skills through trainings, leading the group, and presenting at the 2015 Growing Leaders Youth Summit in Kalispell. She was born deaf and developed type 1 diabetes at age 8.

I have two brothers, but one passed away 10 years ago [at the age of 18]. All my siblings and I were born with a disability of some sort. My brother, he's deaf. My other brother was like, I can't even pronounce all of his diseases.

I graduated early from high school—I got my diploma in three years instead of four. I did that because I wanted to take a gap year before I go to college. In the meantime I wanted to learn a lot of things about myself. Give me some time thinking about college and work.

When I heard [Garden City Harvest was] hiring in February or March I thought 'oh, this would be a good way to start the summer.' [Once I was hired,] I started creating more goals for myself. I learned how to save money. That's one of the cool things about working with the Youth Harvest Project. They teach you how to save money—it's not just about farming.

There's a lot of challenging things [about working at the PEAS Farm]. Getting out of my comfort zone—I had to speak to people. That was something I hadn't done a lot of - making presentations in front of large groups of people. I think



also just handling criticisms. I would beat myself up on that a lot. My boss, [Laurie,] taught me that this is okay that you're doing it wrong. Instead of beating myself up, I learn to do it better and move on.

[Youth Harvest staffers] Laurie and Dave taught me a lot of the basic stuff that I didn't think I was going to bring into my other life at the end of the season. Yesterday I ran into [a fellow Youth Harvest teen] and we could not stop talking about the farm. [She] is very shy, she doesn't like talking. She talked about how Laurie and Dave built up her confidence. Now she's talking to people, and making all these friends.

At the beginning of the summer I helped plant carrot seeds. I didn't really know how much this was going to mean. About 70 days later, carrots were ready to be harvested. I brought [them] to Mobile Market, and I was so excited to tell customers about the carrots—that I planted

" I feel like working with Garden City Harvest—I started making friends with college interns, volunteers, mobile market customers, [Missoula] Food Bank volunteers. We have a lot of things in common - we're all coming together as a community. **"**

these. They were sharing the excitement with me. The fact that I put my work into something that meant a lot to other people—CSA members, the food bank, and the mobile markets, too.

I had a lot of joyful moments with Mobile Market. In the morning you're working with college kids and kids your age. In the afternoon you work with senior citizens which are like 50 years older than you. It's

really nice to have a different perspective. They would ask me "Is this organic?" And I'm like, "Yep! Very much organic." I just see their reaction and think, 'Wow, this is pretty cool.'

I am going to Rochester Institute of Technology in September. [In five years,] I'll be graduating from college, and getting my master's degree. In 5 years I'll probably be thinking about the summer 5 years ago.





farm to school

interview:
KINZA'S SECOND GRADERS

Kinza works as a second grade teacher at Lowell Elementary. 92% of students at Lowell are on the free and reduced lunch program and Lowell is at the top of the disadvantaged list in Missoula. Kinza was instrumental creating the garden, and one of the first to incorporate Farmer in the Classroom. This year, they have Farmer Amy visiting their classroom through the winter.

[When I take a class to the garden] we read and write, and we sit and we do show and tell, and sometimes we just do our snack out there. The kids like being outside. They feel empowered. [They] use lots of different skills: problem solving, collaboration, math and fine motor. [Farmer] Amy comes in and makes squash pancakes and the kids are like over the moon.

I have definitely had kids—and mostly it's the ones that do come in with trauma, dysfunctional family—to have found that garden space to be healing. There's so much stress in these families: there's not enough money for everybody, there's not enough jobs for everybody, and these little people are just like those sponges.

You know they're not verbalizing: *this makes me feel so good and safe and calm*, but you can see it. There are so many expectations in a classroom—you've got to sit and you've got to be quiet. [In the garden] you can relax a little bit, [have] a space for kids to be quiet, heal.

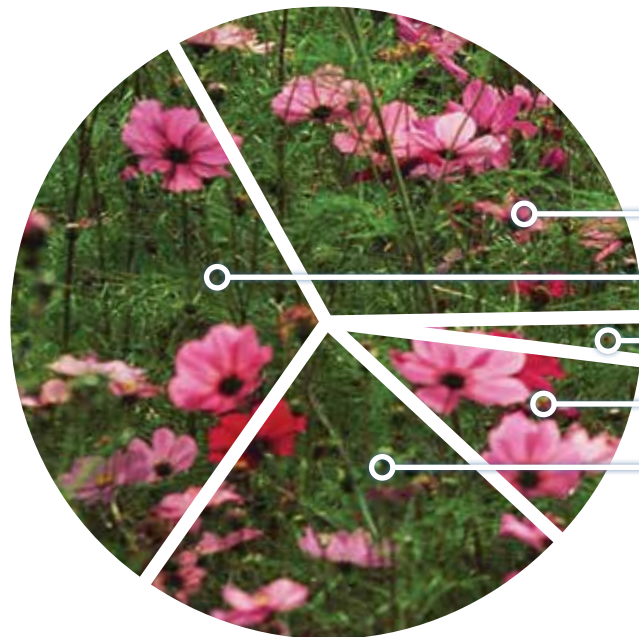


financial report



EXPENSE

- 37% Neighborhood Farms
- 16% Youth Development
- 15% Development
- 12% Community Gardens
- 11% Farm to School
- 9% General Operations



INCOME

- 33% Program Income
- 32% Contributions
- 2% Miscellaneous
- 10% Events
- 23% Grants



THANK YOU
you are the soil
that nourishes
GARDEN CITY HARVEST.
Good soil is the
foundation of healthy
plants & healthy
gardens.

INDIVIDUALS

FRIENDS OF THE HARVEST

Those who make a
commitment to give \$1,000
or more for three years

Julia & Derek Baggerly
Julie & Summerfield
Baldrige
Jennifer Boyer & Jeff Crouch
Carol Bridges
Melanie & Aaron Brock
Janet & Ed Donahue
Kay & Mike Duffield
Mary Lynn &
Charlie Eiseman
Katherine & Hank Green
Teresa Henry & Stephen Egli
Dr. Sarah Lane
Karen & Tim Neel
Wendy Ninteman
Marie & Mark Porter
Melanie & Andy Puckett
Marguerite & Don Shattuck
Ginny & Chuck Tribe

\$1,000 +

Anonymous (4)
Jodi & Steven
Allison-Bunnell
Mary Dolan
Julie & Phil Gardner
Kelli & Christian Goss
Anna Martello
Jeanne Sayer Moseley
Susan & Richard Neff
Steve Nelson
Martha Newell & Mike Kadas
Taylor Pape
Oleke Rappe-Daniels &
Orville Daniels
Nancy Thompson &
Dale Woolhiser
Kathy Veazey
Pam & Sandy Volkmann
Bente & Don Winston
Rick Wishcamper

\$500 - \$999

Anonymous
Megan Ashton & Travis Dye
Ann & Tom Boone
Jock Conyngham
Lynn Daniels &
John Matthews
Kathy & Brian Derry
Elizabeth & Mark Fricke
Katie & George Goble
Toni & Scott Gragg
Sidney & Kiefer Hahn
Kay & Daniel Kiely
Heather & Kevin Kronner
Julie & Beau Larkin
Susan Miller & Elon Gilbert
Kyung Namkoong &
Craig Hunter
Evelyn Newell
Penney Oncken
Elizabeth Paddock &
Tim Caramore
Amber & Colin Sherrill
Vicki Watson
Lori & Karl Westenfelder
Jean Zosel

\$250 - \$499

Becky & Alistair MacDonald
Nathan Bendickson
Nancy Brown
Anne & Steve Carlson
Susan & Michael Curtis
Lisa & Shannon Flanagan
Carolyn Grimaldi &
Rich Clow
Jan Guffin
Melissa & John Hart
LuAnn & Mike Jensen
Julia Jessop & Gail Marsh
Kim & Greg Kazemi
Amy & Ashby Kinch
Kay & Bruce Kramer
Caroline & Will Kurtz
Greg Lind
Anne Murphy
Peggy H. Newell
Ruth and Kim Reineking
Julia Riber & Eric Johnston
Cheryl Sendaydiego &
Bruce Ledesma
Chris and Jeannie Siegler
Skyla Sisco & Mike Farris
Minie Smith
Kate Supplee
Betty Toczek & Jim Reid
Wendy Volkmann
John Webb

\$1 - \$249

Anonymous (7)
Carolyn Abbott
Vivian Allison
Harriet & Michael Alterowitz
Margaret Ambros-Barton &
Mike Barton
Keith Anderson
Kristin Anderson &
Evan Rosenberg
Pamela Anderson
Adrian Arleo &
David Duncan
Jessica Armstrong &
Thomas Sanders
Tirza Asbell
Cori Ash
Shirley & David Atkins
Candace Atwood
Lela Autio
Courtney Babcock &
Miles Key
Kimberly & Trent Baker
Coco & William Ballew
Collin Bangs
Danielle & Seth Barnes-Smith
Britney Barnett
Taylor Barrett Valliant &
Morgan Valliant
Sharon & Richard Barrett
Kathy Bartlett
Lucy & John Beighle
Marlene & Tony Beltramo
Mari & Bruce Bender
Rebecca Bendick Kier &
Grant Kier
Brandon Bert
Stephen Bert
Jeff Birkby
Lisa & Mike Birnbaum
Anna Blackburn
Scott Blake
Jeanne Bloom &
Matthew Pagel
Sarah Bortis
Carma & Dale Bosworth
Kelly Bouma
Jerry Bowers
Wendy & Dave Dunbar
Lucille & David Braach
Beth Breen
Chris Brick & Steve Sheriff
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Meg & Anders Brooker
Dolly & David Browder
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Claudia & Bob Brown
Connie Brown &
Julian McCune
Robin & Lee Brown

Marilyn Bruya
Bonnie Buckingham
Joanne & Roy Bunnell
Cathy Burleson
Linda Burr
Linda & Jack Byrnes
Michelle & Charlie Cares
Ellen Carey
Heath Carey
Elizabeth &
Wayne Chamberlain
Alanya Cherkas
Jayann Chipman
Cindy & Gary Chumrau
Amy Cilimburg
Annette Cooper
Carol & Dirk Cooper
Mae Coover
Martha Coscina
Amy Coseo
Margie Ewing Costa
Elizabeth Costello
Leanne & David Crouch
Juliette Crump & Bill Bevis
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Della & Dan Daugherty
Tammmy & Danny Dauterive
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Sue Delp
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Katie Deuel &
Dwight Thomas
Tom Deveny
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Jeremy Drake
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Terry & Kenneth Egan
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Kathy & John Heffernan
Robyn Hegland
Kimberly Heinz
Liz Hibala
Laina & Drew Hill
Evelyn Hjartarson
Carla Homstad
Ken Honeycutt
Kristina Hubbard &
Matt Frank
Daphne Evans &
Andy Lennox
Susan Falsey
Jennifer Ferenstein &
Tom Platt
Beth Ferris

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Linda Grinde
Katie Guffin
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David Schuldberg
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DeAndria Gutzmer
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Tracie & Matt Hawes
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John O'Connor
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Valerie Hedquist &
Edward Callaghan
Kathy & John Heffernan
Robyn Hegland
Kimberly Heinz
Liz Hibala
Laina & Drew Hill
Evelyn Hjartarson
Carla Homstad
Ken Honeycutt
Kristina Hubbard &
Matt Frank
Daphne Evans &
Andy Lennox
Susan Falsey
Jennifer Ferenstein &
Tom Platt
Beth Ferris

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Dorothy Irvine
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Bynum Jackson
Chad Jensen
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Julie Jezierski
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Lindsey Bidleman
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Maria Kendra
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Maxwell Barnum
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Eric Chesebro
Grace McKey
Heather McMillin &
Jen Clary
Crissie McMullan &
Jeremy Smith
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V. Duane Moore
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Mary Nellis
Jesse Netzloff
George Nickas
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David Oberbillig
Sophie O'Brien
Charity & Matthew O'Connor
Patricia O'Keefe
Kathleen Ort & John Duffield
Yvette Ortega &
Nick Decesare
Monica & David Paoli
Richard Paper
Thomas James Paper
Paula Raines Hoffer &
Michael Hoffer
Kylie Pearson
Natalie Peck
Phil Petrilli
Mark Phares
Rita Pilione
Lavinia Pisano
Sara Pohl & Ethan Smith
Kim & Steve Powell
Greg Price
Mark Price
Meredith Printz

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Mark Reel
Judy Reese & Edward Bartels
Lindsay Richards
Deanna Rider & Jim Fairchild
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Peter Riley
Suzie & Ray Risho
Jan Riva & I. John Medlinger
Cheyenne Rivers
Katie Roberts
Robin Saha & Beth Covitt
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Jen Robohm
Katie Rogotzke & Mike Foote
Holly Rollins & Pat Corrick
Raphael F. Rosenzweig
Kathleen & Mark Rotar
Amy Rubin & Dave Harmon
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Gabrielle Sather-Olson
Sharon & J.R. Scarborough
Beth Schenk
Pam Schiemer &
Glenn Moffatt
Albert Schlaht
Beverly & Donald
Schumacher
Glenda & David Scott
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Gabrielle Shallberg
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Nate Smith
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Erin M. Steele & Brian Cellan
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Barry Branton
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Norel & Seth Swanson
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Erika Sylvester

Suzanne & Jim Sylvester
Sue & John Talbot
Regina Thomas
Ragna & Aric
Thorne-Thomsen
Darci Thorsrud &
Lane Coddington
Shirley Tiernan
Linda Tracy
Loie & Monte Turner
Jean & Bob Tutskey
Christine Vance
Karen & Rich Von Lossberg
Christiane &
Paul Von Reichert
Jeanine & Frank Walker
John Walker
Mandra Walker
Peggy Walker
Kelli Walsh & Tyler Stosich
Jaime & Christopher Ward
Alisa Watson
Annie & Gates Watson
Jennifer Watson
Karen Welch
Laura & Lou Westenfelder
Jeanette Whitney Williams
Casey Wilson
Rebecca Wilson
Stephanie Wing
Tiffany & Jeremy Wolf
Nathalie Wolfram
Ke Wu
Linda & Jon Yearous
J.B. Yonce
Bobi Young
Marina Zaleski
Denise & Chip Zimmer
Bailey Zook
Jeane L. Zosel

BUSINESSES & ORGANIZATIONS

Ace Hardware
American Association Of Critical Care
Nurses, Bitterroot Chapter
American Community Project
Anderson ZurMuehlen & Co.
Arrowleaf Construction, LLC
Bechtold Law Firm PLLC
Bernice's Bakery
Big Dipper
Bitterroot Valley Forest Products
Black Coffee Roasting Company
Blackfoot River Brewing Company
Caffe Dolce
Caras Nursery
Community Medical Center
Datsopoulos MacDonald & Lind PC.
Diversified Materials & Construction, LLC
Draught Works Brewery
El Diablo
Five On Black
Flanagan Motors
Garlington, Lohn & Robinson, PLLP
George's Distributing
Good Food Store
Goodsearch.com
Great Burn Brewing LLC
Green Hanger
Grizzly Liquor
Hands In Motion Occupational Therapy, LLC
Hellgate Cyclery
Highlands Golf Club
Huls Dairy
Initial Impression
Johnson Law Firm, PLLC
Le Petit Outre
Marchie's Nursery
Midland Implement Co., Inc.
Missoula Bicycle Works
Missoula Bone & Joint
Missoula Building Industry Association
Missoula Federal Credit Union
Missoula Organization Of Realtors
Missoula Pediatric Dentistry, P.C.
MissoulaEvents.net
Montana Radio Company
Montgomery Distillery
Mountain Supply Co.
Mountain West Cooperative
Mountain West Farm Bureau
Mutual Insurance Company
Murdoch's Ranch and Home Supply
One Eleven
Oxbow Cattle Company
PayneWest Insurance
Peak Health and Wellness Center
Portico Real Estate
Posh Chocolat
Pro Rental & Sales
Republic Services of Montana
Rockin' Rudy's

FOUNDATIONS

Anonymous (1)
Cadeau Foundation
CFC Of Western Montana
Charles Engelhard Foundation
Charles O'Boyle Legacy Fund
Clif Bar Family Foundation
Community Development Block Grant /
City of Missoula
Cotswold Foundation
Elizabeth Wakeman Henderson
Charitable Foundation
Fanwood Foundation
Gallagher Western Montana
Charitable Foundation
Learning By Giving Foundation
Louis L. Borick Foundation
Missoula Community Foundation
Missoula Office of Neighborhoods /
City of Missoula
Pleiades Foundation
Voice Foundation
Wagon Mountain Foundation
Wells Fargo Foundation
Zalec Familian & Lilian Levinson Foundation

IN HONOR OF

Eat Smart Missoula
Lily & Hailey Grant
Sue & Tim French
Michael Moser
Josh Slotnick & family
Kelsey Stamm & Ben Jimenez Wedding
Pam & Sandy Volkmann

IN MEMORY OF

Warren Delp
Anna & Ken Gadbow
Julia LaMotte Jessop
Charlotte Kling
Doris Ann 'Petie' Peterson Luckman
Sally Mullen



staff

ADMINISTRATION & DEVELOPMENT

Jean Zosel Executive Director
Laura Lee Bookkeeper
Maria Kendra Development Coordinator

COMMUNITY GARDENS

Genevieve Jessop Marsh Community Outreach Director
Patrick Long Maintenance Coordinator
Kim Gilchrist Volunteer Coordinator

YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Cori Ash Youth Farm Director
Laurie Strand Bridgeman Youth Harvest Project Director
Dave Renn Youth Harvest Project Coordinator
Mark Wayne Youth Farm Assistant

FARM TO SCHOOL

Jason Mandala Director
Katie Mikelsons School Gardens Coordinator

NEIGHBORHOOD FARMS

Sarah Bortis Orchard Gardens Director
Michelle Parisi Orchard Gardens Assistant
Ellie Duncan Orchard Gardens Farm Apprentice
Josh Slotnick GCH/EVST PEAS Farm Director
Greg Price River Road Director
Dave Victor River Road Field Manager
Clare Vergobbi River Road Farm Apprentice
Ethan Smith Operations Manager



c harder

cover photo - will klaczynski

board

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

John Hart CO-PRESIDENT
 Rossbach Hart PC

Olleke Rappe-Daniels CO-PRESIDENT
 Natural Resources &
 Communications Consultant

Emily Linton SECRETARY
 Educator

Amber Bauer TREASURER
 PayneWest Insurance

BOARD MEMBERS

Aaron Brock Missoula Food Bank
Tim Caramore St. Patrick's Hospital
Rosalie Sheehy Cates Community Investment Initiative
Amy Coseo Studio Verde Creative & Spur Studio
Janet Donahue Management Consultant
Kristin King-Ries Freelance Writer
Joe McMahon McMahon Construction, Inc.
Heather McMilin Homeword
Martha Newell Freelance Catalyst
Wendy Ninteman Land Trust Alliance
Melanie Puckett Optimist & Volunteer
Virginia Tribe Virginia Tribe Professional Facilitator, Inc.
Rick Wishcamper Rocky Mountain Development Group

