



2023 IMPACT REPORT

A message from our Executive Director: **Kristen**

December 2023 marked my fourth year as Executive Director of Benevolence Farm. I can confidently say 2023 was one of our best years yet.

As we emerged from the pandemic, we stabilized our operations, improved staff capacity, and implemented creative new ways to better serve formerly incarcerated communities.

As you'll see in our 2023 Impact Report, we continue to provide high quality reentry services while advocating for solutions to solve systemic issues our loved ones encounter.

Thank you to everyone who donated their time, energy, and expertise to make this all possible.

With gratitude, KP



2023 Staff

Executive Director: Kristen Powers

Reentry Manager: Cassie Hanson

Farm Manager: Brett Rapkin-Citrenbaum

Second Chance Manager: Katie Anderson

Family Reunification Manager: Mona Evans

IMPACT SNAPSHOT

\$88,000

in living wages distributed to formerly incarcerated women via our social enterprise

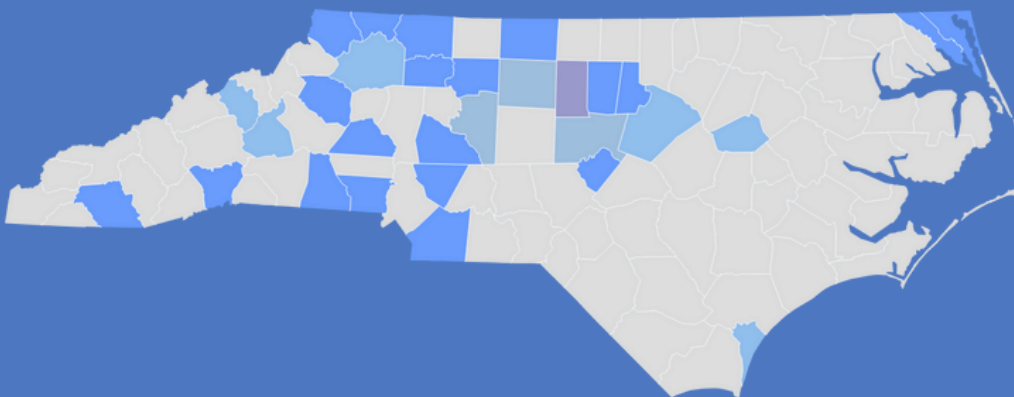
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families housed through our inaugural Housing First Fund, which included five mothers and nine children otherwise unhoused

286

rides to essential appointments, court dates, probation, etc. across NC

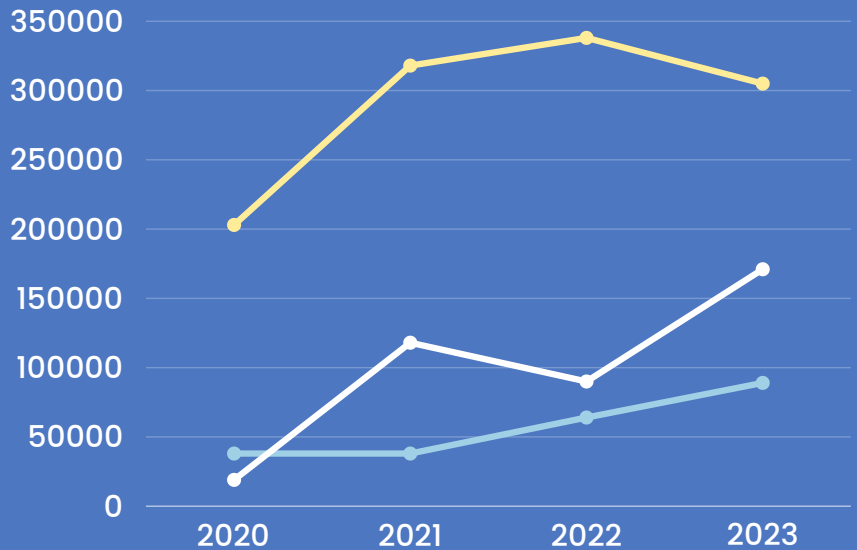
Our residents are from across North Carolina:





FUNDS RAISED **\$305,252**

■ Social Enterprise
 ■ Donations
 ■ Grants



Benevolence Farm continues to grow our operating fund through individual donors and grants.



We anticipate our social enterprise will fully cover our living wage employment program by the end of 2024.

☀️ PROGRAMS

☀️ DESCRIPTION

☀️ METRICS

Housing and Community Resources

We provide women a place to live, work, and start over after prison and jail.

- 11 women housed and employed on the Farm

Advocacy and Outreach

We work to change the narrative around formerly incarcerated women and advocate for system change.

- Ongoing state legislative priority: Elimination of the food stamp (SNAP/TANF) ban for people with certain drug convictions

Farm and Social Enterprise

We manage a farm that supports job creation and serves our community.

- \$89,000 in revenue
- \$15/hr min. wage
- 678 customers nationwide

CHALLENGES WE FACED IN 2023

- ★ **Capacity:** Despite increasing our bed number by 66% in 2022, we had to turn down 43 applicants in 2023 due purely to lack of space.
- ★ **Housing Demand:** Outside of our direct housing program, we received an unprecedented amount of inquires from across the state asking for financial assistance so they could secure a rental home after incarceration. Sometimes, they were required to provide \$700 - \$2,200 in security deposits
- ★ **Cash Flow:** While our finances were much healthier in 2023, we still find ourselves affected by the summer slump and other quieter periods of giving. It is our goal in 2024 to improve our monthly cash flow by tapping into creative marketing efforts to boost our social enterprise sales.

NEW INITIATIVES IN 2023



Housing First Fund

The Housing First Fund launched in 2023 with a \$10,000 grant from Coastal Federal Credit Union. This fund was created to support formerly incarcerated people as they returned to the communities of their choice. Many people with criminal records face immense barriers when it comes to finding rental housing after prison. It was our intention to alleviate these barriers by paying for security deposits.



Bonding Families

Bonding Families is the brainchild of Benevolence Farm alumna and staff member Mona Evans. As a formerly incarcerated mother, Mona had the logistical support she needed at the Farm, but she felt isolated in her motherhood experience and wanted more social and emotional support. She also noticed this to be true for other formerly incarcerated mothers. Thus, Bonding Families was born! This effort provides safe, judgement-free spaces for formerly incarcerated mothers to heal together and support one another.

THANK YOU FOR BELIEVING IN OUR BURGEONING WORK

WE COULDN'T HAVE DONE IT WITHOUT YOUR GENEROUS SUPPORT

We deeply appreciate the people and organizations that contributed to our growth and sustained efforts in 2023. We are strongly rooted because of your time, expertise, and monetary gifts!




THANK YOU TO ALL OUR DONORS AND VOLUNTEERS

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 www.benevolencefarm.org

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