

CENTRAL RIVERS FARMSHED

ANNUAL REPORT
FOR 2022



2022 IMPACT

IMPACT HIGHLIGHTS

- Volunteer Hours - 3,650
- Local Food Purchased - \$54,267
- Grants / Donations - \$68,572
- Produce Bags Donated - 336
- Buy a Quart, Donate a Meal - 591
- The Growing Collective / 63 members, grew 9,969 plants
 - Annual Plant Sale - Over 7,103 plants sold
 - Over 900 plants donated to community orgs and groups

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Farmshed has developed and expanded on community partnerships in 2022. We are a Free & Local partner with the Hunger Task Force, receiving **\$80,720.54** worth of food and storage equipment to support for Badger Boxes. The Aging and Disability Resource Center of Portage County continues to be a partner with Sib Pab to best serve seniors. Farmshed also hosted the Local Food Taste Great Fundraiser with nine schools and organizations, raising **\$13,444** for local businesses.



SIB PAB EVOLVING CAPACITY

A partnership with through Hmong Uplift through CAP Services to deliver our community culturally appropriate meals and food services has evolved into Farmshed's program to make sure Hmong farmers and businesses receive technical assistance and connection to opportunities for farmers. At the end of 2022, Farmshed's Sib Pab coordinator got to work connecting Hmong growers with an LFPA grant. Farmshed provided computers and direct translation and technical services resulting in **\$80,000** awarded directly to farms across the atlas region.



FOOD SECURITY

In 2022, Farmshed built partnerships with leaders in food security work in Wisconsin in order to bring greater access to healthy local food. With support from the Hunger Task Force, we have distributed **over 1,250 Badger State Boxes** in Stevens Point and **served more than 200 people** a month. Through the expansion of our garden we **donated over 125 pounds of vegetables** to our Sib Pab program, Badger Boxes, and a pop-up produce stand in Farmshed. Sib Pab cultural lunch program has **grown 60%** in participation in fall of 2022 compared to the spring of 2022. In 2023, Farmshed continues to work with the school to incorporate cultural meals into their lunch line so all students can have access to the program.



FROZEN ASSETS

9,870 pounds of organic produce was bought and processed by Farmshed volunteers, kitchen staff, and interns to be sold in shares to the Stevens Point, Wisconsin, Wausau communities.

\$14,972.85 was paid to local farmers including Cattail Organics, Red Door Family Farm in Athens, and Whitefeather Organics in Custer.

VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are vital to Farmshed growth and success. These advocates for local food dedicated **3,650 hours** to Farmshed in 2022. Volunteers engaged in creating a more resilient food system in a number of ways, including helping prepare and deliver culturally appropriate meals for Sib Pab, distribute Badger Boxes, process local produce for Frozen Assets, grow plants in the Growing Collective and help expand our growing space for fresh produce community donations.



THE GROWING COLLECTIVE

While plants might be the first thing to come to mind for many when referencing the Growing Collective, for members the group is first and foremost about community. The program draws in people of all ages and backgrounds with varying levels of gardening knowledge. Together, they accumulated **1,627** volunteer hours from the beginning of planting until the last plant left the greenhouse, all while sharing knowledge and creating a strong community. Power comes from community, as shown with what this group was able to accomplish in 2022. The 63 members grew **9,969 plants** total, with 7,851 of those dedicated to their annual Plant Sale. With **\$25,426** in gross profits, the Growing Collective had their most successful Plant Sale to date. Additionally, they **donated over 900 plants** to groups throughout our community and held their first public Seed Share, giving away free seeds and sharing their gardening knowledge. The culmination of the program is the Plant Sale in May but that is not where the community ends- the members continue to support one another and share knowledge throughout the growing season and as they prepare for another successful year.



DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT

The future remains bright for Farmshed as it continues to transition into an organization that redefines the work provided for small farms through offering processing solutions. Our eye is on filling this surrounding void in support for food businesses. Utilizing the knowledge gained from 8 years of facilitating Frozen Assets gives the potential in creating a robust support system to grow the amount of local food you will find throughout communities. Expect to see some exciting announcements over the next few months. In the meantime grab a 2023 Atlas and I hope to see you at the Local Food Fair at Night June 3rd!



TREVOR DRAKE
Executive Director