

**GROWING GLEANING GIVING FOR 20 YEARS** 

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**2022 Annual Report** Grow – Glean – Give

In 2022 America's Grow-a-Row observed our 20th year of service to those in need. We are pleased to report that we impacted nearly 93,000 people last year through fresh produce distribution, volunteer engagement, and education services.



### Fresh Produce Distribution

Americas Grow-a-Row donated over 2.3 million pounds - 9.2 million servings - of nutritious fresh produce to our neighbors in need, helping feed an estimated 82,265 people facing food insecurity across New Jersey and beyond.



#### Free Farm Markets®

We implemented 215 Free Farm Markets<sup>®</sup> in low food access communities in Camden, East Orange, Hunterdon County, Jersey City, Morristown, Newark, and Trenton in New Jersey, and Bethlehem and Philadelphia in Pennsylvania, among others.



### **Kids Farm Days**

America's Grow-a-Row hosted 785 children from underserved communities at Growa-Row Kids Farm Days, when children visit our farm to learn about farming and healthy eating, make a snack with fresh produce, and harvest fruits and vegetables to take home.



# Farming

Extreme heat and drought, as well as erratic frosts, challenged 2022 crop production. A generous donor supported the purchase of a mobile irrigation gun that helped salvage significant crop yield. We produced and gleaned (rescued from partner farms) 19 varieties of fruits and vegetables that offered a range of healthy choices for the people we serve.



# Volunteers

America's Grow-a-Row engaged volunteers of all ages and walks of life at 8,260 volunteer visits last year, who helped harvest crops on our farms, gleaned, or rescued, produce, and supported our Free Farm Markets<sup>®</sup>.



## Education

We educated 3,895 children (including Kids Farm Days) and adults through our comprehensive curriculum that includes lessons on farming, healthy eating and cooking, and hunger awareness.



#### Partners

America's Grow-a-Row distributed fruits and vegetables to 66 hunger relief agencies and community and healthcare organizations in 2022. Our partnerships help us get wholesome fresh produce into the hands of those who need it most and connect with people who would benefit from education programs. We thank you for your support of our efforts to increase access to nutritious fresh produce for our neighbors in need and are honored that you choose to partner with us!

#### **Mission Statement**

America's Grow-a-Row's mission is to positively impact as many lives as possible through a volunteer effort of planting, picking, rescuing, and delivering free fresh produce. At America's Grow-a-Row, we:

- Provide fresh produce to those in need
- Educate people of all generations about hunger and ways to help
- Introduce our youth to farming and healthy eating
  Cultivate in tomorrow's leaders the habit of giving back to the community
- Cultivate in tomorrow's leaders the habit of giving back to the com
  Contribute to the sustainability of agriculture
- Contribute to the sustainability of agricultur

#### 2022 Revenue Sources ( Total: \$ 3,724,850 33.2% **7.9**% \$ 1,237,693 **Corporate Foundations & Giving** (33.2%) \$ 1,024,748 Individual & Community Giving (27.5%) 9.1% **Private Foundations** \$ 344,551 (9.3%) In-kind Donations \$ 338,025 (9.1%) **Program/Other Income** \$ 295,226 (7.9%) \$ 283,949 (7.6%) **Employee Retention Credit Special Events (net)** \$ 200,658 (5.4%) 27.5%



# **States We Reach**

Fresh produce was distributed to hunger relief agencies of all sizes across the Garden State, New York City, the greater Northeast/Mid-Atlantic region, and beyond. Our reach now extends to 17 states. A participant of the Free Farm Market<sup>®</sup> and Produce Prescription Program, conducted in partnership with Hunterdon Healthcare's Center for Nutrition and Diabetes Management, says, *"I can't say how much this program has helped me to be able to eat more veggies and fruit."* Another shares, *"This program helps regulate my diabetes, making sure I eat as healthy as possible."* 



# Times Square Billboard

America's Grow-a-Row was featured on a Times Square billboard from November 15, 2022 through January 1, 2023. We were proud to be in the Big Apple and to shine a spotlight on the need for healthy fresh food for those in need. Affinity Federal Credit Union generously provided America's Grow-a-Row with the free ad space.



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Since our beginning in 2002, we have donated over 17 million pounds – 68 million servings – of fresh produce to those in need.