

benevolence farm ben-ev-o-lence 1. Disposition to do good 2. An act of kindness 3. A generous gift (successment)



Mission:

To provide an opportunity for women leaving prison to live and work on a farm where they grow food, nourish self, and foster community.

Vision: To create a more equitable, just, and nurturing world for women and the communities they transform.

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Letter from the Founder & Executive Director

Benevolent Friends & Family,

Wow. 2014 was truly magical for Benevolence Farm. We were beside ourselves when we received 11 acres of land at the close of 2013. Little did we know on that brisk but lovely January day when we gathered to bless the land that we would soon be the proud stewards of a newly renovated brick house, a 985 square foot pole barn, and two more acres!

The sturdy three bedroom house on two beautiful acres made itself known to us in early February and by mid-April it was ours, thanks to the shared vision and generous support of the Snider Family Charitable Fund. Soon thereafter I had coffee with the uber talented architect Randy Lanou, which resulted in an invitation to partner with NCSU's School of Architecture Summer Design/Build Studio. These 18 tenacious students created a state of the art pole barn, complete with skylight and loft space in just 10 weeks. Simply astounding.



Barn Raising 7/12/14

We are truly fortunate to have so many wonderful people along on this journey. Witnessing the magic with us while extending encouragement, hope and continued inspiration as we dare to offer something different to women returning from prison: a chance to thrive.

Benevolence Farm clearly attracts the most amazing, generous and kind-hearted people. And in 2014, we were perpetually humbled and delighted by the numerous community groups and volunteers who showed up on days cold and hot, rainy or not, to help us get the farm rolling and the house warmed up. Carefully shepherded by our full time Volunteer & Outreach Coordinator, Lindsey Paydon, our volunteers continue to be the backbone of this pioneering program. Lindsey joined us in September thanks to Volunteers in Service to America (VISTA) ~ yet another serendipitous gift that arrived right on time.

We also welcomed a part-time Fundraising and Administrative Assistant as well as our fabulous Farm Manager Matt Ballard in 2014. Along with strong farming experience, Matt boasts dual degrees of Masters in Social Work as well as Divinity and has worked tirelessly to bring a functional and expertly designed farm operation into being.

Benevolence Farm has also benefitted from strengthening and solidifying numerous valuable community partnerships this past year. Organizations such as the United Way of Alamance County, Alamance Community College, Allied Churches, Vocational Rehabilitation Services, and the Women's Resource Center in Alamance County have all mentored and motivated us, while helping us to build a network of support and services for the future residents of Benevolence Farm and all of the women who are returning to our community from prison. We are grateful to be part of such a caring, compassionate and giving community!

And yet, as we celebrate the miraculous progress we have made, we hold our focus on the women who are leaving prison every day who have successfully completed their sentences and need an opportunity to move beyond their past mistakes. So we continue to move all of the pieces carefully into place, ever more aware of the sustained and deliberate effort it takes to germinate even the smallest of seeds.

Benevolence Farm is firmly planted in rich soil and the sun is shining brightly. Now we need the sustained and deliberate support of our community to hire the necessary staff to oversee day-to-day operations and implement the comprehensive programming we have carefully developed with the guidance of our special advisors - who themselves have experienced the crippling challenges of returning from prison without support. We are sincerely grateful for all of the fabulous help we have received AND we need you now more than ever to set Benevolence Farm in motion ~ Your support is critical to enable us to start providing employment and housing to women who are eager to move in and MOVE ON with their lives.



Tanya Jisa

Serendipity for all,

Tanya Jisa, MSW Founder & Executive Director

P.S.

I often recall talking with one of our most valued advisors, Darla. She expressed several times during our conversation that she doesn't want any other women to have to go through the extreme difficulties she has experienced and how happy she is that Benevolence Farm will be a place where women can tell the truth about who they are and feel proud of what they'll be able to accomplish given the chance. I invite you to join us in creating that place.



Land Blessing 1/12/14

The Numbers

Average cost of an adult incarcerated in NC: \$75.54 /day \$2,298 /month \$27,572 /year

Average cost of transitional living programs in US: \$43.33 /day \$1,300 /month \$15,600 /year

There is currently a \$300 billion market for natural, organic, sustainable, and socially responsible products and services

Put these together and you can see how beneficial Benevolence Farm will be for all of North Carolina!

The Plan

Benevolence Farm will offer housing, employment, life skills, career development, and nutritious food to women recently released from North Carolina prisons while providing naturally grown, local food to the community.

As a farm enterprise, Benevolence Farm will ground women in the healthful and healing power of nature and community while bringing together the critical resources and skills necessary for success.

We will provide a 6 to 24 month transitional living program based on a working farm for up to 4 women initially and, eventually, 12 women.

Residents will contribute to the operations of the farm, essentially paying part of their own expenses. Activities include growing their own food, labor contribution to the farm, sale of harvests at local farmers markets, grocers, and eventually sales to restaurants. A portion of our harvests will be provided to low-income communities through partnerships with food banks and churches.

The Need

2,698 women were released from NC prisons in 2014 Of those: 50 were residents of Alamance County, 48 of Durham, 116 of Guilford, 7 of Orange, and 162 of Wake

Upwards of 40% of women released in a given month will have 'questionable home plans' – meaning they do not have a definite, stable place to go.

Approximately 60% of women released from prison are re-arrested; nearly 1/3 return to prison within 3 years mostly due to technical violations, caused by unmet "survival needs" such as: unable to meet financial obligations, lower employment skills, and/or inability to secure safe housing.

No program in North Carolina offers housing, life-skills, and the comprehensive, gender-specific, trauma-informed programing proven to significantly reduce the likelihood of women returning to prison.

The Audio Documentary Project

Since partnering with UNC's Center for Study of the American South in 2012, Benevolence Farm has been collecting and sharing the stories of women who have served time in the NC prison system. We continue to gather, share, and — most importantly — to learn from and apply what we are hearing from these inspiring women who offer their experiences as a way to help and advocate for others.

Listen to the stories online here: http://benevolencefarm.org/their-stories/



After 7 Years...

Conceptual Plan for our expanded site developed by Piedmont Environmental/Matthew Arnsberger

Partnered with NC State University's College of Design, Dept of Architecture Summer Design/Build Studio who designed and built our beautiful 985 sq ft pole barn

Raised over \$25,000 from 50 generous barn raisers to cover the materials cost of our new barn

Received funding from United Way of Alamance County to hire farm manager Matt Ballard

Hosted Barn Raising & Open House event on July 12, 2014

Received woodworking tools and equipment from Human Kindness Foundation

Farm Work Days are held the 3rd Saturday of every month. Everyone is welcome!



Special Thanks to

Summer Design/Build Studio faculty Scott Metheny, Joel Lubell, Erik Mehlman, Ellen Cassilly, Randy Lanou, and NCSU Summer Design/Build students Morgan Cooney, Kimberly Johnson, Bryan Seef, Meredith Smith, Nicholas Strickland, Zachary Hoffman, Kevin Diamond, Nicholas Roberts, Joshua Molter, Terrence Zhendong Ding, Anya Aikman, Yi-Chang Liao, Brandon Porterfield, Myriam Nasr, Laura Liang, Aaron Longo, Brittany Spangler, Marty Needham



Farm Manager, Matt Ballard, MSW, MDiv



Our new home at 4265 Thompson Mill Road, Graham



Welcoming Living Room



Large Kitchen and Dining Area for group meals



Basement for woodworking and farm product processing



One of the three bedrooms All have sunny windows and bright colors



Library and gathering room for classes and workshops

House Tour

Thanks to the amazing and ardent support of the Snider Family Charitable Fund, we are three bedrooms and two acres closer to achieving our dream!

In-kind gifts of furnishings, linens and household goods mean the house is now fullyfurnished and move-in ready.

Our next task is securing the funds to hire staff to oversee daily operations and the comprehensive programming.

Give a Gift that Changes Lives

Online:	http://benevolence- farm.org/donate/
By Mail:	Benevolence Farm PO Box 1003
	Carrboro, NC 27510

Your gift helps us create opportunities for those we support.

To learn more about how you can help, donate in-kind items or inquire about setting up a monthly gift online, contact Tanya Jisa at Info@benevolencefarm.org or



A Special Thank You to our Donors

Snider Family Charitable Fund \$167,500 Mary Jisa \$30,000 United Way of Alamance County \$17,500 Anonymous \$7,000 Marcia Angle & Mark Trustin Fund of Triangle Community Foundation \$5,000 H. Keith & Brenda B. Brodie \$5,000 Hamsa Foundation \$3,000 Learning by Giving Foundation \$2,000 Stephanie Schrag \$2,000 Wishart Norris Charitable Foundation \$2,000

Gifts of \$1,000-1999: Shirley Drechsel & Wayne Vaughn, Jean Gross & Don Miller, Jane Holding, Vince & Katherine Kopp, Peggy & Kenny Oettinger, Jr, Ippy T Patterson, Lauren Winner, Elke Ruggaber

Gifts of \$500—\$999: Nora Barger, C & H Insulation Services, Eric Knight, Steve & Christi Kurtz, NC Conference of The United Methodist Church Criminal Justice & Mercy Ministry Seed Fund, Margaret W Rich, Weaver Street Realty

Gifts of \$250—499: Woody & Barbara Clore, Betsy Y Fenhagen, Kevin Magill, Yvonne Ng, Lee Daly, Hartman Family Fund of Triangle Community Foundation, Tema Okun & Thomas Stern, St. Pauls United Methodist Women, Kay Hunkins

Gifts of \$100—249: Anonymous, Emily Brassell, Elizabeth Cullington, Nora & Steven Esthimer, Tonju Francois, Hona Lee Harrington, Brian & Moyra Kileff, Frank Konhaus, Kelly Lee, Charles Meeker, Leon Meyers, Brooks Rainey Pearson, Amanda Smith, Don Southworth, David Allen & Heather Bixler, Matthew Arnsberger, Darla Atkinson, Gretchen Aylsworth, Tracy Bethel, Trine Christensen, Hannah Damman, Ellen Braznell Green, Karen Hayes, Unique Hullett, Carolyn H Ikenberry, Stephen Jenks, Hendree Jones, Randall Lanou, Erik Lensch, Jackie McLaughlin, Suzanne D & Keith R Miller, Philip Semanchuck, Karla Smith, Christene Tashjian, Justine Wayne, Jennifer Williams, Andrea Winkler, Allen Wood, Melanie Luques, Rosie L & Alan Y Kwan, Nicole Quallen, Alicia Rivero, Adam Brooks, Anna MacDonald Dobbs, Bernard Glassman Jr, Wayland & Sharon Massey, Linda & Charles Gregory Smith, Brittany & Conner Sandefur, Stanley G Finch, Rebecca L George, Gary Giles, Tanya Jisa, Jerald A Purifoy

Gifts up to \$99: Katie Allen, Ellen De Flora, Austin Deo Garlock, Michael Schaul, Kristen Smith, Jami Grossfield, Robin Jacobs, Denise Duffy, Tracy Brown Jackson, Bob OLoughlin, Marti Brauer, Pat Butler, Mimi Clayton, Paul Finkel, Ashley Peyton Holmes, Maria Mauceri, Ellen McGeorge, Scott Talbert, Margaret Andrews, Kenneth Bell, Alexis Harris, Annie Huth, M Bree Kalb, Douglas Odom, Joan Peck, Joni Barnhardt, Kathryn Bawden, Hank Becker, Maria Ikenberry & Debra Cunningham, Cathy Davis, Richard Forest Hazel, Jennifer Headley, Katherine Hill, Courtney James, Kristine Markatos-Soriano, Patricia Petersen, Erica Rothman, Stephen Schewell, Mark and Jennifer Sisak, John Watts, Doris Wells, Kyle Whitaker, Delphine A Bull

In-Kind Individual Donors: Robert Bailey, Dawn & Chris Musgrove, Rhonda Goolsby, Richard Dal & Elizabeth Rice Pilnik, Shirley Tang, Brian and Moyra Kileff, Keisha Myrick, Abby Huggins, Anne Lachot, James Littrell, David Rees, DJ Strider, Janice Messer, Greg Hawks, Ippy Patterson, Alice Engel Levinson, Caitlin Cary, Cindy Rubel, Jamie McPhail, Jenifer Padilla, Joe Brzoska, Marilyn Hartman, Shelley Smith, Sonja Lillvik, Susan and Gray McAllister, Terri Ward Exum, Vidabeth Bensen, Joseph Bathanti, Wayne Vaughn, Gary Vaughn, Bonnie Kielwasser

In-Kind Business Donors: Southern States of Mebane, Bread & Butter Bakery, Anna Maria's Pizza - Graham, Daily Donut, Lowes - Mebane, Mebane Shrubbery Market, Inc., Food Lion of Graham, Ulvia's Mexican Restaurant, Qdoba of Burlington, Fiesta Grill Restaurant, Home Depot #3620, Bushy Tail Farm, Chapel Hill Restaurant Group/411 West, Company Shops Market, Flower Street Farm, Haw River Ballroom, The Ink Spot, International Minute Press -Burlington, Perrywinkle Farm, Saxapahaw Village Farm, The Poster Guys, ts designs, Universal Printing, The Arts Center, Fickle Creek Farm, The Root Cellar, Big Fat Gap, Angelina's Kitchen, Eco Farm, High Rock Farm, Honeysuckle Tea House/Pickards Mountain Eco Inititute, Mediterranean Deli, Queen of Sheba, Radius Pizza, Saxapahaw General Store, Small Potatoes Farm, The Eddy Pub & Restaurant, The Pig, Triangle Chance for All, Vimala's Curryblossom Café, CORE Catering, Fig & Honey, Acme Food & Beverage Co., Akai Hana Sushi, Balloons and Tunes, Bella Donna Restaurant, Brightside Bamboo, Bull City Burger & Brewery, Burt's Bees, Cameron's Gallery, Carolina Farm Stewardship Association, Carrboro Community Acupuncture, Carrboro Yoga Company, Carrburritos, Counter Culture Coffee, Country Farm and Home Supply, Cynthia Renee, Inc., Diane Swan Wood Studios, Doug Dotson Pottery, Ducks-in-a-Row Organizing, Festival for the Eno 2015, Fifth Season Gardening, Funny Girl Farm, Green Apple Gems, Grow Well, PLLC, Janet Resnik Pottery, Jewell Knits, Just Bee Apiary, Lee's Healthy Cooking, Lo & Behold Natural Body Care, Looking Glass Cafe, McIntyre's Books, Migformac, Moshi Moshi, NC Chiropractic, NC Craft Gallery, Neal's Deli, Niche Gardens, Nine Toes Pottery, Oasis at Carr Mill, Panciutto, Paws at the Corner, Piedmont Feed and Garden Center, Pine State Flowers, Pompiere Pizza, SallyMack Life Furnishings, Scotty Young LMBT, Sierra Terra Cotta, Simply Pallets, Southern Culture on the Skids, Spotted Dog Restaurant, Swirl Home Stuff, Syd's Hair Shop, The Beehive Salon, The Tumble Gym, Townsend Bertram & Company, Tracey Broome, Two Chicks Farm, Vespertine Gallery, Waterdog Farms, Intervention, Puppet Paperhand Piedmont Environmental Design



Other 2014 Highlights

Benevolence Farm begins to bud...

He(art) Walk at The Sculpture Farm





2nd Annual Second Chance Dine & Dance



1st Official Farm Work Day Now held monthly on every 3rd Saturday!

Added new staff

Farm Manager, Fundraising & Administrative Assistant, Volunteer & Outreach Coordinator

2 Community Listening Meetings in Graham



Co-hosted **Sustainable Ag Drag Bingo** w/ SEEDS and Abundance NC

Began conducting volunteer orientations

Clay Carmichael created an amazing illustration of Benevolence Farm that is available as a **greeting card** See on it Page 4 Purchase at any Benevolence Farm event!



VOLUNTEERS MADE IT HAPPEN

Abbey Piner, Abby Huggins, Abigail Howard, Adam Brooks, Alicia Rivero, Alison Gunn, Alison Ryncarz, Allen Wood, Alyssa Ulrich, Amanda Skiscim, Amber Hathaway, Amy Farlow, Ana Mckee, Andrea Ginder, Anna Pauline Strick, Anne Lachot, Annie Huth, Anthony McNeil, Ashley Brown, Ashley Turner, Audrey Edmisten, Becca Feig, Belinda Smith, Beth Owen, Beth Schultz, Betsey Elbogen, Brittany Sandefur, Bronwyn Fadem, Bryan Black, Brynn Jackson, Caitlin Cary, Carolyn Ikenberry, Carolyn McEachern, Carolyn Sarachaga, Carson Wooten, Cary Jones, Carynne McIver, Casey Horvitz, Charles Parker, Chelsea Flowers, Ches Stewart, Chloe Johnson, Christene Tashjian, Christine Stewart, Ciara Healy, Coco Wilder, Connie Cowell, Corly Jones, Courtney Pernell, Crystal McNeil, Dani Black, Danielle Spratley, Daryn Lane, David Garzon, Deb Davis, Delphine Bull, Dylan Muckerman, Eleanor Farlow, Elisabeth Montague, Elizabeth Simpson, Elizabeth Tedesco, Elke Ruggaber, Emily Griffie, Eric Knight, Erika Brandt, Erin Kimrey, Erin Magee, Genise Fowler, Gwen Dilworth, Hakeem Shabazz, Hannah Damman, Hayes SImpson, Henry Darr, Jackie Boyden, Jade Whitfield, Janice Messer, Jen Myers, Jennifer Baker, Jesse Sorrell, Jessica Fei, John Huysentruyt, Josie Hartman, Julia Grigg, Julie Gilstrap, Julie Leemkuil, Julie Moroney, Kadejah Murray, Karel Leemkuil, Karen Cooper, Karen Kay Thompson, Karla Smith, Kat Bawden, Kathryn Smith, Katie Williams, Kevin Chandler, Kim Mirus, Kristen R. Mielhe, Kristin Emery, Kyle Ann Sebastian, LaShauna Austria, Lauren Fulcher, Lauren Hart, Leah Edwards, Leah Parks, Lee Daly, Lena Connor, Lisa Parker, Lisa Taylor, Liz Clore, Lynn Heisel, Lynne Pierce, Maggie Smith, Mandy Graves, Marlene Azcuy, Martha Smith, Mary Beth Hernandez, Mary Leonhardi, Mary-Kathryn Smith, Matthew Fuester, Meg VanDeusen, Melissa Hofman, Michael Strawser, Michael Wilson, Mike Perry, Monyia Presley, Nan Clarke, Nancy Wisniewski, Peter Ansbacher, Rachel Taylor, Reggie Sills, Robert Bailey, Russ Ballard, Sabrina Boyer, Sam Elniff, Samantha Wagstaff, Sara Gray, Sara Holmes, Sarah Brewer, Sarah Woody, Shannon Jones, Shelley Smith, Sophie Kelmenson, Stephen Jenks, Stephen Treimel, Susan Barboza, Tamara Norris, Tamara Sheldon, Tara Hewitt, Tomiko Hackett, Valerie Tillery, Sharon Massey, Wendy Huegli, William P. Meade

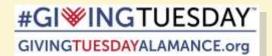
The 2014 Financial Report

ASSETS			
	Current Assets		
	Checking/Savings		
		PayPal RBC Checking RBC money market	1,852.13 21,411.90 45,691.21
	Other Current Assets		
		Pre-Paid Rent	300.00
	Total Current Assets		69,255.24
	Fixed Assets		
		Barn	100,000.00
		Farm House	161,247.98
		Furniture and Equipment	6,092.84
		Land Acquisition	87,777.00
	Total Fixed Assets		355,117.82
	Other Assets		
		Other Assets	2,171.04
		Security Deposits Asset	250.00
	Total Other Assets		2,421.04
TOTAL ASSETS			426,794.10



"Eight years ago when I was released, I had nowhere to live and no place to turn for support. Today, women like me (will) have that place - with outstretched arms, Benevolence Farm offers women exactly what they need: regular work that improves their skills, access to community resources, and a safe place to sleep at night. Although I am still transitioning today, my work with Benevolence Farm has brought me closer than ever to setting aside the 'scarlet letter' and starting a new life."

-- Monyia Presley, Volunteer (pictured at our new barn)

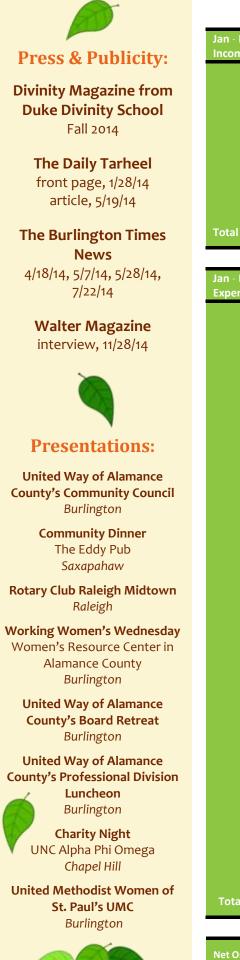




We raised \$6,967 from the Indy Week Give! Guide



The 2014 Financial Report



	Direct Public Support		
		Corporate Contributions	1,494.99
		Event Income	8,386.93
		Grants and Awards	201,500.00
		Individual donations	71,754.00
	Total Direct Public Support		283,135.92
	In Kind Donations		83,759.30
	Investments		
		Interest-Savings, Short Term CD	72.85
	Total Investments		72.85
Total Income			366,968.07

	k Fee tract Services		598.90
Con	tract Services		
		Accounting Fees	1,852.43
		Legal Fees	2,000.00
		Outside Contract Services	1,620.00
Tota	al Contract Services		5,472.43
Fun	draising Expenses		723.31
Ope	erations		
		Advertising	350.00
		Licenses and fees	50.00
		Marketing	100.00
		Membership Dues	235.00
		Postage, Mailing Service	327.58
		Printing and Copying	943.56
		Repairs and Maintenance	2,946.50
		Sanitation	299.49
		Software	1,085.52
		Supplies	2,460.39
		Utilities	530.03
Tot	al Operations		9,328.07
Oth	er Types of Expenses		
		Gifts	268.76
		Insurance - Liability, D and O	1,501.50
		Insurance - Property	878.85
Tota	al Other Types of		2,649.11
Exp	enses		2,049.11
	roll Expenses		64,734.16
Proj	perty Tax		1,435.10
Ren	t		330.00
Trav	vel and Meetings		
		Conference, Convention, Meeting	1,362.12
		Meals	16.05
		Travel	763.40
	al Travel and Meetings		2,141.57
VIST	TA Membership		600.00
al Expense			88,012.65

Net Ordinary Incom

278,955.42



Event Participation in 2014

Participated in Half the Sky, Half the Earth: A Conference on Women, Food, and Faith at Wake Forest University Participated in Freedom From Bondage Corrections Conference Participated in Second Chance Lobby Day Selected as Duke Chapel Mission of the Month in May 2014 Participated in Carolina Justice Policy Center's annual conference Tabled at several area Farmers Markets Participated in NC Center for Nonprofits annual conference Chosen to participate in 2014 Indy Week Give!Guide Participated in first ever Giving Tuesday Alamance

Extra Special Thanks to: Darla Atkinson, Sherry Buie, Elizabeth Urena Butler, Monyia Presley, Shawnethia White, Wayne Vaughn, Gary Vaughn, Murielle Hare, Shirley Drechsel, Cameron Ratliff, LaShauna Austria, Gary Giles, Yvonne Ng, Hannah Damman, Elke Ruggaber, Stephen Treimel, Steve Jenks, Kat Bawden, Brittany Sandefur, Liz Clore. And thanks to Melanie Guthrey for her help creating this report.

Board of Directors

Elizabeth Basnight, Jackie McLaughlin, Danielle Purifoy, Brandi Rowe, Miea Walker

Advisory Council

Darla Atkinson, Nora Barger, Joseph Bathanti, Lynn Burke, Matthew Diehl, Mikey Goralnik, Danielle Haley, Richard Holcomb, Abby Huggins, Steve Jenks, Rachel McNassor, Shari Miller, Yvonne Ng, Kristin Reiter, Alicia Rivero, Maggie Smith, Jen Snider, John Soehner, Wayne Vaughn

Staff

Matthew Ballard, Farm Manager Tanya Jisa, Founder & Executive Director Lindsey Paydon, Volunteer & Outreach Coordinator Sabrina Boyer, Social Media Intern Alison Ryncarz, Photography & Videography Intern

Other valued staff who worked with us in 2014:

Margaret Andrews, Fundraising & Administrative Assistant Rebecca Cherone, Farm Manager Intern Julie Moroney, Social Media Intern Mary-Kathryn Smith, Elon University Human Services Intern Rachel Taylor, UNC School of Social Work Intern Meg VanDeusen, UNC Women's & Gender Studies Intern

CONTACT

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