



benevolence farm



2015 Annual Report

- Letter from Tanya
- Project Summary
- Farm Updates
- Donors
- Financial Report
- Supporters

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.

A Letter from the Founder & Executive Director

Benevolent Friends & Family,

Despite being well underway in many regards, 2015 was a fabulous year of firsts for Benevolence Farm. Our first staff retreat in March, first Seedling Sale & Open House in April, first 'bridge programming' in partnership with Allied Churches' Women's Empowerment Group in May, the inaugural harvest of heirloom tomatoes, wax beans and butternut squash, most of which was sold at the Company Shops Market, Saxapahaw General Store and as a vendor at the Burlington Downtown Farmers' Market . . . for the first time.

Other firsts included Farm Manager Matt Ballard facilitating a win-win collaboration with Alamance County Dispute Settlement & Youth Services Center to engage young people in their Work Restitution program in the healthful and healing tasks of keeping the farm in great shape. Matt also mentored two Elon University federal work-study service learning students who put in numerous hours throughout the last quarter of the year.

Benevolence Farm was featured in The Christian Science Monitor in July ~ yet another fantastic first. And soon thereafter we were selected to participate in the Rudolf Steiner Foundation (RSF) Shared Gifting circle that resulted in a \$10,000 grant. Another first: the delectable farm-to-table dinner featuring Benevolence Farm produce masterfully prepared by Chef Isaiah at The Eddy. Then there was the truly lovely picnic on the farm where we welcomed (ahem) for the first time United Way President Heidi Norwick and her spouse Howie, Caroline and Ben Ansbacher, Caleb Baker from the Triangle Community Foundation and his spouse Courtney, attorney Andrew Branan (who generously helped us secure land in 2013), Alamance Burlington School System Superintendent Bill Harrison and his spouse Judy, and Bob and Kathy Hykes, among many other special guests who enjoyed a magical summer evening under the moon and stars.

Thanks to Impact Alamance Benevolence Farm became the very proud owner of a brand new tractor, enabling us to accomplish numerous other firsts on the farm including preparing for our first seasonal CSA which will be offered in summer and fall of 2016. More details are available on our website.

We also enjoyed some pretty amazing seconds in 2015. Like our second, and significant, grant from the United Way of Alamance County. And our second generous gift from the Hayden-Harman Foundation. We were honored to be included in the Indy Week Give! Guide for the second year in a row, garnering a whopping \$9,107 and featuring Benevolence Farm on the front cover!

We are very proud of so many fantastic firsts ~ and seconds ~ and look forward to the most important first of all in the coming year: residents. Now that the farm is operating, and the funding is increasingly steady, and the board and staff are firmly in place, Benevolence Farm is well positioned to serve as the FIRST and BEST social enterprise based transitional living program for women in North Carolina. And we invite you to be a part of making a powerful difference in the lives of women, families, and communities across the state by making sure Benevolence Farm is the FIRST OF MANY successful programs to turn the tide of mass incarceration and recidivism in our state and our country.



Tanya Jisa, MSW

Founder & Executive Director

P.S. As we announced in January, I made the decision to step aside as executive director as 2015 came to a close. I am excited that Benevolence Farm continues to move forward with new energy, new insight, and new enthusiasm and look forward to offering my ongoing love and support for many years to come.





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

Project Summary

2,864 women were released from NC prisons in 2015. Of those: 50 were residents of Alamance County, 48 of Durham, 116 of Guilford, 7 of Orange, and 162 of Wake

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 5 women initially and, eventually, 12 women.

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.

Bridge Programming

In 2015, Benevolence Farm began to offer therapeutic horticulture programming to women who may be at risk or have a history of incarceration. We believe that offering a chance to connect with nature is also a chance to heal, and were thrilled with the feedback from our participants. We look forward to continuing to partner with community organizations to empower women through the therapeutic benefits of nature for many years to come as the first Benevolence Farm residents arrive.



Events

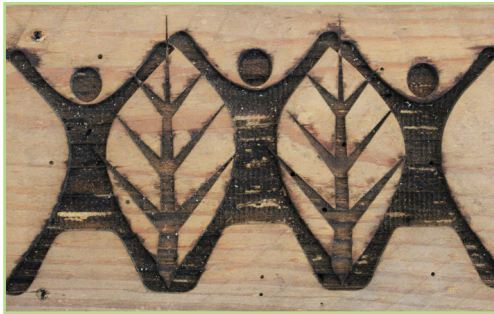
- 4/12 & 16 Make A Difference Day -
United Way of Alamance County
- 4/18 Open House & Seedling Sale
- 4/23 Annual Meeting
- 5/20 Social & Farm Trivia at Steel String
- 6/25 Food Truck Rodeo
- 9/24 Farm to Table Dinner
at The Eddy Pub
- 10/15 Second Chance Dine & Dance
at The Haw River Ballroom
- 11/5 Activate Good's Couture
for a Cause
- 12/18 Hot Potato: Sustainable
Ag Drag Bingo at YesterYears



Open House & Seedling Sale

Programming

- Healing Station
- Steel Magnolias
- Allied Churches Women's
Empowerment Group
- Mushroom Log workshops
- Dispute Settlement Center, Inc. Youth
Work Restitution Program



Tractor Granted by
Impact Alamance

Outreach

- Second Chance Lobby Day
- Come to the Table Conference, Elon University
- Burlington Royals Baseball Game
- CenterFest Arts Festival
- Third Sector Alliance
- Mass Incarceration Symposium
- Alamance Reads Panel Discussion
- Carrboro Farmers' Market
- United Way of Alamance County Community Career Fair



Second Chance
Dine & Dance

Farm Updates

Infrastructure

- Pole Shed with Rotary Club Raleigh Midtown
- Greenhouse with SWOOP
- Shelving & Tool Storage with Rotary Club Raleigh Midtown



2015 brought our first ever growing season at the farm. Farm Manager Matt prepared and cultivated the first ever demonstration garden on 1/4 acre, growing summer and fall crops for sale at several area markets and co-ops. As we sowed our first seeds, we also began to sow our dreams for future seasons and the growth of the farm for future years as we welcome our first residents.



**THANK YOU to our amazing donors
who made everything possible in 2015!**

Marilyn Alexander, Alice Ammerman, Peter Ansbacher, Amy Apollo, Virginia Aycock, Gretchen Aylsworth, Caleb & Courtney Baker, Russell & Melissa Ballard, Rachel Bartlett, Mary Bayard, Hank Becker, Kenneth Bell, Laura Benedict, Linda Booker, Ilouise Bradford, Bridget Brennan, Linda Brittain, Susan Browne, Sara Farner Budarz, Dean Bunce, Medora Jane Burke-Scoll, Ann Bushyhead, Pat Butler, Michael Case, Mimi Clayton, Woody L. & Barbara W. Clore, Elizabeth Cullington, Lewis Dancy, Deb Davis, Donna Deal, Kelli 'Danny' DePuy, Gabe & Mary DesHarnais, Leah Edwards, Lynda Edwards, Amy Farlow, Paul Finkel, Elizabeth L. Finney, Virginia Fitt, Patricia Forrest, Irving P. & Joan K. Fox, Britt Foxworth, Tonju Francois, Sally Franz, Ann Fuller, Kimberly Garner, Joan M. Garnett, Cynthia Geary, Glenn Gillen, Jennifer Ginsburg, Thomas Murphy & David Gittelman, Abby Goodman, Rhonda Goolsby, Katie Grandy, Jean Gross, Bert Gurganus, Julie Hall, Valoree Hanson, Lynn Harmon, Christopher Hartness, Nancy Hearon, Maggie Heraty, Katherine Hill, Mary Bratsch & Ehren Hines, Stacey Hodges, Andrea 'Zoa' Hough-Maguire, Michael Hrivnak, Sarah Andrews Huppert, Ann B. Hymes, Carolyn H. Ikenberry, Tracy Brown Jackson, Julie Jacobson, Stephen Stanton Jenks, Mary Jisa, Jenna V Johnson, Christopher & Audrey Kah, Mike & Sara Kardasz, Adrienne Kittle, Jane Korest, Steve and Christi Kurtz, Cathy and Andrew Lamb, Sherry Layton, Kelly Lee, Lisa Levenstein, James Littrell, Sita Lozoff, Mary Lyons, Anna MacDonald Dobbs, Kevin Magill, Elizabeth Martin, Elizabeth Matheson, Stephanie Mayo, Margaret McCann, Ellen McGeorge, Carynne McIver, J.C. McNutt, Charles Meeker, Aaron Menconi, Ann Merzbacher, Laura Micciche, Don Miller, Suzanne D. & Keith R. Miller, Sunitha Misra, Keisha Myrick, Sarah Nash, Yvonne Ng, Lee Nisbet, Peggy & Kenneth B. Oettinger, Anne E Parsons, Joan Peck, Jeffrey C Pritchard, Danielle M. Purifoy, Jerald A. Purifoy, John and Donna Quallen, Mike Rakes, Richard & Martha Rigling, L. Bingham & Dale Roenigk, David Roswell, Elke Ruggaber, Alison Ryncarz, James L. Sacco, Brittany & Conner Sandefur, Margaret Scarborough, Michael Schaul, Stephanie Schrag, Beth Schultz, Margaret W. Rich & James Semans, Ketki B. Shah, Elizabeth Simpson, Amanda Skiscim, Amanda Smith, Karla Smith, Susan Smith, Carol & Richard Scott Smitherman, Jen Snider, Rebecca J. Sorensen, Don Southworth, Jeff & Jan Stoddard, Lenorah Stout, Joe & Annette Swain, Shirley Tang, Lauren Thie, Mara Thomas, Mary M Todd, Dale Traugott, Stephen & Andrea Treimel, John Valentine, Daryl F. Walker, Betty Webb, Doris Wells, Evelyn Rivers Wilbanks, Robin Wintringham, Allen Wood, Robert N. & Susan P. Wood, Patricia Petersen & Douglas Young,

Presentations

- 2/2 Graham Presbyterian
Church Greet, Eat, Meet
- 2/12 Graham Rotary Club
- 2/27 West Raleigh Rotary Club
- 3/19 Alamance County Farm
Bureau Women's Committee
- 4/2 Piedmont Triad
Women Attorneys
- 4/6 JobStart/ Interfaith Prison
Ministry for Women
- 8/20 Rotary Club of Alamance
- 9/21 Mt Hermon UMC Women
- 10/17 Church of Jesus Christ
of the Latter-day Saints,
Gibsonville and Burlington
Area Devotional
- 10/20 JobStart/ Interfaith Prison
Ministry for Women
- 10/26 Epsilon Eta, UNC
Environmental Fraternity
- 11/23 NCSU School of Social Work
- 11/30 Siren Magazine Launch Party
- 12/18 Carrboro High School
Global Oppressions class
Rotary Club of Alamance



Volunteers

19 work days
216 volunteers
784 hours

Special Projects

March: SWOOP Greenhouse Build
April: Rotary Club Raleigh Midtown
Shelving & Tool Storage
June: Moxie Project Herb Garden
October: Johnson Service Corps Field Prep
November: UNC Air Force ROTC Land Clearing
December: UNC APPLES Alternative Winter
Break Trail Clearing



Extra Special Thanks to:

Nancy Whiteley, Sherry Buie, Elizabeth Urena Butler, Steve Jenks, Kat Bawden, Brittany Sandefur, Erin Kimrey, Marielle Hare, LaShauna Austria, David Shaw, Danielle Baldwin, Melanie Guthrey, Brittany Gaither, Rachel Wilbur, Rachel Taylor, Elke Ruggaber, Lillie Byers Armstrong, Cindy Brooks Dollar, Caleb Baker, Hannah Peele, Bradley Bethel, The Eddy Restaurant & Pub, Saxapahaw General Store, Haw River Farmhouse Ales, Eric Henry, Charlie "Doc" Sydnor Isaiah Allen, Anna Rose Miller, TS Designs, Braeburn Farm, John Bell, Heather & Tom LaGarde, The Haw River Ballroom, Company Shops Market, Tracy Henderson Bethel, Bishop's Storehouse - Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saint's, Transitional Aftercare Network & NC Dept of Public Safety, Indy Week Give Guide, The Barn at Valhalla, Reeds Downtown Table, Vimala's Curryblossom Cafe, Waterdog Farms, Food Lion - Graham, Bread & Butter, Harper & Lindley, Rachel McNassor, Smitty's Homemade Ice Cream.



SWOOP Volunteers



Midtown Raleigh Rotary Club



UNC Air Force ROTC

Press & Publicity:

The Times-News:
People power: Volunteers
SWOOP in to help
build greenhouse
March 2015

Christian Science Monitor:
Tanya Jisa paired her love of
fresh food with a desire to
help women ex-convicts
July 2015

The Times-News:
Benevolence Farm receives
Hayden-Harman grant
July 2015

Elon local news interview
September 2015

The Times-News: Impact Ala-
mance Awards \$15,000 for Trac-
tor and Implements

Cover of Indy Week
Give Guide 2015

Featured in News & Observer
Triangle Gives 2015

Assets - As of December 31, 2015

Current Assets		
Checking/Savings		
PayPal		10,555.87
Petty Cash		120.00
RBC Checking		2,539.75
RBC money market		29,104.15
Total Checking/Savings		42,319.77
Accounts Receivable		
Accounts Receivable		416.87
Total Accounts Receivable		416.87
Other Current Assets		
Pre Paid Rent		300.00
Pre Paid VISTA Membership		300.00
Sales Tax Refundable		1,185.95
Total Other Current Assets		1,785.95
Total Current Assets		44,522.59
Fixed Assets		
Accumulated Depreciation		-89,870.00
Barn		100,000.00
Farm House		161,247.98
Furniture and Equipment		22,965.52
Greenhouse		942.93
Land Acquisition		90,057.00
Total Fixed Assets		285,343.43
Other Assets		
Other Assets		2,171.04
Security Deposit		15.00
Security Deposits Asset		225.48
Total Other Assets		2,411.52
TOTAL ASSETS		332,277.54

Liabilities & Equity - As of December 31, 2015

Liabilities		
Current Liabilities		
Other Current Liabilities		
Blackbaud e-Tapestry		1,899.66
Payroll Liabilities		2,799.70
Total Other Current Liabilities		4,699.36
Total Current Liabilities		4,699.36
Equity		
Unrestricted Net Assets		333,220.70
Net Income		-5,642.52
Total Equity		327,578.18
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY		332,277.54

Financial Report

Give Now, Change Lives

Online: benevolencefarm.org

By Mail: Benevolence Farm
P O Box 1313
Graham, NC 27253

Your Gift Grows Hope

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



Farm-to-Table Dinner



Mushroom Log Workshops





Welcoming Living Room



Large Kitchen



1 of 3 Beautiful Bedrooms

Ordinary Income - January through December 2015

Direct Public Support	
Corporate Contributions	1,753.31
Event Income	9,886.49
Grants and Awards	73,610.02
GrantsPublic Agency/Faith-Based	1,869.29
Individual donations	35,742.25
Direct Public Support - Other	3,000.00
Total Direct Public Support	125,861.36
In Kind Donations	4,345.49
Investments	
Interest-Savings, Short Term CD	36.07
Total Investments	36.07
Program Income	
Program Service Fees	150.00
Program Income - Other	136.00
Total Program Income	286.00
Seed/Plant sales	572.00
Total Income	131,100.92
Gross Profit	131,100.92

Expense - January through December 2015

Bank Fee	786.23
Contract Services	
Accounting Fees	1,594.51
Total Contract Services	1,594.51
Fundraising Expenses	1,760.83
Operations	
Advertising	325.00
Books, Subscriptions, Reference	118.98
Farm Equip. & Supplies	10.75
Licenses and fees	200.00
Marketing	131.02
Membership Dues	1,039.50
Postage, Mailing Service	821.75
Printing and Copying	744.58
Professional Development-Staff	500.00
Repairs and Maintenance	1,366.93
Resident Incidentals	42.83
Sanitation	438.18
Seeds and Starters	1,111.54
Small Tools	804.73
Software	1,677.95
Supplies	4,932.25
Telephone, Fax,Internet	384.20
Utilities	706.24
Website	338.48
Total Operations	15,694.91
Other Types of Expenses	
Gifts	200.00
Insurance- Liability, D and O	2,658.40
Insurance- Property	2,028.00
Total Other Types of Expenses	4,886.40
Payroll Expenses	
Director Pay	51,999.96
Employee Wages	44,477.72
Payroll Fees	345.21
Payroll Taxes	7,412.43
Total Payroll Expenses	104,235.32
Rent	1,200.00
Travel and Meetings	
Conference, Convention, Meeting	1,588.87
Meals	583.06
Travel	813.31
Total Travel and Meetings	2,985.24
VISTA Membership	3,600.00
Total Expense	136,743.44
Net Ordinary Income	-5,642.52
Net Income	-5,642.52



benevolence farm



We Deeply Appreciate our Major Donors!

United Way of Alamance County - \$26,000
Hayden-Harman Foundation - \$15,000
Impact Alamance - \$15,000
Snider Family Charitable Fund - \$15,000
Rudolf Steiner Foundation \$10,000
H. Keith & Brenda B. Brodie - \$5,000
Marcia Angle & Mark Trustin Fund of the Triangle Community Foundation - \$3,000
The Lovett Foundation - \$2,860
Learning By Giving Foundation \$2,000
Rotary Club of Raleigh Midtown - \$1,370
Alamance County Farm Bureau Women's Committee - \$950
Allstate Foundation - \$1,000
FoodLogiQ - \$1000
Graham Presbyterian Harden Benevolence Fund - \$1,000
Helen's Fund of Fund for Southern Communities - \$1,000
Criminal Justice and Mercy Ministries - \$250
Weaver Street Realty - \$250

Board of Directors

Jackie McLaughlin, Mica Walker
Peter Ansbacher, Anne Parsons, Mara Thomas (joined)
Elizabeth Basnight, Danielle Purifoy, Brandi Rowe (completed terms)

Staff

Tanya Jisa, Founder & Executive Director
Matthew Ballard, Farm Manager
Abby Goodman, Fundraising and Administrative Assistant (as of 6.14.15)
Lindsey Paydon, Volunteer & Outreach Coordinator (thru 8.31.15)
Rebecca Ogus, Volunteer & Outreach Coordinator (as of 9.1.15)
Farm Interns Amy Mullan & Evan Strickland
(Elon University Federal Work Study Service Learning Program)
Chloe Forkner Johnson, Farm Intern
Alison Ryncarz, Photography & Videography Intern
Jen Myers, Photography & Video Intern

Other valued staff who worked with us in 2015:

Elon University Interns Kelsey Payne & Jeremy, Communications;
Abby Moylan & Nicole Panaggio, Public Health; Marshall Moore, Human Services

Advisory Council

Darla Atkinson, Nora Barger, Joseph Bathanti, Lynn Burke, Monyia Presley Campbell, 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

Stay In Touch!

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Graham, NC 27253

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[https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UCY39ME_YkwGRFFsYQnU--5g](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCY39ME_YkwGRFFsYQnU--5g)