GROWING FOR GOOD

A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN PCC COMMUNITY MARKETS, NEIGHBORHOOD FARMERS MARKETS AND HARVEST AGAINST HUNGER

2022 REPORT

Our third year of contracting local farms with food banks has come to a close. Growing for Good has grown immensely since the program began. It has shifted from an emergency response to the COVID-19 pandemic to an established program in the region's food system. In 2022, the need for food access remained high due to inflation and supply chain shortages leading our partner food banks to serve over 30,000 clients a week. We helped meet need with an increase in the number of participating farms and food banks, a second source of funding, and greater variety in products.

The program received \$65,000 from the King County Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Fund. PCC Community Markets provided \$115,000 in shopper-raised funding. With the largest funding pool to date, Growing for Good added three new food banks and four new farms. Our farmers introduced proteins for the first time to this program, including eggs and meats.



OUR SUCCESSES



Bringing in proteins and culturally appropriate foods

"Our Olsen Farm meat was GORGEOUS. I was very proud to offer such fresh local meat to our shoppers."

- Karla M., West Seattle Food Bank

"Seeing the increased emphasis of culturally appropriate food (CAF) within the food insecurity world has been rewarding. More rewarding, though, is when one of my clients expressed amazement and appreciation for one of my distribution locations having CAF shishito peppers available for her to take home." -- Mike H., Hopelink Food Banks

Stronger match ups between farms and food banks

"We appreciated the size of the Rainier Valley Food Bank and their ability to receive a larger quantity of product on any delivery day. The volume at which we can harvest and deliver makes it easier for the scale and limitations of our operation." – Jayme H., Present Tense Farm





Lasting partnerships between farms and food banks beyond GFG

"Having some of our food bank partners choose to spend some of their budgets with us outside of the program has felt great! It resulted in more sales and income, but also felt really validating, that they consider the quality of our veggies and meats to be a good value."

- Genine B., Kirsop Farm

"We budgeted money to purchase more than just the GFG grant money. We spent another \$10,000 on chicken & produce." - Mike W., Highline Area Food Bank



Varieties of crops purchased

9.5/10

Satisfaction with farm product quality

17

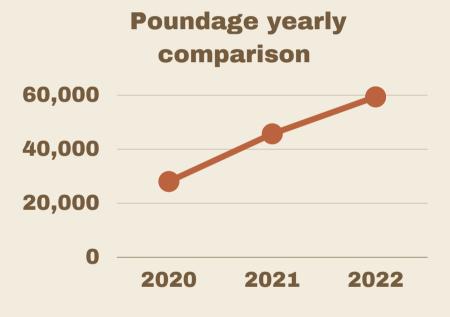
Growers provided organic food



Food pantries received organic food



\$185,000 in funding brought in 59,348 lbs of purchased food







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Growing For Good has been funded by the community for the community since it began in 2020, with a contribution of over \$300,000 between 2020 and 2022. Over the next three years, PCC Community Markets will provide approximately \$300,000 in funds raised in-store, specifically designated to support purchase of local food from farmers by hunger relief agencies, and an additional \$75,000 from the co-op. With that combined \$375,000 of funding, the program has heightened flexibility and responsiveness to meet community needs and deliver results for partners beyond the numbers: sustaining a values-based regional food system with high-quality nutritious food for all.



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