

Real Food Share

Annual Report

2021



Real Food Share is...

a 501(c)3 nonprofit based in Newtown, CT.

We are responding to gaps in our food system that leave too many people in our region hungry.

Inadequate access to healthy food causes chronic disease, malnutrition, and anxiety, which are major obstacles to experiencing a healthy life. We are transforming and uplifting our local food system to eliminate hunger.

Vision

We envision a world with a connected network of local food producers with the power to deliver nutritious food, transform food waste, restore our farmlands, and educate our communities to ensure access to healthy food for everyone.

Mission

We are working every day with every resource in our community to get as much healthy, locally grown food to as many people as possible.



2021 by the numbers

2

Real Food Share Production
Giving Gardens

11

Young Farmer Interns trained
on Agricultural Skills

50

Volunteers helping feed
neighbors in need

14

Farm Surplus Partners

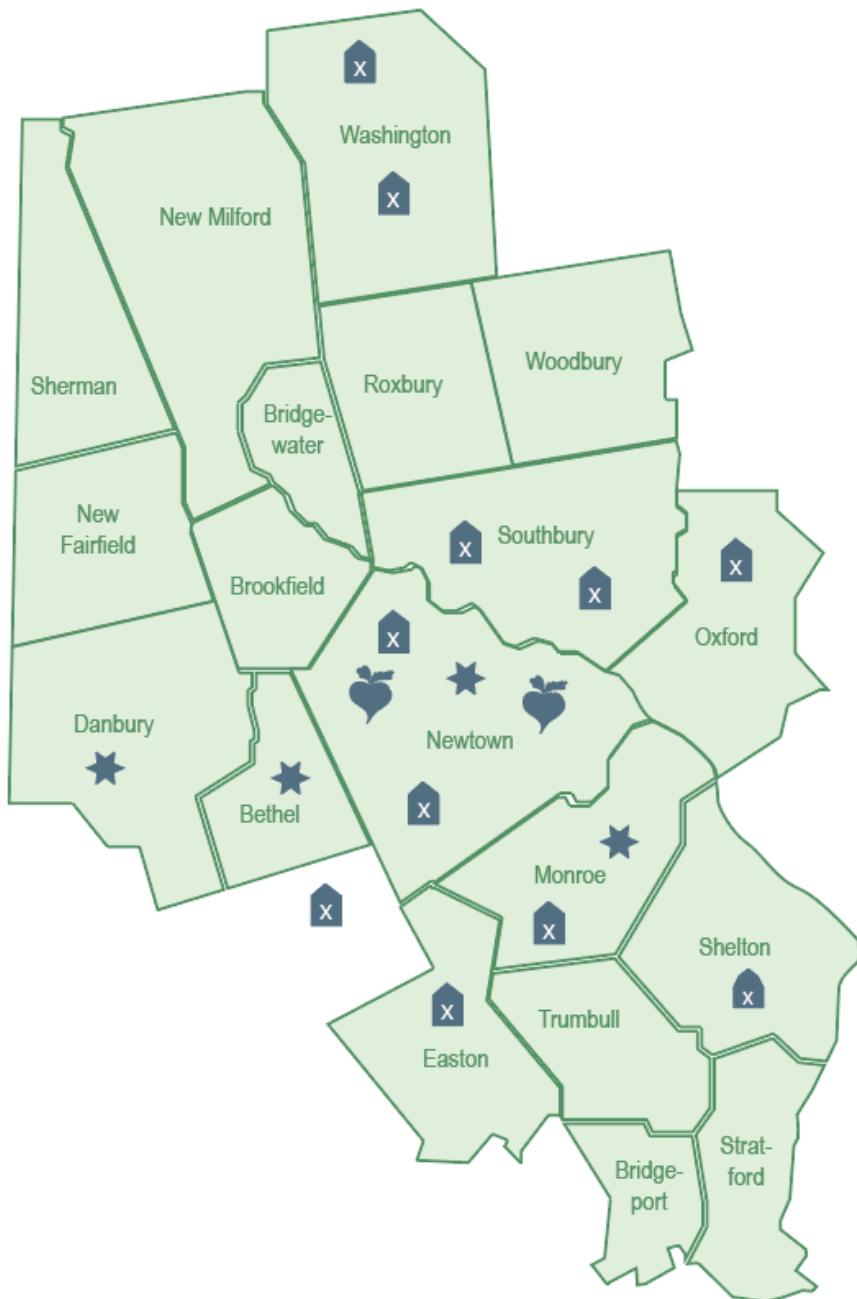
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Recipient Organizations

31,000

Meals of Fresh Produce Donated

Growing Our Network Every Year



Production Partners
Sticks and Stones Farm - Newtown, CT
CVH Animal Sanctuary - Newtown, CT

Farm Partners
Sport Hill Farm – Easton, CT
Waterview Farm – Monroe, CT
Moss Creek – Newtown, CT
Shorts Farm – Newtown, CT
Newtown Victory Garden – Newtown, CT
Newtown High School Greenery Class – Newtown, CT
Smith's Acres – Niantic, CT
Gazy Brothers – Oxford, CT
Maple Bank Farm – Roxbury, CT
Laurel Glen – Shelton, CT
Hidden Gem Orchard – Southbury, CT
Daffodil Hill – Southbury, CT
Waldingfield Farm – Washington, CT
Helmstead Farm – Washington Depot, CT

Farmers Markets
Newtown Farmers Market
Bethel Farmers Market
Danbury Farmers Market
Monroe Farmers Market

Actions Worth Investing In

All of our Programs center around getting nutritious food to neighbors and supporting our local food economy.

Giving Gardens

We establish and manage fruit and vegetable gardens and deliver our harvest directly to local food pantries and shelters.



Farm Surplus Delivery Program

We partner with farms and farmer's markets in our region to collect excess produce that would have otherwise gone to waste. We coordinate pickup and delivery on the combined schedules of the farms and food pantries. In doing so we reduce food waste, support our farmers, and feed more people.



Young Farmer Internship Training

Our Young Farmer Training Program teaches individuals, age 16-25, the foundations of farming, food production and distribution while serving the food security needs of their local community and preparing them for future jobs in the agriculture and food service space.



Regenerative Farming

In our gardens, we use the earth's natural resources to maximize production on small lots. Regenerative practices restore our soil and allow us to produce the healthiest, best-tasting produce possible for our neighbors in need.

Educational Resources

Part of establishing a healthy, equitable food system is community education. Real Food Share produces educational webinars and a vibrant food blog filled with articles and videos about food, nutrition, and the importance of supporting our local food system.

New in 2021

- RAMPED UP our donation network to 14 Farmers donating excess produce, 4 Farmers Markets, and 11 recipient organizations in 8 surrounding towns
- EXTENDED our irrigation and added refrigeration to our farm stand at Sticks and Stones
- RECEIVED the generous donation of a delivery van, allowing us to deliver more food to local food pantries and shelters
- LAUNCHED a webinar series, unFED, educating our community on nutritional health and the local food economy
- HOSTED our first annual fundraising event, the “Seed-To-Table Fall Celebration”. The sold-out event featured local chefs preparing delicious, healthy dishes made from ingredients donated by local food producers.



Financials

2021

Revenue

Donations	\$100,860.32
Private Donations: \$40,820.32	
Grassroots Fund Grow Grant: \$2,000	
Spray Foundation Grant: \$30,000	
Van Donation (Private): \$28,040.00	
Interest Income	\$32.11.00
Uncategorized Income	\$1.69
Total Revenue	\$100,860.32
GROSS PROFIT	\$100,860.32

Expenditures

Fundraising Expenses	\$720.00
Advertising & Marketing	\$2,118.91
Car & Truck	\$32,191.27
G&A Rent & Lease	\$1,200.00
Insurance	\$8,528.40
Legal & Professional Services	\$111.99
Office Supplies & Software	\$2,731.05
Other Business Expenses	\$12.99
Payroll Expenditures - G&A	\$159.55
Taxes & License	\$1,224.16
Travel	\$3.95
Payroll Taxes	\$2,648.09
Wages	\$23,566.48
Executive Director: \$12,000	
Young Farmer Interns: \$11,566.48	
Program Expenses	\$19,266.44
Contractors, Equipment, Utilities, Repairs & Maintenance, Seeds, Soil, Amendments	
Total Expenditures	\$94,483.28

NET OPERATING REVENUE	\$6,377.04
NET REVENUE	\$6,377.04

What's Ahead in 2022

In 2022, we are fundraising to add an exciting new program while we continue to develop our Small Farm Model which we have been building since our inception. We believe this model can help to transform and uplift our local food economy and ensure that everyone has sustainable access to healthy food.

Direct Payments to Farmers Program

Millions of dollars a year are spent by food pantries and other services to buy food from national chains. We are working to redirect that funding by securing grants that directly connect local farms with food pantries. This CSA-style delivery will provide neighbors in need with weekly fresh food.

Small Farm Model (SFM)

Our Giving Gardens Program has been the pilot project for our Small Farm Model. In our first three years, we have proven that a lot of food can be grown on under an acre. This year we will add a greenhouse and Hydropics to our model, extending our capacity to four-season growing and giving. The SFM can be easily duplicated throughout the state and have immediate contracts to distribute food to local pantries. Our desire is to make this SFM available to interested BIPOC farmers in the areas we serve, primarily Bridgeport and Danbury.



Real Food Share

Board of Directors

Sean Fitzpatrick, Founder

Nancy Zycheck

Dave Haze

Kim Cosar

Lisa Rioni

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Farm and Garden Manager

Izzy Pryor

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Interns

Rebecca Walsh

Izy Cadoff

Blake Assaro

Zack Masone

Julia Klien

Aliya Hafiz

Jamie Adams

Acadia Peterson

Tyler Weiss

Liz Gotschlich

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Core Volunteers

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Terry Tortorra

Cap Pryor

Kim Hornby

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Becky McCart

Gail Diminico

MaryAnn Fisher

Jay Spaleta

Real Food Share

Everyone deserves access to healthy food

