

# FY 2023-2024

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# ANNUAL

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# \* REPORT



CENTER FOR  
LAND-BASED LEARNING

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*“I’ve learned sustainability is the practice of keeping a lifestyle that isn’t harmful and instead gives back. It means doing things in ways that are innovative, that don’t waste materials, and that take care of the land.”*  
- Urban Ag Internship participant

*Unearth the possibilities.*



# OUR MISSION



*The mission of the Center for Land-Based Learning is to inspire, educate, and cultivate future generations of farmers, agricultural leaders, and natural resource stewards.*



# WE GROW POTENTIAL.



**For 30 years, the Center for Land-Based Learning has built adaptable people and ecosystems by inspiring and training leaders and stewards focused on sustaining our natural resources.**

Since our founding in 1993, our generous supporters have rallied behind our efforts to introduce youth to careers in agriculture, restore watersheds, train farm managers, grow produce for food-insecure communities, and connect beginning farmers with tools to succeed in a difficult marketplace. Thank you.

Looking back on the year, we see the handprints of our donors and partners on each and every moment of impact. We are deeply grateful to everyone who made, and continues to make, our mission possible.

The year was defined by concerted focus in five key areas:

## Partnerships

More than 100 public and private entities are proud partners of CLBL youth programs statewide. From school districts and municipalities to commodity associations, businesses, universities, foundations, and fellow nonprofits, these relationships afford our high-school participants access to cutting edge technologies, research, and career pathways they otherwise could not access.

## Strategy

CLBL engaged Third Plateau, a social impact strategy firm, to facilitate our strategic planning process in 2022. This fresh agenda, which will carry our organization through 2025, reflects the collective vision, values, and commitment of CLBL's leaders and staff and sets the path for financial sustainability and statewide programmatic growth in the years to come.

## Expansion

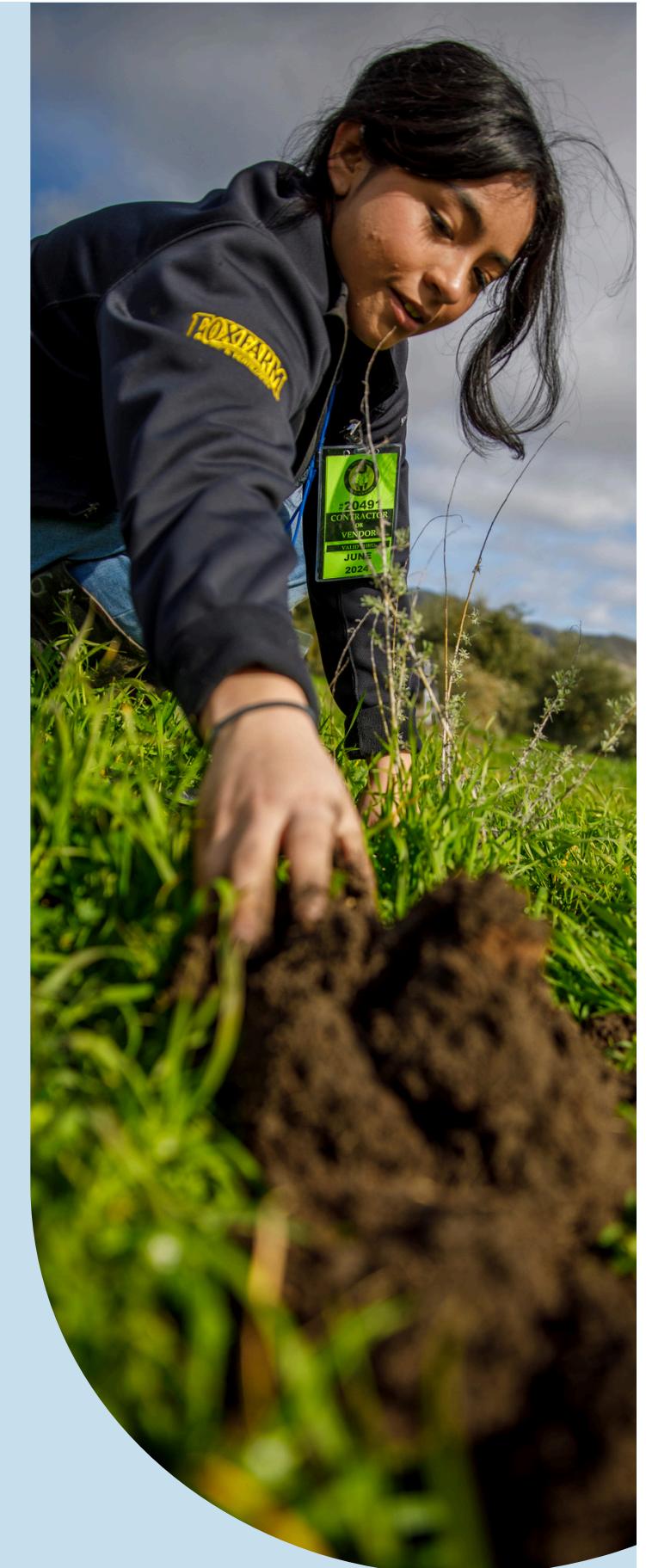
On the foundation of a renewed organizational strategy, our program directors are poised to extend youth programs into new counties and school districts, accept a larger pool of participants into the statewide Beginning Farm and Ranch Manager Apprenticeship program, launch a Spanish-language up-skilling program for high-caliber farm workers, and feed more residents through our Community Food Program's Mobile Farmers Market.

## Commitment

CLBL has always worked to ensure that producers have access to the information, resources and relationships they need to grow abundant crops, earn and pay a decent wage, and protect the environment. Moving forward, we are committed to being more intentional and transparent in the way we educate our staff and participants around public and institutional policies that contribute to unfair practices and unjust conditions that prevent women and people of color from accessing financing, securing farmland, and joining the next generation of farmers.

## Learning

A new wave of outreach has begun with the goal of discovering more about the needs and desires of the communities, farmers, students, employers, habitats, and stakeholders we serve. We will use our research and reporting to improve existing programs and launch new initiatives where needed.



# 2023-2024 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



**CHAIR**  
**Rebecca Smith**  
Downey Brand Attorneys, LLP

**VICE CHAIR**  
**Christine Calvin**  
Killdeer Farms

**TREASURER**  
**Beau Roy**  
Clifton Larsen Allen

**SECRETARY**  
**Dawn Miller**  
Pearson VUE

**Kyle Collins**  
Allied Grape Growers

**Jeff Borum**  
East Stanislaus Resource  
Conservation District

**Christina Bucci Hamilton**  
Duggan McHugh Law Corporation

**Jessica Lundberg**  
Lundberg Family Farms

**David Ogilvie**  
Wilson Vineyards

**Anne Megaro, Ph.D.**  
University of California Agriculture  
and Natural Resources

**Michelle Paul**  
AgWest Farm Credit

**Cristal Morales**  
Sakata Seed

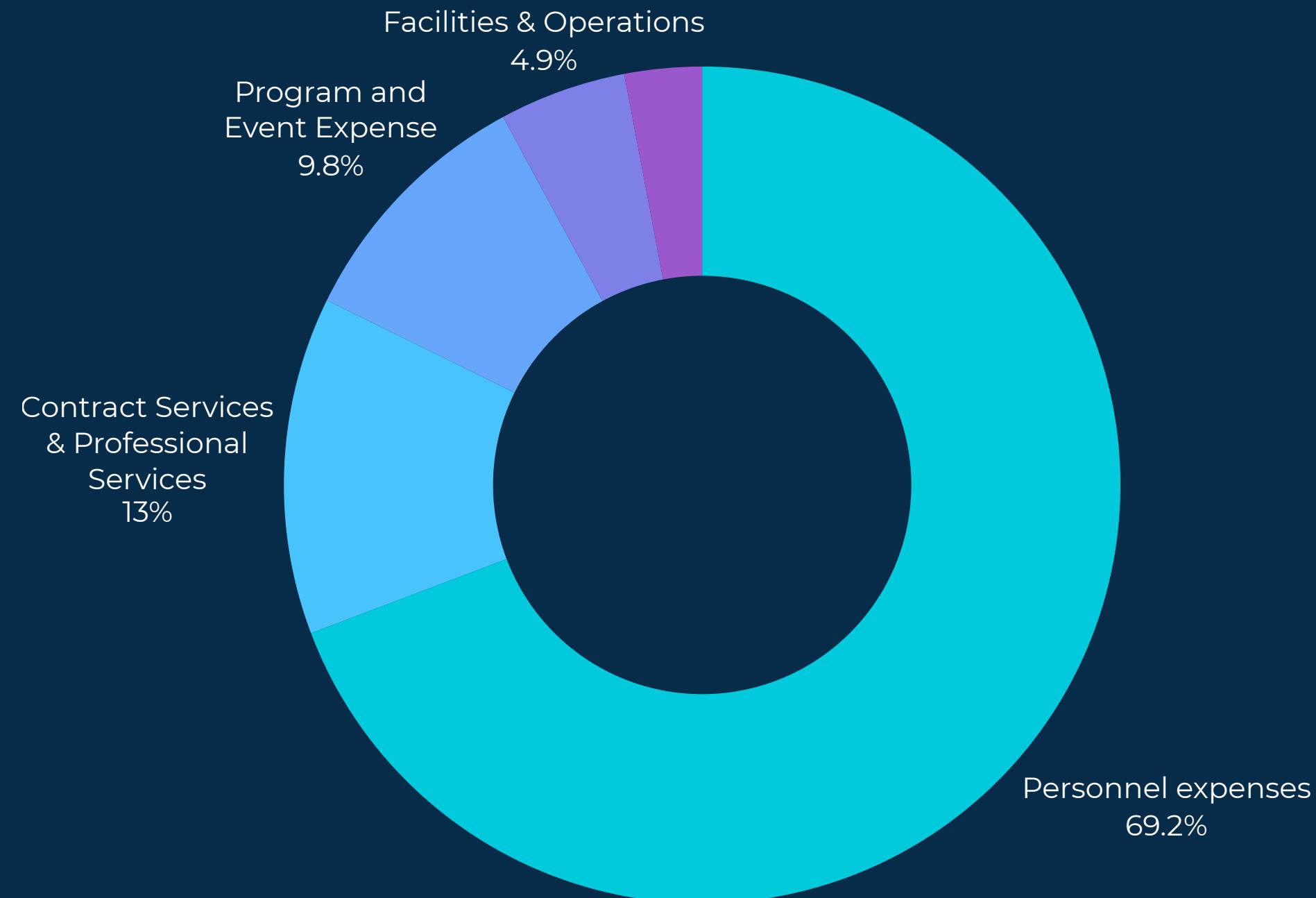
**Sara Reid**  
CoBank



# FINANCIAL OVERVIEW



**Total operating budget: \$4.07M**



# STRATEGIC PILLARS



*“I now buy more fruits and vegetables since shopping at the Mobile Farmers Market. In the past, I’ve barely bought any. Now I see the importance. I’ve fallen in love with fruits and vegetables and I add them into my cooking.”*  
-Mobile Farmers Market shopper



## Statewide Innovation

More than ever, cross-sector innovation, collaboration, and coordination are critical to achieving a sustainable and equitable food system. Established at the intersection of agriculture, ecology, science, and education, CLBL champions and connects the people and practices that advance equity and inclusion in our sector. Our headquarters teaching farm showcases our programs and convenes partners and community, and we leverage our statewide team to support learning and innovation across California.



## Empowered Alumni

We are building a statewide network through which our program graduates can connect with one another, seek support, and learn about new opportunities. Through regional events, increased communication, and deepened relationships, we are working to ensure career success for the next generation of ag and environmental leaders.



## Workforce Impact

We have intentionally expanded our reach and pathways with larger-scale agricultural operations. We will deepen our relationships with these partners and create a two-way bridge, offering programs to upskill current workers and provide connections to alumni well-positioned for jobs in the wider industry.



## Equipped Team Members

Our passionate and committed staff is one of our greatest organizational strengths, and we are eager to build out organizational infrastructure to meet the needs of our growing team. We are investing in ongoing learning and professional development to create opportunities for internal career growth. We will strengthen systems to share institutional knowledge, processes, and relationships, allowing staff to better support one another and take ownership within their roles.



## Financial Sustainability

To ensure the long-term success of the organization, we are expanding, deepening, and bolstering our funding base. We will tighten internal processes to support collaborative programmatic fundraising and grant writing. And we are also growing our capacity to pursue unrestricted funding to deliver on our mission and build our strategic reserves.

# PROGRAMMATIC PILLARS



## Vital, Impactful Careers

We have set our sights on expanding youth and adult access to vital, impactful careers across the agricultural sector. From biological science and technology-aided farming to land-use management and robotics, more than 60,000 ag jobs are waiting to be filled in California. Our work prepares alumni to fill these roles.



## Equitable, Resilient Communities

Access and equality are at the heart of our mission, and since our inception, we have worked intentionally to overcome the policies, social barriers, and economic challenges that limit minority access to land and meaningful careers in agriculture. By expanding our Community Food Program and farm worker upskilling programs, more communities can build equitable and resilient food systems.



## Regenerative, Integrated & Innovative Ecosystems

We believe cross-sector, cross-cultural innovation is critical for growth. CLBL fosters shared educational opportunities, research, replicable model practices and scalable climate solutions will uplift our communities for generations to come.



# OUR IMPACT



## Youth

**24** **Urban Agriculture Interns** at Luther Burbank and Grant Union high schools in Sacramento were placed in paid positions aligned with student interest in sustainable agriculture and environmental sciences and focused on deepening the interns' self-confidence and leadership skills.

Youth educators facilitated **eleven SLEWS projects in Yolo, Solano, Sacramento, and San Joaquin counties** in which **over 300** high-school students made a lasting environmental impact through the planting of

**6,000**

trees, shrubs, forbs, and native grass plugs. **The result: a carbon drawdown of approximately 130,000 metric tons per year.**

**100+**

**public and private partners**

support CLBL youth programs.

**1,047**

**students engaged**

at 51 schools across the state of California.

**33**

**community action projects**

completed by FARDS Program participants.

## Climate

We launched our new **Farm & Climate Program** to educate farmers in agricultural practices that tackle the dual challenges of climate change and declining biodiversity. Based at our farm headquarters in Woodland, the program seeks to **increase the rate at which greenhouse gasses are stored in agricultural soils** while improving other measures of ecological health, such as habitat, biodiversity, and drought resilience.

**1/2 mile**

**of hedgerow planted**

by SLEWS Program participants at the Maples Farm.

**120**

**producers educated**

on carbon-farm planning and environmental best practices.

**40**

**nesting boxes**

installed for bluebirds, tree swallows, barn owls, and bats at the Maples Farm.

**5**

**acres of new olives**

planted at the Maples Farm.

# OUR IMPACT



## Adults

**16**  
participants

in the Beginning Farmer Training Program

**11**  
beginning farmers

in the Farm Business Incubator Program

**18**

Counties served by the California Farm Academy Apprenticeship program.

**43**

The statewide **California Farm Academy Apprenticeship Program** graduated an additional six participants into journeymen roles, bringing our total number of apprenticeship participants to

*"Before this apprenticeship I did not actually know if I could do it. If I was actually capable of farming. Now I do. The real benefit of this program was to fast track me to becoming embedded in a farming world. To have direct experiences and thus see possibilities and connections. Now I have those experiences, the right language, and I see possibilities for farming for myself personally in the future."*  
-Skot Colacicco, apprenticeship program graduate

## Community Food

**20,000**

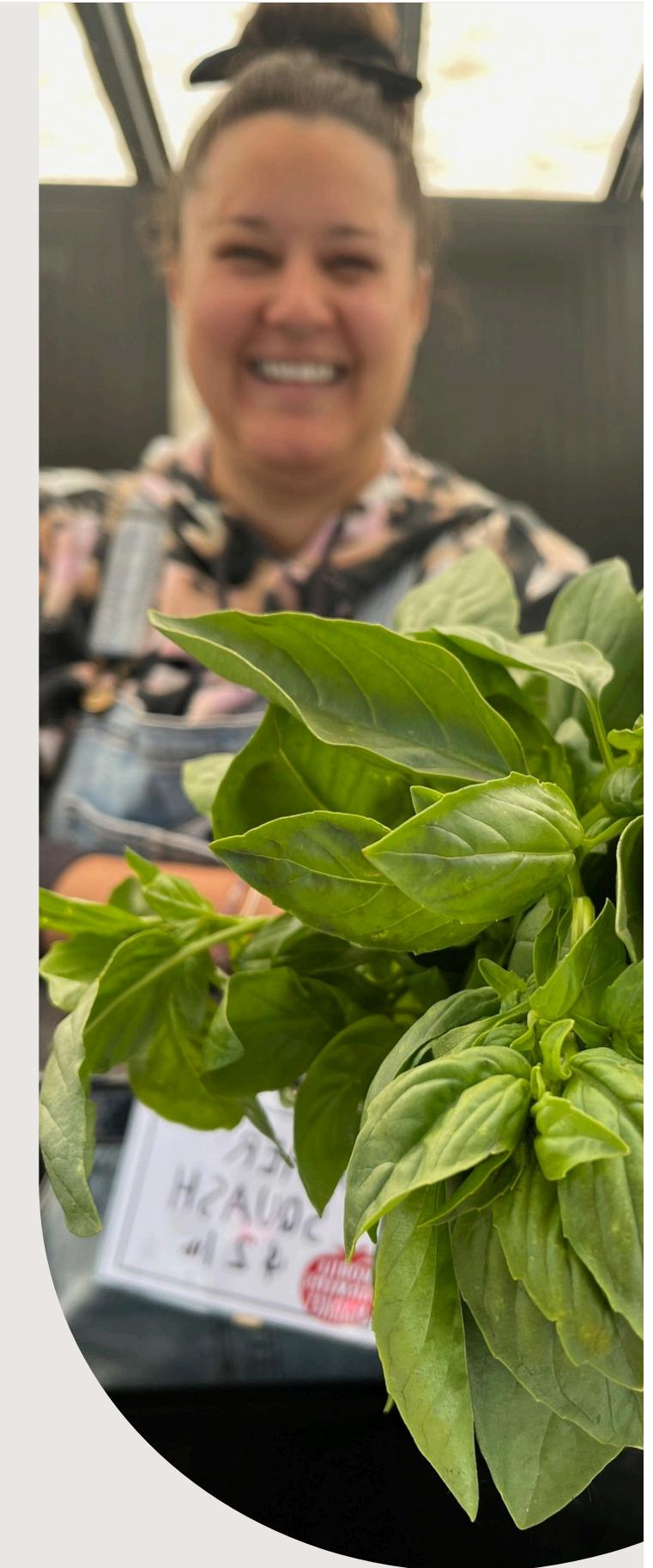
**pounds of produce sold**  
from the Mobile Farmers Market Truck in West Sacramento

**60%**

**purchased with EBT**  
as part of California's Market Match program

**\$16,000**

**in free produce**  
provided to customers through Market Match



# COUNTIES SERVED



- Butte
- Colusa
- El Dorado
- Fresno
- Kern
- Kings
- Placer
- Madera
- Marin
- Merced
- Monterey
- Sacramento
- San Bernardino
- San Diego
- San Joaquin
- Santa Cruz
- Solano
- Sonoma
- Stanislaus
- Sutter
- Tehama
- Tulare
- Ventura
- Yolo
- Yuba



**25**

Counties Served

# VALUED DONORS

## \$100,000-\$499,999

AgWest Farm Credit  
Craig & Julie McNamara  
Farm Credit Alliance  
Gill Family Bypass Trust  
Woka Foundation

## \$50,000 - \$99,999

Nutrien  
Yocha Dehe Community Fund

## \$25,000-\$49,999

California Department of Industrial Relations  
Clark Pacific  
Craig & Julie McNamara  
Gamble Foundation  
LangeTwins Winery & Vineyards  
Lee Traynham  
Sannie Osborne  
Sacramento Municipal Utility District  
Wells Fargo Foundation

## \$10,000-\$24,999

American AgCredit  
Bayer Fund  
Blue Diamond Growers  
Campbell Foundation  
Campbell Soup Foundation  
Christina Bucci Hamilton  
CLA Foundation  
Community Foundation of Monterey County

County of Yolo  
Fulcrum Property  
Golden 1 Credit Union  
Pam Marrone  
Jamie Shen  
Jessica Lundberg  
PG&E  
Sunny V. Shine  
Tanimura Family Foundation  
The Mary A. Crocker Trust

## \$5,000-\$9,999

Boundary Bend  
California Cotton Alliance  
CoBank  
Helix Environmental Planning  
Jeana Hultquist  
Johnny's Selected Seeds  
Kitty Liebhardt  
Kyle Collins  
Pacific Coast Producers  
Peggy S. Perry  
Teichert Foundation  
Yumi Sera & Robert Tse  
Anonymous Gift Donation

## \$1,000-\$4,999

Anne & Jeff Megaro  
Bogle Family Vineyards  
Chris Taylor  
Dan Brunner  
Dave & Susan Dumas  
David and Ana Ogilvie  
Derek Cressman  
Downey Brand Attorneys LLP

Driscoll's  
East Bay Community Foundation  
Facebook and Instagram Donations  
First Northern Bank

Frances Halliday  
Harold Schenker  
Heidi Ortloff  
Jay Cutler  
John DiMichele  
John & Gayle Killey  
John Ott

Jenny Lester-Moffitt & Greg Moffitt  
Jenny Mensch  
John & Gail Killey  
John Scharffenberger  
Julia Littauer  
Julie A Young  
Kathleen McNamara  
Ken Klein  
KCOE Isom  
Kimberly Gibson  
Kris L. Martin  
Les Dames D'Escoffier Sacramento  
Lucy Butler  
Mai Vang

Margaret Pastor  
Mary M. Razel  
Matthew Kessing  
Nancy Lange  
Nancy Shapiro  
Rebecca & Charles Smith  
Robert Morrison  
Robert Kip Pastor  
Robert Slobe  
Sam Nevis

Sara Reid Herman  
Sierra Pacific Foundation  
Steven Maviglio  
The Arjay and Frances Miller Foundation  
Trina Walley  
William Noland  
Wells Fargo Agribusiness  
Westlands Water District  
William Noland  
Wilson Vineyards  
Yolo Land and Cattle

## \$500-\$999

Amy Lyman  
Anita Clevenger  
Bridget Levich  
Brittany Lima  
Capay Canyon Ranch  
Charles Tyson  
Claire Kremen  
Cristal Verduzzo Morales  
Daniel Jones  
Dave and Linda Batcheller  
Dawn Miller  
Donald Bransford  
Erik Vink  
Helianth Partners  
James P Finch  
Jim Gray  
John Stoluw  
Joseph Benguerel  
Kristi Gage  
L. Steven Winlock  
Margot Wilhelm

**\$500 to \$999 continued**

Marian Shepphard  
Mas Masumoto  
Michael Jarred  
Michael Pollan  
Monica Quezada  
Nugget Markets  
Paul Helman  
Peter B. Moyle  
Peter J Siggins  
Sam Plimpton  
Sue Huffman Robison  
Tom Slater  
United Way Donations  
Val Dolcini  
William Ford

**Up to \$499**

100 Women Who Care Yolo  
Aaron Saylor  
Alany Valle  
Alexandra Casas  
Allen and Bonnie Ehrke  
Alina Barriga  
Alison Merrilees  
Allie Dumas  
Alyna Hernandez  
Amina Harris  
Andrea Clark  
Andrea Hoppe  
Andrea Tinajero  
Andrew Griffin  
Andrew Laufer  
Angelo Genasci  
Anjanette Shadley  
Ann Filmer  
Ann Thrupp

Anne Geraghty  
Amy and Paul Galvan  
Ashley Hill  
Austin Miller  
Barbara Dieter  
Barbara Mendenhall  
Beth Eisenberg Del Real  
Breanna Swenson  
Brendon Flynn  
Brian Hamilton  
Brian Knapp  
Bridget Gray  
Brinkley S. Thorne  
Bruce Clark  
Bruce Hendrickson  
Camille Kirk  
Carmen Violich-Goodin  
Carolyn Chamberlain  
Carol and Bob Dakin  
Catherine Brown  
Charityvest  
Charlotte May Ruffner  
Charmaine Boulmay  
Cheryl McDonald  
Christopher Cabaldon  
Christine Calvin  
Christina Craig-Veit  
Clay Nutting  
Cliff Fong  
Cindy Noble  
Consero Solutions  
Dan Hrdy  
Dan Leroy  
Dan & Lisa Mattos  
Dan & Julie Ramos  
Daniel Chia  
Daniel Crain

Danilu Jelderks  
Darien De Lu  
Dawn Calciano  
Deanne Hoekstra  
Deb Glauz  
Delaine Eastin  
Deborah Bruns  
Denise Lopez  
Diane Parro  
Donald Terry  
Doug Dickson  
Douglas Wood  
Ecology Center  
Edie Ryan  
Elizabeth Emery  
Eric Doud  
Erin Reynoso  
Gail & Les Engelmann  
Garth Lewis  
Gayle Yamada  
George Tibbitts  
Gina Bauer  
Gisela Sandoval  
Glenda Humiston  
Glenn Churchill  
Gloria Morales  
Hanna Kahl  
Harriet Lai Ross  
Hazel Beck  
Heather Campbell  
Heather Mendez Ross  
Heidi L. Ballard  
Holly Hopkins  
Hope Taylor  
James A. Crouch  
James King  
Jane McKendry

Janina Shayne  
Jared Kwek  
Jason Auriemma  
Jason Russell  
Jason Weston  
Jazmin Lopez  
Jean Smith  
Jean Witzman  
Jeanie Mascia  
Jeanne Wirka  
Jeanette Wrysinski  
Jennifer Boschee-Danzer  
Jennifer Duggan  
Jennifer Harder  
Jesse Lipson  
Jesse Morales  
Jessamyn Lett  
Jessica Smith  
Jill Batiansila  
Jill Brigham  
Jim Barrett  
Jim Rumsey  
Joan Brenchley-Jackson  
Joan Fauber  
Joan Gerriets  
Joanne & Mark Anderson  
John Currey  
John Robiola  
Jon & Karen Flynn  
Jonathan Long  
Joseph Fredrickson  
Joy Cohan  
Joyce Hardi  
Judy Britt  
Julie Spezia  
Julie Sutphin  
Julia Thomas

Justin Peterson

Justine and Jeffery Hedleston

Kandas and David Vaccarezza

Karen Swan

Karina Jestes

Katelyn Smith

Katie Collins

Katherine Ramos

Katherine Spanos

Kathleen Burnham

Kathleen Ford

Katie Lindl

Katie Luther

Katie Villegas

Karen Rodriguez

Katy Bill

Katy Pye

Kathy Sands

Kathy Yates

Kelly Kissinger

Kelsey McCamon

Kelsey Smith

Kent Bradford

Kerri Kisko

Khristine Pintor

Kirstin Ward

Kim Andrup

Kristi Green

Kristine DeGuerre

Larry Greene

Laurie Brajkovich

Laura Curiel

Laura McHugh

Laurel Posey

Laurel Tamariz

Lea Park-Kim

Leticia Hernandez

Lewis H. Butler

Libby Hall

Linda Easton-Waller

Linda Sweetman

Lisa Brown

Lisa & Jerry Gross

Luis Alberto Sicairos Galvan

Mandy Werrin

Marc Faye

Margaret Fong

Marguerite and Neal Fleming

Marie Sherrard

Marisa Alcorta

Mark Tavianini

Martinez Ranches

Mary-Ann Warmerdam

Mary Beth Wilcox

Mary Elizabeth

Mary Lou Linvill

Mary L. Sautter

Mayra Fontes

Meg Stallard

Megan Blackwell

Melissa Garner

Michael Ransom

Michael Schwartz

Michael Smith

Mike Blankinship

Mike Kluk

Milla Austin

Mindy and Fred Rosales

Monica Cordova

Monica Haulman

Morgan Caudill

Nancy Brodovsky

Nancy Muller

Nancy Valle

Natalie Juntz

Nathaniel Brown

Nathaniel Morrison Verduzco

Nelson Hawkins

Nikki Navta

Nina Suzuki

Pam & Greg Sparks

Pamela J Stewart

Pat Butler

Peter Hunter

Phil Hogan

Ramona Swenson

Richard Hernandez

Ricki Bergado

Rashael Parker

Raoul W. Adamchak & Pamela Ronald

Rob Coman

Robert and Terry Beggs

Robert Boshoven

Roberta Boegel

Roberta Childers

Rocio Moreno

Ronni Haderle

Rosa Brothers Dairy

Rosana Torrielli

Russell Grimes

Ryan Green

Sabreena Britt

Sally Brown

Sandra Wilson

Sara Rosenberg

Scott Van Der Kar

Sarah Lehmann

Sheila Cordrey

Sherri Sandberg

Sorina Preciado

Sri Sethuratnam

Stacie and Lucas Frerichs

Stuart Yamamoto

Stephen Mayberg

Steve Shaffer

Steve H Weiss

Steven Curtis

Steven Parker

Susan DiTomaso

Susan Friar

Susan and Joe Hall

Susan Sawyer

Susie Sutphin

Sue Phan

Sydney Smith

Teichert Materials

Teresa Cameron

Therese Bucci

Tina Reynolds

Tobi Jones

Tom Ellis

Tom Scharffenberger

Trenton McClure

Tressa Dahlberg

Trish Kelly

Tyson & Jessica Hubbard

Virginia Long

Virginia Yang

Walter Jang

Wendy Baty

Wendy Rash

# IN CLOSING



**The complexities faced by the stewards of our working lands are ever increasing, so our programs and services are more vital than ever before. The need for productive, resilient food systems is growing, but there aren't enough producers to meet tomorrow's needs. At the same time, many people looking to establish a foothold in the industry struggle or fail because they lack access to the land, education, relationships, and markets essential for success.**

---

But the solutions to these challenges exist and are within reach. At the Center for Land-Based Learning, we are seeding a vision for the future of agriculture in the Golden State and, with your support, we can bring that vision to fruition.

As part of our three-year strategic plan, we have established a goal to raise \$10 million in public funds and private gifts and shepherd our vision from concept to reality. On behalf of

CLBL's board of directors and campaign committee, we invite you to support our efforts by making a multi-year financial pledge, becoming a monthly donor, or including CLBL in your estate plan.

To learn more about the difference you can make, contact Dan Poggetti, development and engagement manager, at [dan@landbasedlearning.org](mailto:dan@landbasedlearning.org).

*"We are leveling the planting field so everybody has a chance to grow and thrive. ... We get a lot of support from an ecosystem of nonprofits and stakeholders in our community, particularly the Center for Land-Based Learning, which helped me get started with land access for my farm."*

*-Nelson Hawkins, Farm Business Incubator program alumni, founder of We Grow Farm, and co-founder, Ujamaa Farmer Collective.*

A large, faint graphic of concentric, wavy lines that radiate from the center of the page, creating a sense of depth and movement.

*Together, we can change the future of farming.*



CENTER FOR  
LAND-BASED LEARNING

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