MISSION: Waltham Fields Community Farm promotes local agriculture and food access through our farming operations and educational programs, using practices that are socially, ecologically, and economically sustainable. We encourage healthy relationships between people, their food supply, and the land from which it grows.

Dear Friends,

Waltham Fields Community Farm is 15 years in and going strong because of you! With your support in 2010, we hit our goals for food distribution, offered year-round public education programs for all ages, and trained two future farmers. There was also some work behind the scenes, re-examining what is most important and holding a series of strategic planning discussions.

One result of these discussions was the redrafting of our mission statement, which was approved by WFCF members at our Annual Meeting & Harvest Potluck on October 30th. Waltham Fields was founded on a deep commitment to providing fresh, organically-grown produce to the public with specific attention to those most in need. Our mission statement now more clearly reflects these twin goals of supporting local agriculture and providing food access to all. Here at the farm we take these goals to heart, and consciously think about how the work we do can best fulfill this mission, through direct food distribution as well as educational programming. In so many ways your involvement is vital to our mission; we look forward to many more years together!

Sincerely,

Claire Kozower, Executive Director
2010 HIGHLIGHTS

- Distributed over $45,000 worth of vegetables to individuals and families in need through hunger relief and food access programs

- Doubled the number of youth served through our education programs from over 200 to over 400

- Created the Waltham Fields Container Garden, demonstrating growing crops in pots

- Initiated a food waste composting partnership with Bentley University and expanded our leaf composting partnership with the City of Waltham

- Hosted Waltham Farm Day, a free event with over 200 community members in attendance

FINANCIAL STATUS

We began and ended 2010 in good financial standing, making annual contributions to our reserve accounts for capital purchases, employee leave, and emergencies. Our net surplus was $21,061.

We are pleased to continue working with accountant John M. Monticone, CPA, of Medford, MA, who completed a financial review of 2009 in accordance with nonprofit accounting regulations. A copy of this review is available from our office upon request. The 2010 review will be available in the summer of 2011.

Financial Statement for FY10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenue</th>
<th>Operating Expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agricultural income</td>
<td>Wages and benefits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>$249,028</td>
<td>$296,794</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and contributions</td>
<td>Agricultural expenses (non-salary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>184,305</td>
<td>71,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>Organizational infrastructure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15,003</td>
<td>70,990</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special events &amp; merchandise</td>
<td>Facilities, fees &amp; insurance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34,293</td>
<td>32,929</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service/program fees</td>
<td>Total expenses:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10,576</td>
<td>472,153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interest</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>_9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total revenue:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>493,214</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Board of Directors 2010

President: Rebecca Nesson
Vice President: Jay Rudolph
Secretary: Nathan Weston
Treasurer: Judy Fallows
# FARM HARVESTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Weight (pounds)</th>
<th>Retail value (dollars)</th>
<th>Income earned (dollars)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL PRODUCE HARVESTED</td>
<td>149,882</td>
<td>$293,293</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Breakdown:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Weight</th>
<th>Retail Value</th>
<th>Income earned</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Food Access Programs</td>
<td>25,782</td>
<td>$45,444</td>
<td>$3,998**</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>350 Summer CSA Shares ($575/share)</td>
<td>106,050 (303 lbs. per share)</td>
<td>$217,700 ($622 per share)</td>
<td>$201,250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>150 Winter CSA Shares ($150/share)</td>
<td>15,603 (104 lbs. per share)</td>
<td>$27,600 ($184 per share)</td>
<td>$22,500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retail/Wholesale/Restaurant</td>
<td>2,447</td>
<td>$2,549</td>
<td>$2,549</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Retail value includes $52 per share of winter squash and potatoes from Picadilly Farm, and $14 per share worth of corn from Verrill Farm.

Retail value includes $45 per share of winter squash and potatoes from Picadilly Farm.

*Our own harvests account for the majority of our agricultural revenue. Other agricultural revenue sources include seedling sales and a la carte sales of farm products from other local farms such as apples and cheese.

**Most of the value of produce distributed through our food access programs is fundraised for and provided for free, but a small amount of income is made by offering produce at subsidized prices through our farm-to-school sales, ½ price CSA shares, and Outreach Market, where low-income customers that don’t have vouchers can pay $5 to fill a grocery bag.

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**FARM SALES HIGHLIGHTS**

- Over 95% of our CSA shareholders from 2009 returned in 2010.

- In addition to producing vegetable seedlings for sale to the GROW (Green Rows of Waltham) community gardens, we held two well-attended seedling sales for the general public.

- We provided a steady supply of vegetables to Kitchen on Common Restaurant in Belmont, from greens in early spring to stored roots and cabbage-family crops throughout December and into the new year. It is exciting to work with chef/owner Joh Kokubo to offer local food on his menu year-round!
FOOD ACCESS

With a total value of $46,688, we exceeded our overall goal of distributing $40,000 worth of produce to area residents in need through our various food access channels.

**Bulk Donations:** Weekly donations of freshly picked produce were made to Food for Free and the Waltham Salvation Army. In addition, The Greater Boston Food Bank accepted several thousands of pounds of vegetables through their 2nd Harvest Food Bank program; their ability to pick up entire pallets of produce is especially appreciated during end-of-season harvests.

**Waltham Fields Outreach Market:** 594 bags of produce were distributed through our special Outreach Market for low income individuals/families. Each week, 58% of market clients paid $5 for their bag and 42% redeemed our free vouchers. Average bag value was $20. Voucher distribution increased by 44%, with a total of eight agencies distributing our vouchers to enable their clientele to fill bags with their choice of produce for free. Partner agencies included WATCH CDC, Joseph Smith Community Health Center, Waltham Family School, Grandma’s Pantry at the Christ Episcopal Church, Thom Charles River Early Intervention of Thom Child & Family Services, REACH Beyond Domestic Violence, HeadStart and The Family Table program at Jewish Family & Children’s Service (JF&CS). JF&CS also partnered with us to provide a Registered Dietician to do four cooking/recipe sampling demonstrations throughout the Market season.

**Food for All ½ Price CSA Shares:** Four low-income households participated in our CSA program at a subsidized rate in 2010.

**Farm-to-School and Healthy Waltham Nutrition Education Initiatives:** Partnerships with the Waltham Public Schools Food Service Dept. and Healthy Waltham continued with produce from our farm supplying the Vegetable of the Month in school meals from September through November, as well as supplying after school and summer cooking/nutrition education programs, demonstrations and tastings at public events, and meals for the Waltham Family School and several other low-income community groups.

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**Food Access Produce Distribution by Program**

- **Waltham Fields Outreach Market:** 25%
- **Bulk Donations to Regional Emergency Food Programs:** 63%
- **Food For All 1/2 Price CSA Shares:** 3%
- **Farm-to-School Distributions:** 4%
- **Healthy Waltham Nutrition Education Initiatives:** 5%

*Total Value = $46,688*

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*Above:* 2,000 lbs. of bell peppers make their way from the fall fields to The Greater Boston Food Bank.

*Below:* Participants at the Outreach Market choose their vegetables. A highlight of the season was the kale cooking demonstration which led to a child loving the recipe so much she got in line and asked our farmer, “Which greens are the ones I just tasted?”
EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Learning Garden Programs & Workshops: We expanded our offerings by providing practical skills workshops for adults and teens (organic gardening, compost bin building, pickling and more), farm visit opportunities for school/community groups, and more program opportunities for preschoolers through sixth graders in spring, summer, and fall. We reached a total of 419 children and 73 adults: more than double last year’s numbers! We also continued improvement of the Learning Garden space. With the help of many volunteers we defined the garden beds with mulched pathways, painted benches and tables, set up the small greenhouse nearby for youth use, and completed our solar electric system for farm-to-table activities.

“Gina loved this hands-on gardening program and loves showing off the harvest, snack and fun things she has learned each day!... I see a greater sense of self and independence in Gina this summer.”

–Diane, mother of Gina (age 9)

“Of course we have to weed, Mommy!” she loves that she is caring for plants and the food that comes from it. “Everything we eat is so fresh!” she never commented on the food at home or how fresh anything is. She has a heightened awareness, which is awesome!”

–Maryanne, mother of Maggie (age 8)

Service Learning: Several improvements were made to our volunteer program, with special emphasis on the creation of a volunteer check in/check out kiosk, serving as both a gathering spot for drop-in volunteers as well as an information center where volunteers track their hours and tasks and learn about upcoming events on the farm. Over 700 individuals and 43 groups came out to volunteer this year in the fields, the office, or at one of our numerous public events and programs. These volunteers worked a total of just under 3,000 hours and we are thankful for their service! Our 2010 Volunteer Recognition Award went to Dan Melnechuk who volunteers his time to manage our web and email servers and answer our technical questions.

Farmer Training: We had two Assistant Growers in our Farmer Training program, Amy Cook as a first-year trainee and Dan Roberts staying with us for second-year opportunities. Both Amy and Dan showed a strong commitment to the organization’s overall mission and worked diligently to understand all aspects of our farm operation, with Dan stepping up to oversee our restaurant sales and Outreach Market. Also in 2010, we designed and began implementation of a long-term evaluation of our Farmer Training program to assess our success with providing future farmers the resources they need to stay in farming and build successful farming operations, and to inform our own future program improvements.

“It is one of the most influential and positive influences on me as a farmer and one of the farm work experiences I think about and talk about the most. WFCF’s Farm Manager, Amanda, has continued to be such an amazing resource and mentor to both Nate and I, and again we have borrowed so much of our own farm vision from what we learned at Waltham it is hard to underestimate. I also really appreciate that it felt that we were paid relatively fairly for our work.”

– Jen Smith, co-manager Crimson & Clover Farm (2006 farmer trainee)

Public Programs: A highlight of the season continues to be our Waltham Farm Day event, bringing several hundred community members and partnering organizations to the farm for a free afternoon of hands-on activities celebrating farming in Waltham and healthful living. We also held a Spring Festival/Wild Foraging Walk with Russ Cohen and Night Sky Viewing events with Astronomer Andrew West, and participated in over ten off-farm events throughout the Greater Boston area.
THANKS TO OUR 2010 DONORS

The food access and education programs of Waltham Fields Community Farm are made possible through both financial and in-kind donations from hundreds of individuals, businesses, community organizations and foundations.

We are grateful to everyone who contributed to our work in 2010 through donations and participation in our fundraising events, including Sprout (our annual silent auction and celebration), a Greens Breakfast on the Farm and REAP Dinner with Kitchen on Common (Raising funds for Education and food Access Programs), the Elephant Walk Benefit Restaurant program in October, Whole Foods 5% Day, a benefit night at Flatbread Pizza, and two house parties hosted by Board members.

Local Business Heroes


Additional Business & Community Support


Foundation & Corporate Grant Support

Individual Support above $25 Organizational Membership

We had 863 households enrolled as WFCF members in 2010. This includes all 475 households lending their charitable support. In addition to strong membership support, we are proud to acknowledge the following individuals donors giving above the membership level through cash and in-kind contributions.

Our Farm is Your Farm

Come Visit Us!

Opportunities abound for people of all ages and income levels to get involved with our programs.

Volunteer in our fields or with special projects – we have individual drop-in hours for all ages and available dates for groups ages high school and up.

Schedule a Farm Visit for your school and/or community group - for those in pre-K through 8th grade. Activities include farm explorations, learning games and farm-to-table fresh snack preparation.

Take a stroll around the farm. Our main farm site is located on leased land owned by the University of Massachusetts. You are welcome to walk around the farm anytime during daylight hours to enjoy open space, and observe wildlife and the rhythms of the agricultural season. Please stay on the farm roads and keep pets on leash.

2011 EVENT HIGHLIGHTS - Mark Your Calendars...

Empty Bowls Dinner: Sat., Sept. 10 (rain date 9/11)
Waltham Farm Day: Sat., Sept. 24 (rain or shine), 2-5pm
Harvest Potluck/Annual Meeting: Sat., Nov. 5, 5:30-7:30pm

Please check our website for a full listing of our programs, events and workshops

Waltham Fields Community Farm
240 Beaver St. Waltham, MA  02452
(781) 899-2403  www.communityfarms.org

FIND US ON FACEBOOK
CHECK OUT OUR BLOG!