

Firstfruits Farm SLO

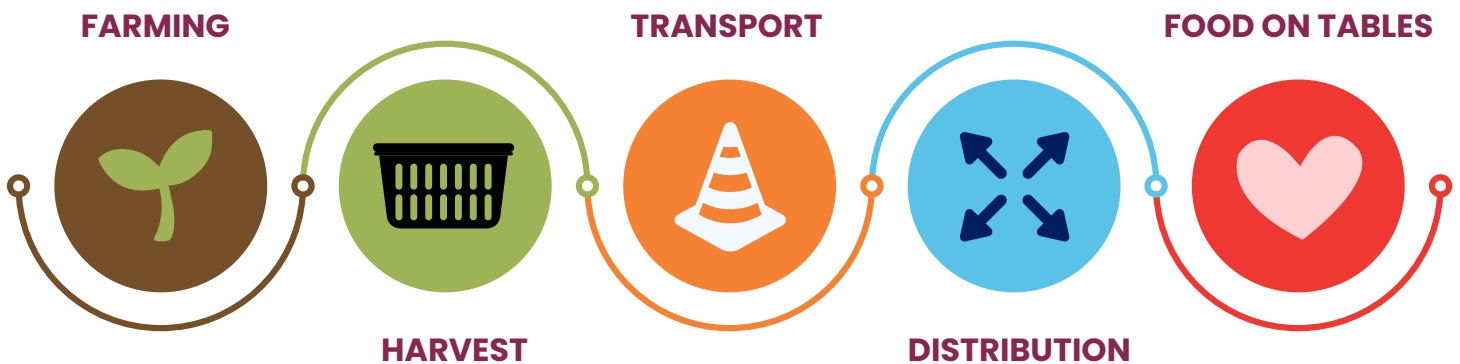
2024 Impact Report



We're powered by the community

Food insecurity isn't just about missing meals—it's the stress of not knowing where the next one will come from and stretching a limited budget by relying on processed foods instead of fresh, nutritious options.

With hunger on the rise, more SLO County residents are struggling to access healthy food. Our mission: **Caring for the earth and our neighbors by organically farming and freely giving fruits and vegetables to people experiencing food insecurity in San Luis Obispo County, California.** We're powered by volunteers—people of all ages and skill levels who come together to grow, harvest, and share fresh food with love.



A note from our President



To all our supporters, partners, and volunteers—thank you! With your help, Firstfruits Farm SLO grew, harvested, and donated over 27,000 lbs of produce in 2024! This beautiful, fresh, organic produce went to over 1,000 families per week experiencing food insecurity in SLO County.

A lot of good things happened at the farm last year. One highlight I'd like to share is the construction of our walk-in chiller. With this addition, whether our produce needs to be stored for an hour before pick-up or for a week in order to evenly distribute large quantities, we have the flexibility and can ensure top quality. Thank you to The Community Foundation San Luis Obispo County, our donors, and all the volunteers that made this happen!

Over the next several pages, you'll get to read all sorts of helpful statistics related to the impact this farm has had on our community. We are proud of these stats. A lot of hard work has gone into making them a reality—and none of it would have been possible without our entire community working alongside one another. So, thank you! Your support matters. We look forward to continuing this journey together throughout 2025.

Wes Carlson

PRESIDENT

Planting hope

In a world divided by clan, creed, practice, status, and politics, Firstfruits Farm SLO is committed to choosing love first.

With love for the earth and love for our neighbors, we aim to be an intersection for our community and inspire hope for generations to come.



We're thrilled to continue **growing year-round** with eco-friendly agricultural practices. Each season, we adjust produce varieties to better support those we serve. In 2024, we cultivated these **nutritious & delicious crops**:

Harvests	Winter	Spring	Summer	Fall
Allium Garlic, onions	✓	✓	✓	✓
Brassicas Broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, kale	✓	✓	✓	✓
Citrus Lemons, limes, oranges	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cucurbits Cucumber, melons, squash, pumpkins			✓	✓
Greens Lettuce, chard, kale	✓	✓	✓	✓
Herbs Basil, cilantro, mint, oregano, parsley	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nightshades Peppers, tomatoes, tomatillos			✓	✓
Pome Apples, pears			✓	
Root vegetables Beets, carrots, radishes, kohlrabi	✓	✓	✓	✓
Stone fruit Apricots, nectarines, peaches, plums		✓	✓	
Succotash Beans, peas, corn			✓	✓

2
acres
of land

40
different
crops

28,126
pounds
of produce

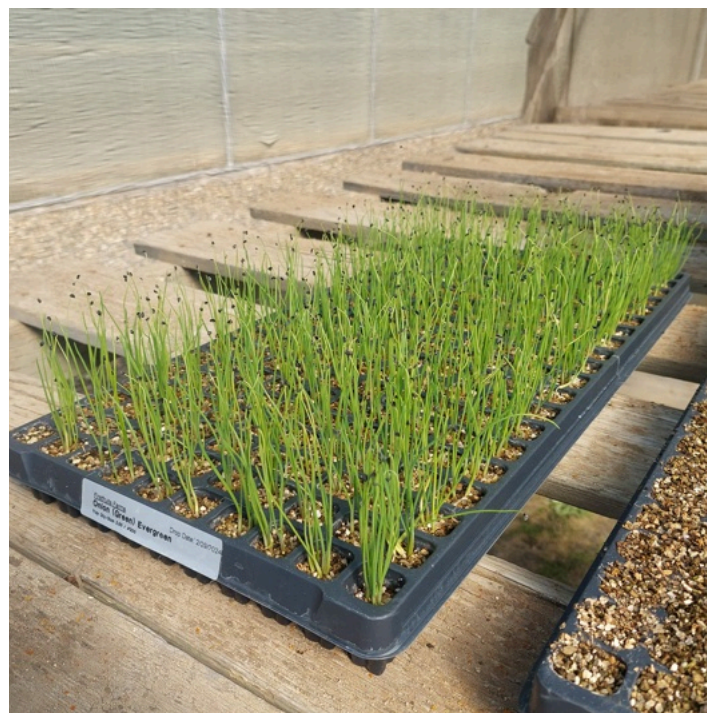
+68%
more produce
vs 2023

PILLARS OF OPERATION

Growing generosity

From seed to harvest, we cultivate our crops through volunteer-run activities, welcoming all ages and skill levels.

Everyone is invited to use their capabilities generously as we grow food to feed our community.



With support from you, we're working toward long-term change in the community every day. Your 2024 donations totaling \$41,914 led to **\$99,006.11 worth of produce** distributed.

621

volunteers

181

community
events

345

total
donations

1

new walk-in
chiller

“

We love being able to share fresh, local, organic produce with the community. Thank you, Firstfruits Farm!

ESTERO BAY KINDNESS COALITION

“

We chose Firstfruits Farm as a 2% Tuesday recipient because we have similar core values and share a commitment to making healthy food accessible in SLO.

SLO FOOD CO-OP

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THMA loves the fresh produce of Firstfruits Farm! Our clients are able to use it to make healthy meals.

TRANSITIONS MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION



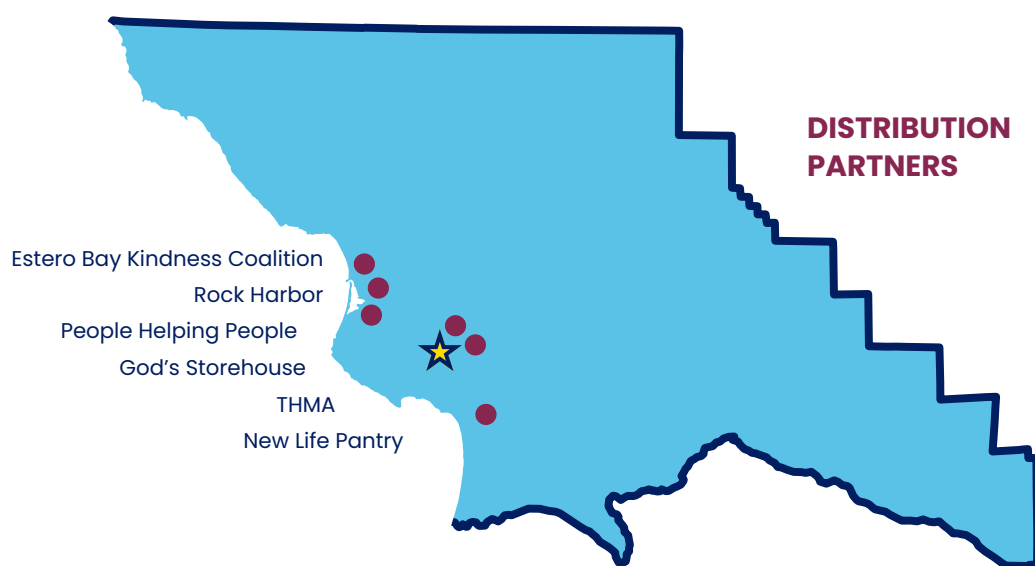
Honoring dignity

We affirm the human right to dignity and belonging, celebrating diversity in our volunteers and recipients.

Through agency partnerships, our donated produce reaches individuals and families with limited access to high-quality, community-grown, fresh food.



It takes a community to feed a community! We're grateful for our partner organizations across SLO County that donate land, tools, and seedlings, provide financial support, help prepare fields, recruit volunteers, and distribute produce. Their generosity **expands our impact**, helping more people access fresh food.



1 in 5
people with
food insecurity
in SLO county

1,000+
families
reached
each week

**SON CARE
FOUNDATION**
SAVING LIVES



Board of Directors

Keeping the organization on mission is the primary responsibility of the board of directors. Our **volunteer board members** receive no financial or material compensation for their service. 2024 board members have backgrounds in finance, education, technology, and non-profit sectors.



Wes Carlson
President



Dinora Escalera
Secretary



Rick Wolfe
Treasurer



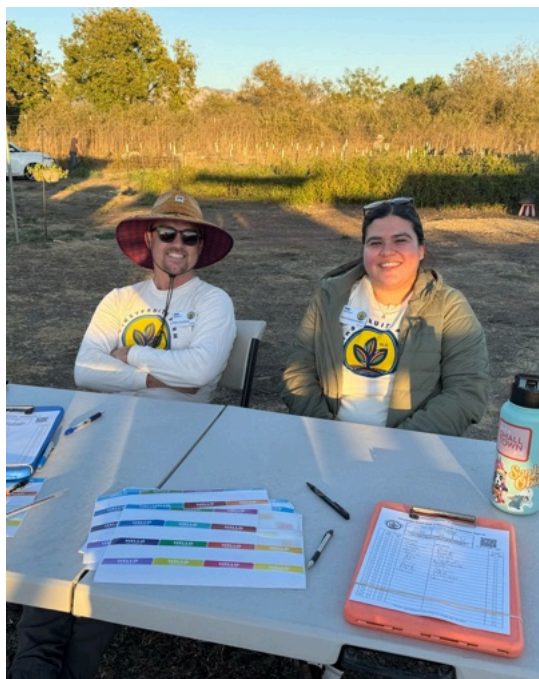
Kathy Keil
Farm Liason



Ben Horton
Harvest Captain



Sara Allen
Comms Director



2024 financials

Financial accountability and good stewardship are the foundation of trust. We're committed to being transparent about what we do and how we do it. We want you to have the utmost confidence that your gifts are bringing a **positive impact** to San Luis Obispo County.



INCOME

\$ 49,097

- Recurring donations 41%
- One-time donations 27%
- Grants 32%



EXPENSES

\$ 42,890

- Farming 33%
- Insurance 11%
- Admin 10%
- Fundraising & recruitment 8%
- Capital purchases 38%

Seeds, tools,
soil amendments,
field supplies,
water testing...



Walk-in chiller,
wi-fi, electrical



BALANCE SHEET

Assets

Cash and Cash Equivalents	\$ 74,377
Equipment	15,330
<hr/>	
Total Assets	\$ 89,707

Liabilities and Net Assets

Liabilities	\$ 0
Net Assets	89,707
<hr/>	
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 89,707

Friends of the Farm

Become a monthly sustaining donor as a Friend of the Farm. Go to FirstfruitsSLO.org/support

SOWERS 🌱

\$15/mo

POLLINATORS 🐝

\$50/mo

IRRIGATORS 💧

\$100/mo

SUSTAINERS

\$250/mo

More ways to support Firstfruits Farm SLO

VOLUNTEER

Join us at a regularly scheduled harvest or farm care event. Bring a friend! Or get in touch with us to schedule your group.

JOIN OUR BOARD

Guide the future of the farm. See board openings at FirstfruitsSLO.org/board-openings

SUBSCRIBE

Stay up to date with the latest happenings by visiting our website to subscribe to our emails. (We won't spam you.)

GET SOCIAL

Tag us in your photos of the farm! While you're at it, give us a follow on Facebook or Instagram.

IN-KIND GIFTS

Donated items help keep our costs low and our impact high. Find our wishlist on our website!

PLANNED GIFTS

Making a planned ensures our work can continue for generations to come. Contact us to arrange.

Firstfruits
Farm SLO

Firstfruits Farm SLO is a tax-exempt 501(c)(3) non-profit, EIN: 84-3220046

WEBSITE

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