



NEWSLETTER

FALL 2025

www.growingtogive.farm
30 East Coxon Rd, Brunswick, ME



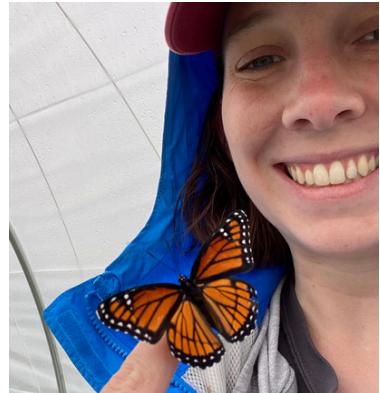
"I like to envision the whole world as a jigsaw puzzle... If you look at the whole picture, it is overwhelming and terrifying, but if you work on your little part of the jigsaw and know that people all over the world are working on their little bits, that's what will give you hope." — Jane Goodall

This year on the farm, we were frequently reminded of how a single seed, a simple gesture, or a short conversation can evolve into something far greater. We've all witnessed a tiny pebble spreading ripples across a pond, and we've all heard of the "butterfly effect". At Growing to Give, we feel fortunate that so many volunteers, businesses, and organizations have turned individual contributions into a collective celebration of generosity that radiates throughout our community.

This year we've seen:

- Schoolchildren, excited by their farm visit, working with parents and teachers to initiate a fundraiser to further our mission.
- Churches speaking of our work and encouraging parishioners to support us.
- Volunteers suggesting to friends to donate to us in lieu of gifts for celebrations of life's milestones, such as birthdays and Bar Mitzvahs.
- Grantors, understanding the time constraints facing non-profits and the pressures affecting our overall community at this critical time, simplifying our grant application process — or letting us bypass the process completely.
- Partner organizations and businesses sharing their time, talent, space, and funds to promote our programs and make our fundraising events extra special.

Whether it is the abundant harvest and the nutritious meals provided to those in need, the ever-increasing number of students visiting the farm, or the gathering of people at events, each success at Growing to Give this year has been the result of many hands, many hearts, and many moments adding up and flowing outward to create a stronger, more connected community. **Together, we've grown something that will endure: the bonds that sustain us, and the knowledge that small acts of care, kindness, and commitment can change the course of our organization and potentially the lives of many people impacted by our collective work.**



One "butterfly effect" is the smile it can generate!



Involving kids early in our farm activities can lead to lasting change.

Our Mission: We harness the power of our community to grow organic vegetables and give them to those in need while practicing, teaching, and promoting climate-friendly farming.



Volunteer Spotlight: Work Opportunities Unlimited



We have so many wonderful volunteers! Among them is a group from **Work Opportunities Unlimited** (WOU). WOU is an organization that provides job training, job placement, and community-participation services to people experiencing disability or who could benefit from additional support to reach their employment and/or community-access goals.



The WOU volunteers came to the farm twice a month this growing season. They planted watermelon seeds and potted up pepper seedlings this spring, picked beans without complaint during peak summer heat, and finished the season this autumn with eggplant harvesting and garlic trimming.

The group impressed us with their joyful energy and skills at fine detail work. We hope they will return in 2026!

2025 Interns



We took a great leap forward this summer thanks to our interns Idil, Fiona, Erik, and Jessica (above) and Briar and Riley (below).



Team Updates

Jeff Lee



Please join us in giving a special welcome to Jeff Lee, our newest Board Member, and Allie Moulton, our new Administration and Development Assistant!

Learn more about our crew at growingtogive.farm/our-story/our-team

We're hiring!

Allie Moulton



We are seeking our first paid full-time Executive Director as we transition to a new leadership structure. The Executive Director will work in partnership with the Board of Directors, driving our mission forward with effective financial management, fundraising excellence, program development, and community engagement.

Learn more about this opportunity at growingtogive.farm/jobopportunities/

We Are So Grateful For Our 2025 Sponsors!

A special thanks to our “Barn Raiser” Business Sponsors

The staff at **Colby Company Engineering** have been volunteering at Growing to Give for five years. Their team always brings a special technical precision to their work at the farm. When planting lettuce seedlings, they mark straight rows, space each seedling evenly, and divide and conquer to get everything into the ground quickly and precisely! Thank you, Colby Co., for your generous support in the field and through your generous sponsorship!



Good Group Decisions was founded by Craig Freshley — author, professional speaker, expert facilitator, and long-term supporter of Growing to Give. In fact, Craig was one of our first board members, and you might know him as a regular emcee at the Farmyard Jam. Earlier this year, Craig offered his services to support our strategic planning process to shape our direction for the next few years. Thank you, Craig, and thank you, Good Group Decisions, for helping us grow in so many ways!

Morning Glory Natural Foods has been a longstanding supporter of Growing to Give. Their support comes in a myriad of ways, ranging from business sponsorship, in-kind donations for fundraising activities, championing us to other businesses, displaying our flower bouquets at their checkout counter, and allowing us to set up an info table in front of their store to spread the word of our mission. Thank you, Morning Glory, for being such an enthusiastic and stalwart partner!



Barn Raisers



MORNING GLORY NATURAL FOODS



Farmers



RENOVATION & DESIGN, LLC

apogee



Harvesters



BACK COVE FINANCIAL
Honest • Independent • Experienced



Gardeners

Almond Butters Band - Bath Savings Institution - Benson Farm Earth Products - Curry Printing
Patagonia - Canopy Portland Waterfront Hotel - Flight Deck Brewing - Norway Savings Bank

Planters

Alex Rheault - Chris Toy - David Matero Architecture - Doherty's North Freeport Store - Fagan Tree Services
Martha Baum - Handful Pottery Studio - Hatch On Maine - Johnny's Selected Seeds - Maine Beer Company
Maine Energy Experts - Maine Ocean Farms - Maine Pines Racquet & Fitness - MW Swan Agency - Now You're Cooking
Performance Building Supply - Rough and Tumble - Scavenge Arts - Too Haute Sauna

Fundraising Event Highlights



On October 11th, we stepped out of the garden and onto the dance floor for our fall fundraising event, **Dancing to Give!**

Partygoers put on their dancing shoes and boogied to celebrate another successful harvest and the amazing power of our community to make a difference! **We also raised \$12,000 in our “Harvest Days” Online Auction!**

A heartfelt thanks to the **Maine Coast Waldorf School** for generously providing the venue for this event, the **Almond Butters Band** for offering their time and musical talent, the volunteers who kept things running smoothly, the many businesses that donated food, drinks, and raffle prizes, and everyone who attended the event to support our mission!

A big shoutout to the businesses and individuals who donated items for Dancing to Give and the “Harvest Days” Online Auction!

Alex Rheault - Apogee Adventures - Ben Grant - Big Top Deli - Bob Bing-You - Bob Murphy - Chris Toy
 Canopy Portland Waterfront Hotel - Cool as a Moose - David Sloan - Doherty's North Freeport Store - Debbie Atwood
 Dutchman's Bagels - Flight Deck Brewing - Gelato Fiasco - Grampa's Garden - Green Bee Soda - Gulf of Maine Books
 Handful Studios Pottery - Hatch on Maine - Hearts and Hands Reiki - Iris Eats - Jamie Pacheco & Nate Wildes
 Jane Page-Conway - John Newlin & Patty Carton - Justin Brissette - Lake & Co - Lindsay & Sam Wasko
 Lisa Gent Jewelry - Loveline Baskets - Magpie - Maine Beer Company - Maine Coast Waldorf School
 Maine Maritime Museum - Maine Ocean Farms - Martha Baum - Melissa Chretien - Midcoast Functional Training
 Mitch Newlin - Nest - Morning Glory Natural Foods - Now You're Cooking - Olivia's Garden - Patagonia
 Pauline's Bloomers - Rough and Tumble - Seacoast Tours of Freeport - Serenity Nails Lounge - Six River Farm
 Standard Baking Co - Susan Tarpinian & Craig Urquhart - Susan Farrar - The Almond Butters Band - The Animal House
 The Goodrich Family - The Milk Bottle - The Mix - Theda Lyden - Too Haute Saunas - Vessel and Vine - Walter's Cafe
 Wendy Van Acken - Wicked Joe Organic Coffees - Wild Oats Bakery - Willow Pond Farm - Winter Hill Farm

We Appreciate The Support Of Our 2025 Grantors!

First Parish Church of Brunswick - Glickman Family Foundation - Maine Women's Giving Tree
 Quimby Family Foundation - The Mark Baumer Sustainability Fund - Town Fair Tire Foundation

Winter Plans



Things might appear quiet on the farm over the winter, but behind the scenes we keep busy!

Visit growingtogive.farm/events to stay updated on opportunities to connect with others, learn something new, and turn cabin fever into spring fever!



We are proud to be an environmental partner!



growingtogive.farm
 info@growingtogive.farm
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Follow our journey
 @GrowingtoGiveMaine

