



GROWING HIGH POINT 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

©2024 Martin W. Kane



LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



“ Dear Friends,

2024 was the Year of People for Growing High Point. We assembled a talented and committed staff and board of directors, we expanded our volunteer and donor base, and we built more meaningful relationships in our community. In these different roles, everyone contributed to a successful year that built strong momentum for 2025. Thank you for doing your part to grow High Point! Here are some highlights:

- **Urban Acres and the Urban Farm Network: Together, GHP and our network of five urban farmers cultivated nearly 4 acres in the 27260 ZIP code, the most farmers in our history!** We added a dehydration shed in order to dry herbs for tea and spice blends as value-added products, and we unveiled the Urban Acres brand with signs at every farm and packaging for our produce and value-added products.
- **Food Hub: Our Food-Inspired Resilience and Equity (FIRE) intern, Kianna Harrison, has helped us build a network of nearly 10 local growers who sell their produce to the Food Hub.** We delivered 2,600 Free Farm Shares to senior citizens, newly arrived refugees, and single-parent households, and we relaunched weekly Farm Share produce subscriptions.
- **Growdega: A popular program is the Power of Produce Club with the High Point Public Library, which provides books, activities, and tokens that can be spent on produce for more than 700 children.** GHP won the "I Partner With My Public Library" award from the international nonprofit Let's Move in Libraries after the High Point Public Library nominated GHP for the award.
- **Youth Employment: We welcomed our largest cohort of 20 Youth Employees.** They worked with us at Urban Acres, on Growdega, at the High Point Farmers Market and at community events. We have received a great deal of positive feedback from community members who have interacted with our youth!
- **Farmer in Training: We graduated our most successful class of farmers, adding one of them to our team.** Brittany Baines is passionate about beekeeping and has become our resident expert, caring for our apiary and harvesting the honey.



Jodi



ABOUT GROWING HIGH POINT

Staff:

Jodi Sarver: Executive Director
Amanda Mitchell: Director of Farm Operations
Caroline DiGrande: Farm to Table Coordinator
Lauren Maske: Program Manager
Andre Davis: Community Liaison
Kahlil Siler: Youth Mentor
Ryanna Henderson: Operations Coordinator
Katy Lydon McGreevy: Grant Coordinator
Kimberly Gibson: Food Hub Manager
Caroline Rodden: Growdega Associate
Serena Adams: Cooking Facilitator/Farm Manager
Brittany Baines: Beekeeper/Farm Manager
Stevie Forrister: Farmhand
Nadia Brown: Farmhand/Growdega Associate

Our Mission

To transform under-resourced neighborhoods through urban agriculture with community engagement, empowerment, and entrepreneurship.

Our Vision

A city with dynamic and vibrant neighborhoods that provide access and opportunities to every resident.

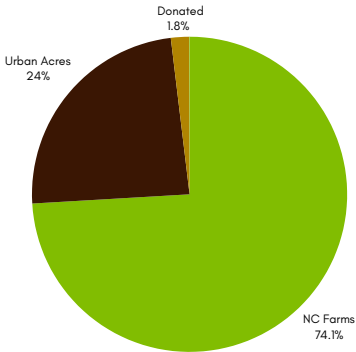
Board:

Randy Carda: Board Chair
Lee Gann: Vice Chair
Kristin Boggs: Treasurer
Rishaunda Ewings Moses: Secretary
Tanya Boone
Lynn Finnegan
Weston Fischer
Smedes Lindner
Pridell "Dell" McCormick
Michelle McNair



IMPACT BY THE NUMBERS

Growing High Point transforms vacant lots in ZIP code 27260, specifically Census Tracts 138 and 139, through urban agriculture to increase food sovereignty for our neighbors. Our Urban Acres farms and Urban Farm Network are cultivating almost 4 acres of fresh, seasonal produce.



Food Hub

We are excited to share a significant milestone: We aggregated **nearly 34,000 pounds** of fresh, nutritious produce across all of our programs through the Food Hub, representing a remarkable **126% increase** compared to the previous year. Furthermore, we are thrilled to announce the successful relaunch of our Farm Share program, which continues to connect local farms with individuals, ensuring access to healthy, locally grown food for all. **Scan the QR code to get your Farm Share box!**



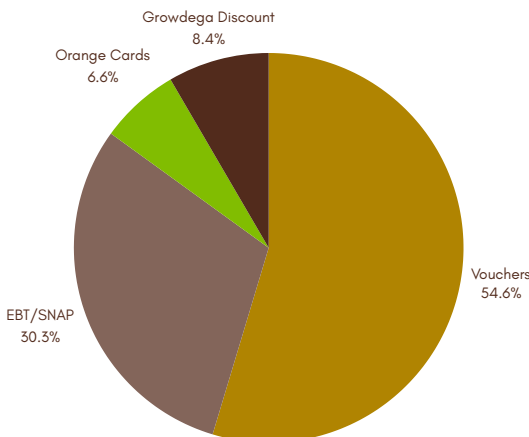
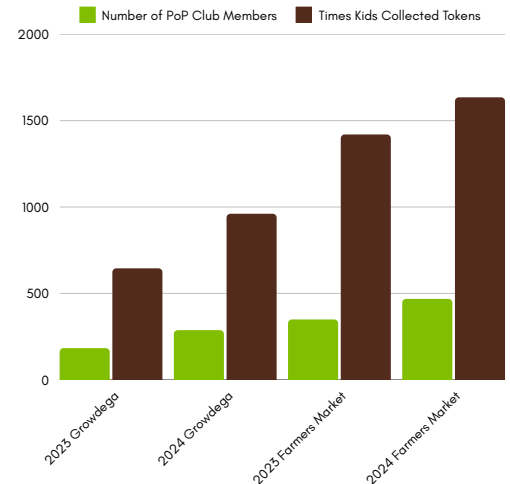
Volunteer Engagement

In the past year, dedicated adult volunteers contributed over **260 hours of service**, helping us make a lasting impact on our community. In addition, GHP welcomed student service learners from The Piedmont School – John Yowell Academy, New Garden Friends School and High Point Friends School. **If you are interested in volunteering, scan the QR code to learn more!**

Power of Produce (PoP) Club with the High Point Public Library



In conjunction with the High Point Public Library, PoP Club is designed to increase access to fresh fruits and vegetables among children ages 4-12. In 2024, PoP Club members received **\$4,146 in free produce** combining \$2,775 in redeemable tokens from the library and \$1,371 in tickets provided by the American Heart Association of the Triad.



Increasing access to fresh, local produce

In 2024, Growing High Point facilitated \$11,707.50 in food access support, combining \$3,550.50 from EBT/SNAP, \$984 in Growdega discounts, \$775 in Guilford Community Care Network Orange Cards, and \$6,398 in vouchers. This represents a **46% increase** from the previous year, reflecting our continued commitment to improving food sovereignty and accessibility in our community.



COMMUNITY PARTNERS



THANK YOU!

The Friendship Table,
Good News Garden
at St. Mary's
Episcopal Church

Thank you for your generous support and collaboration. Your commitment to fostering community and supporting our mission has made a meaningful difference. We deeply appreciate your partnership!



YOUTH EMPLOYEE PROGRAM FEEDBACK

"This summer Leah worked for the nonprofit Growing High Point. Being part of this organization supported our family's core beliefs of sustainability, community involvement, and organic fresh produce to support a healthy lifestyle. She engaged weekly at the farmers market with our community, she worked with mentors and other students from diverse backgrounds, and **she learned core valuable skills, such as communication, customer service, product displays, produce identification, and ever important, counting change.** I am grateful to Growing High Point for this opportunity for the youth and encourage everyone to see how you can get involved."

"I taught Andres before he left for high school. You always wonder how they will rise to the occasion when becoming a more independent adult when they leave middle school. When I ran into this student at a Growing High Point event, **I was blown away by their personal growth and independence.** Growing High Point is a fantastic organization that builds students' independence and gives them experience in the work field to utilize later in life."



Thank you to our 2024 Sponsors!

Harvest Hero Sponsor:



Community Cultivator Sponsor:



Candace & William Fenn

Garden Guardian Sponsor:



Scan to view the video from the Let's Grow Gala



LET'S GROW GALA

In 2024, Growing High Point held its fourth annual Let's Grow Gala, an evening that exceeded all expectations and created memorable experiences. Our community and distinguished guests enjoyed a delightful local dinner showcasing fresh produce and meat from local farms, paired with a variety of locally sourced craft beers and wines.

We are thrilled to announce that this year's Let's Grow Gala raised an incredible **\$43,493.51, marking a 30% increase over 2023!** Thanks to your generosity, we are one step closer to creating a healthier, more connected community.

We are grateful for our community's phenomenal support and acknowledge the Gala Planning Committee, led by Randy Carda, who meticulously organized this extraordinary event with assistance from Carrie Carda, Lee Gann and Smedes Lindner. Their dedication ensured the Gala's success.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS!

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to our donors for their unwavering support in 2024. Your generosity has empowered us to provide fresh, local produce to families in need, support urban farmers, and inspire the next generation through impactful programs.

Thank you for being an essential part of our mission!

CULTIVATOR CLUB GIVING SOCIETY

\$10,000 and up

Bethany Medical and the
Lenny Peters Foundation
David and Helen Congdon
Hayden-Harman Foundation

\$5,000-\$9,999

William and Candace Fenn
Lee Gann*

\$2,500-\$4,999

Pinnacle Bank

\$1,000-\$2,499

Rick and Diane Boedicker
Randy and Carrie Carda*
Amanda Cook
Jim and Lynn Finnegan*
Parks and Jane Freeze
J. Patrick Harman
Doug and Smedes Lindner*
Slade and Tammy Lewis
Michael and Rita Lucas
Mickey Truck Bodies Foundation
David and Leslie Moore
The Honorable Jim Morgan
Robert and Katrina Patton
Steve and Kathy Rohrbeck
Dean Sink
Smart Choice

\$500-\$999

Brian and Kristin Boggs*
Jeff and Brenda Carr
Barry and Lisa Cheek
Dorothy Darr
Sandy and Elizabeth Finch
Joe and Emily Fisher
Kyle and Katherine Goings
William and Suzanne Lowe Jr.
Georgia Nixon
Dickie and Julie Price
Kerry and Cindy Rice
Robert and Susan Rostand
Jodi Sarver*
Kim and Mary Sizemore
Peter and Mary Smith
Ed Spivey

* Denotes current or former
board members and staff

Milton and Janice Kirkland
Dan and Beachy Allen
Mark Ayer
Barbour Spangle Design
Tony and Sallie Bardelas
Sion and Debbie Bell
Fred and Courtney Best
CeCe Biesecker
Lee Bunemann
Brad Burris
Charles and Ann Cain
John and Shirley Conrad

Dow and Beth Craver
C. Stephen Dula
Dorsay Eichhorn
Stephen Ford and Gillian Overing
Barbara Frye
Zacary Goldstein
Jack Green Jr.
Kevin Hanson
Jawn Hendrix
Joe and Debi Hughes
Stephen and Christine Ilderton
Heinz and Nancy Kattenfeld

Milton and Janice Kirkland
Janice Kubinski and Steve Lomax
John and Valerie McFadden
C. Hayden McKenzie
Butch and Tricia Mendenhall
Jeffrey S. Miller
Rishaunda Ewings Moses*
Patricia Nash
Max and Becky Oakley
Eric Olmedo
Richard and Ivey Orr
David and Beth Penley

Ed Price
Blair Rankin
Barbara P. Rice
Martin Schlaeppi
Matthew and Meghan Sink
Tubby and Donna Smith
Ed Spivey
Mary Jo Stout
Joe Williams
The Women's Club of Southwest Guilford
Greg and Caren York



Garden Angel Program

At Growing High Point, the Garden Angel Program celebrates generosity, community spirit, and the healing power of fresh, local produce. Created by Board Chair Randy Carda, who was inspired by his father's example, this initiative embodies his legacy of quiet kindness and care for others. Each Garden Angel sponsorship enables us to welcome a new recipient into our Free Farm Share program, spreading fresh produce and hope to even more members of our community. We are currently honoring **seven Garden Angels!**

Learn more at growinghighpoint.org/donate.



Current Garden Angels:

- Josephine Boedicker
- Mary Tetreault
- Benn
- Buck's Baskets
- Laddie Carda
- Chavigny Dowdy
- Clifford D. Parsons, III

Save the Date!



NEW: The Longest Table

The Longest Table, a civic dialogue event featuring (you guessed it) a long table and guided discussion, has taken place in communities across the U.S. Why does High Point need a Longest Table event? High Point, like other communities across the nation, faces issues that divide rather than unite. Communities need a common bridge by sharing a delicious, healthy meal created with locally sourced ingredients to unite citizens in conversations on relationship building and long-term problem-solving in the 27260 ZIP code, which is the goal of The Longest Table.

May 18, 2025, 1-3 pm

Let's Grow Gala

The Fifth Annual Let's Grow Gala will be a night to celebrate the mission of Growing High Point and the people who support that mission! The gala features an inventive menu comprised of 100% locally sourced ingredients!

Taste the difference at the exclusive Let's Grow Gala. Tickets sell out quickly for this popular event.

October 9, 2025, 6-9 pm



710 Washington St., High Point, NC 27260
Info@growinglocalhp.com
(336) 848-1516

