### SANTA FE FARMERS' MARKET INSTITUTE

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023

farmersmarketinstitute.org

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Message Manny Encinias

It is with honor and gratitude that our staff and board members present to you our year in review of the Institute with the publication of our 2023 Annual Report.

Since I took the reins of the Institute in April of 2023, we have diligently assessed our strengths, position, and experience. This effort has allowed us to establish a five-year working plan to lead the state-wide effort in building a resilient local food system accessible to all citizens.

A preview of these programs is highlighted in this annual report to bring attention to the significance of focused work the Institute is implementing in our communities of Northern New Mexico. In addition, we offer insight to our unique approach of engaging with the community and our respective community partners.

The work in our communities is a heavy lift for a single organization like the Institute. However, we know that collectively with like-minded community partners and the generous support of our donors, we can effectively make a meaningful impact on improving the sustainability of family-owned agriculture, building the economy in our rural communities and nourishing both the historically served and underserved in Northern New Mexico.

K Me Es

Manny Encinias, PhD Executive Director

# **Organization Overview**

The Santa Fe Farmers' Market Institute's (SFFMI) first goal was to provide and maintain an affordable year-round space for vendors to sell their goods. Since then, the Farmers' Market Pavilion, located in the heart of the Santa Fe Railyard, has grown into a community gathering location for locals and visitors alike.

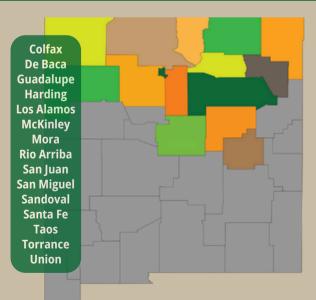
In the first 20 years the Institute expanded outreach to the local agricultural community by providing farmers with professional development and training programs, as well as offering low-interest loans and access to business consulting. The Institute continues to be New Mexico's largest redeemer of Double Up Food Bucks (DUFB), a federally sponsored program that doubles Electronic Benefits Transfer/Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (EBT/SNAP) transactions to increase shoppers' purchasing power of fresh food sold at farmers markets. In 2023, the Institute redeemed \$370,776 of DUFB.

Today, the Institute is leaning into a five year plan that will lead the way in applied skills programs to mentor the next generation of Northern New Mexico farmers and ranchers on methods and technologies to improve soil health and conserve water, as well as navigate strategies with community and statewide partners to create more equitable access to locally grown food.

#### MISSION

The mission of the Santa Fe Farmers' Market Institute is to advocate for farmers, ranchers and other land-based producers; provide equitable access to fresh, local food; own and operate a yearround venue for the Santa Fe Farmers' Market; and manage programs to help sustain a profitable, locally-based agricultural community.

#### WHERE WE SERVE



## Who We Serve Farmers & ranchers

6 in 10 SENIORS (60+)

MUST CHOOSE BETWEEN

FOOD & HEALTH CARE

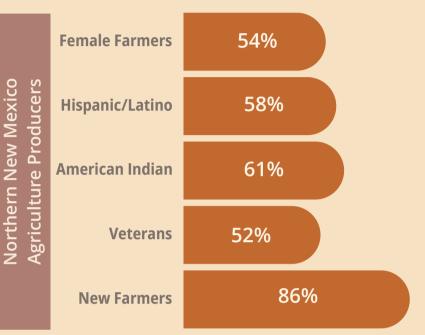
The Institute recognizes and serves the diversity of farmers, ranchers, and communities in the 15 counties of Northern New Mexico.

Approximately 50% of all farmers in the state reside in these counties.

Source: 2017 Census of Agriculture-National Ag Statistic Service

41% OF HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVING SNAP

HAVE CHILDREN



## **CONSUMER COMMUNITY**

The Institute's mission encompasses improving equitable access to fresh, locally grown food for all communities historically served and underserved. This part of the mission has never been more important to communities as food insecurity affects more than 90,000 community members in Northern New Mexico, many of whom are children and elderly.

Source: 2024 feedingamerica.org

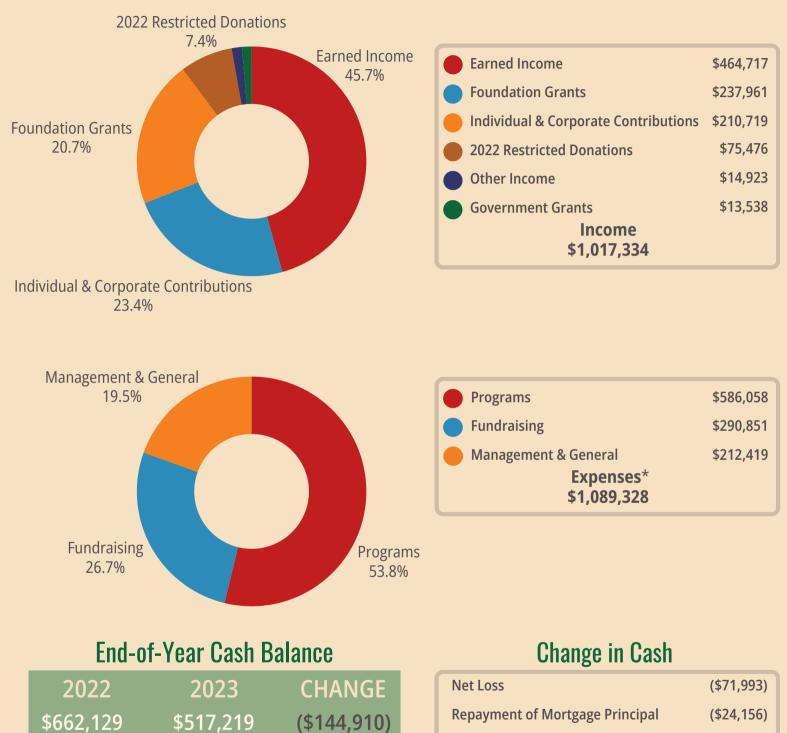
1 in 5

**CHILDREN** 

FACE HUNGER

# 2023 Financial Overview

Santa Fe Farmers' Market Institute is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.



\$144,910)	Repayment of Mortgage Prin
· • •	2022 Restricted Donations
	Changes in Working Capital

\*Based on allocation in 2023 Audit Unaudited 2023 Financials, cash basis

Federal Tax ID: 30-0124953

Page 4

(\$75,476)

\$26,715

(\$144,910)

# Healthy Soils Program

In 2023, the Institute conducted a pilot program to assist four farmers and one rancher in applying for the New Mexico Healthy Soil Program (NMHSP). This program, funded by legislative action, allows producers to apply for funding on a reimbursement basis to support conservation practices. The process to assist these producers began in the winter of 2022 with outreach and education about the program and engagement to identify participants for an Institute-led pilot program.

The Institute assisted Rocio and Estella Alcantar, two sisters who farm on co-owned and co-leased property, as well as Reynel and Tony Orozco, brothers who farm on co-owned property, and Andrew Geer, a rancher actively grazing 40 acres, in applying for and receiving funding from NMHSP. By the end of the NMHSP cycle, the three applications will have supported \$33,849 worth of approved soil improvement and conservation activities.

As part of the process, the Institute hosted one compost and healthy soil workshop, three field days, helped apply 190 yards of soil amendment compost, and drilled nearly 700 pounds of seeds that were inoculated with a biologically active compost called Johnson-Su. An additional 160 pounds of seed will be drilled as a warm-season pasture crop in 2024 as a result of successfully applying for New Mexico Healthy Soils Program funding.

#### 2024 Goals

- Assist producers in applying for the 2024-25 Healthy Soils Program.
- Host and partner in Soil Health Field Days throughout Northern New Mexico to demonstrate practices and activities which support living soils.
- Create and share informational handouts, videos and other materials to educate more people about Soil Health Principles.
- Host workshops in the fall and winter to promote more applications for the 2025-26 New Mexico Healthy Soil Program.
- Provide training and technical assistance to break down and simplify the grantwriting process and assist producers in applying for support and funding.
- Collaborate with soil health and conservation organizations and individuals to engage at Santa Fe Farmers' Markets, sharing valuable resources with producers and market customers.

#### **Community Partners**

- New Mexico Healthy Soil Working Group
- Seeding Regenerative Agriculture
- New Mexico Soil Enthusiasts
- Master Gardeners
- Compost Action Team
- Mother Nature Center
- Reunity Resources
- Spirit Farm
- Individual Producers

In 2023, **on-farm activities** enhanced **soil carbon, soil structure, water retention,** and **species diversity** in under **six months** through the Healthy Soils Program.

# Local Food for All

In August of 2023 the Institute launched Local Food for All (LF4A)/Comida Local para Todos. Three promotoras (community outreach members) were hired to engage at community events and activities, focusing on areas of Santa Fe with the least access to fresh, locally grown food. Since promotoras are representative of the community at large and are native Spanish speakers and bilingual, we believed the message would be more readily received.

In the first two months, the promotoras attended large events of 100+ people, which allowed them to engage with a lot of people at once, but only for a brief moment. They shifted to smaller activities of less than 50 people, in order to have more time with each individual.

The promotoras distributed information about nutrition access programs such as SNAP/DUFB and Women, Infants & Children (WIC), shopping at Farmers' Markets, along with fresh, local produce and a LF4A bag. The idea behind this is to encourage people through personal communication to shop locally and eat healthy, fresh food.

## Comida Local para Todos

SANTA FE FARMERS' MARKET INSTITUTE

Food for All

focal Food for All IS SUPPORTED BY

CHRISTUS.

ST. VINCEN Health System

CHRISTUS.

#### 2024 Goals

- Develop a year-round model for historically underserved communities to access locally produced fresh food through pop-up markets
- Purchase a refrigerated van and trailer
- Increase cold storage capacity for farmers and ranchers
- Hire two staff members to manage fresh food pop-up markets
- Provide nutrition education and cooking demonstrations for the community

In 2023 over **1,400** individuals signed up for more information with over **2,000 LF4A bags distributed.** 

#### **Community Partners**

- Presbyterian Health Services
- Christus St. Vincent
- La Familia Medical Center
- EarthCare
- Southwest Santa Fe Advocates
- WIC Department of Health
- Chainbreakers
- Growing Up New Mexico
- Many Mothers
- Public Libraries
- The Food Depot
- Local Churches
- Community Businesses
- New Mexico Farmers' Marketing Association
- La Feria (Santa Fe Economic Development & Chamber)

**Additional Progra** 

#### **GROWER & PRODUCER PROGRAMS**

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- Branding & Marketing Workshops
- Selling Outside the Market Workshop
- Microloans
- Value-added Food Production
- On-farm Solar Power Program



2023

#### **COMMUNITY CONSUMER PROGRAMS**

- SNAP/DUFB
- Fresh Rx
- Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP)
- Del Sur Market Activities



# Farmer and ALL-STARS

Farmers preserve the rich agricultural heritage of New Mexico, contribute to our robust and vibrant market, and invest in the health of our land and community. The Farmer All-Star Awards are one way the Institute acknowledges the hard work of the vendors who are the driving force behind the Santa Fe Farmers' Market. The tradition of honoring Farmer All-Stars dates back to 2008. To date, 48 farms and six community members have been acknowledged as All-Stars.

In 2023, Stephanie Dukette, owner of Southwest Mushroom Cultivators, Augustin and Maria Orozco, owners of El Guique Farm, and Ted Salazar, owner of Maria's Farm, were honored as the 2023 Farmer All-Stars at the 2023 Cultivating Community celebration. Susan Tarver, Executive Director of Bienvenidos Outreach Inc., was honored as the Community All-Star.



Southwest Mushroom Cultivators



Augustin & Maria Orozco El Guique Farm



Ted Salazar Maria's Farm



Susan Tarver Bienvenidos Outreach Inc.



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YouTube SUBSCRIBE

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# 2024 PRIORITIES

### NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Provide applied learning, systems-based **educational programs using evolving technologies** that are both practical and cost-effective to mentor agricultural land users to **responsibly harvest**, **manage, and improve existing natural resources on agricultural landscapes** of Northern New Mexico.





### **FOOD PRODUCTION & PROCESSING**

Embrace the opportunity to lead the effort to develop a robust, **year-round local food economy in communities across Northern New Mexico** by mentoring the implementation of regional and site specific food growing systems that **allow growers to grow food more days per year and improve the efficiency of growing food.** 

#### **BUSINESS MANAGEMENT**

Partnering with public and private financial experts and organizations, **develop and lead a series of financial literacy and business management modules to strengthen the financial skill set** and business position of small food-producing farms in Northern New Mexico.



# 2024 PRIORITIES

### **FOOD ACCESS**

Collaborate with government agencies, like-minded organizations, and supportive private donors to continue **developing equitable access venues for local food in isolated rural communities, including Indigenous communities,** and in socio-economically isolated urban communities.





### **EDUCATION**

Develop a **comprehensive education clearinghouse for all ages and experience levels,** with the assistance of other organized culinary and food nutrition experts, **focused on sourcing, preparing, and cooking with fresh ingredients.** 

### POLICY

Use the Market Pavilion as a venue to **showcase the strides made across the state to build a more resilient food system and develop a farm-to-table leadership and advocacy program** made up of local farmers, contributors in aggregation and distribution, and consumers who actively support the local food supply chain.



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> Mary Dixon Secretary

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David Sundberg Program Development Director

Anna Griswold Market Programs Manager

> James Gould Building Manager

Carey Powers Information Booth Representative

505

505-983-7726



1607 Paseo de Peralta, Suite A, Santa Fe, NM 87501

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info@farmersmarketinstitute.org



www.farmersmarketinstitute.org

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Santa Fe Farmers' Market Institute



# INVEST IN OUR JOURNEY

There are many options to contribute to our journey. Your investment helps us grow local agricultural businesses and improve equitable access of fresh food to communities across Northern New Mexico.

#### Ways to Give



DONATE

farmersmarketinstitute.org/you-can-help/donate/