



food
dignity[®]
movement

2023 Annual Report

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THANK YOU!

A Message from Our Founder

Hello friends and fellow leaders!

Food Dignity® is a movement. Our team believes that "Food Dignity®" means something different to everyone. We also understand that if we are going to create food equity and real food system change, we must stay flexible, agile, and open. That's the beauty in what we do.

Together, we can use this fluidity and receptivity to empower the people who need our help because the solutions lie in their hearts, minds, and lived experiences. Let's all be willing to admit our wrongs and that we do not have all the answers. By doing this, we create an opportunity for growth, newness, success, and trust.

When we act from a place of ego, hunger wins. When we collaborate, hunger can't exist.

This is how we will change the world.

We honor you,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Clancy Harrison".

Clancy Harrison

Found of the Food Dignity® Movement



Our Mission

Food Dignity® creates local and regional agriculture acceleration and food equity through economic nutrition sustainability.

Our aim is to support the development of a robust regional food supply chain offering dignified access to nutritious food through collaboration, education, research, and outreach.

We focus on supporting our partners' goals and achieving results while removing stigma and prioritizing access to a steady supply of nutrient-rich food for everyone.

OUR 2023 IMPACT

Individuals served
through non-profit
distributions:

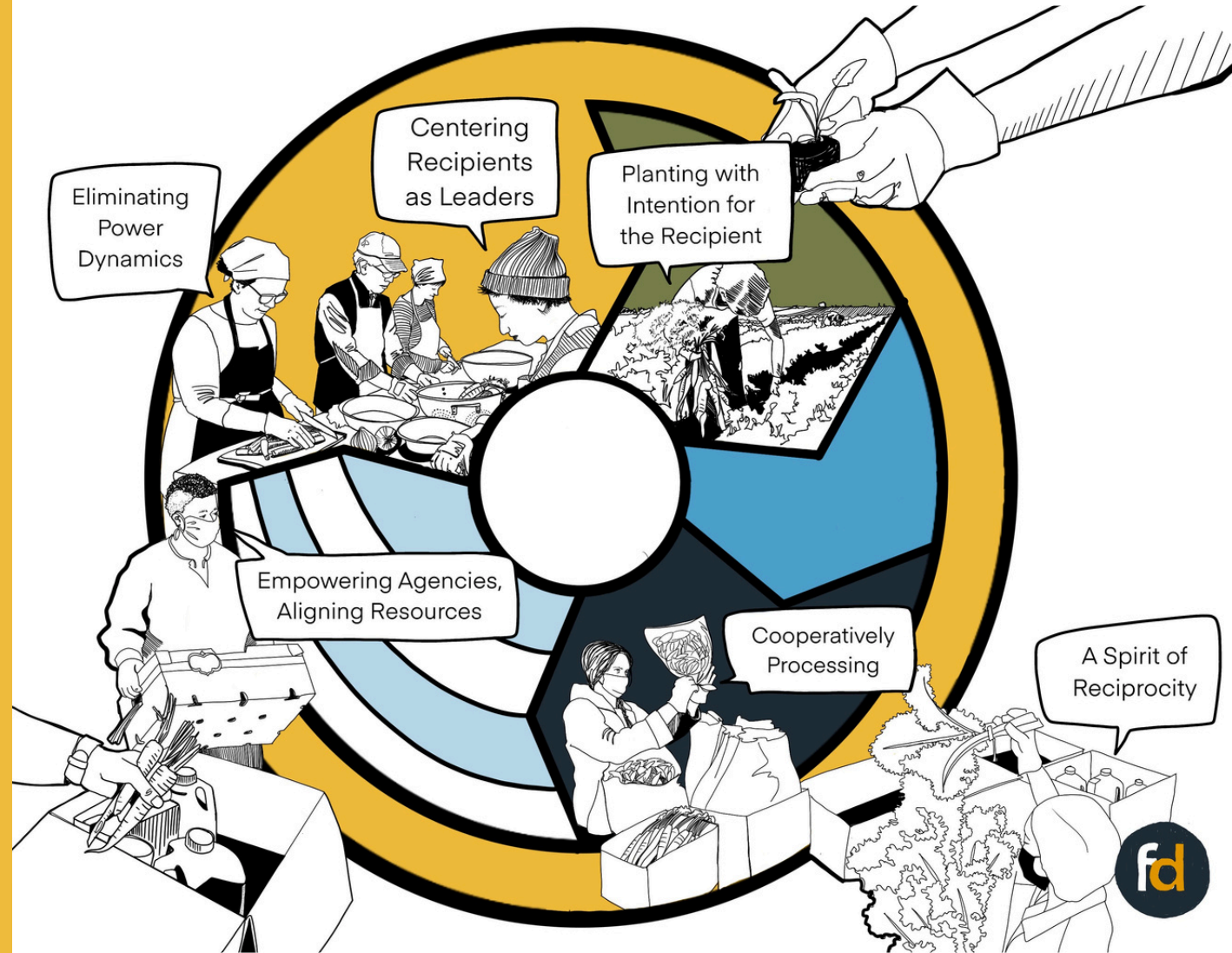
70,252

Individuals served
through Pay What
You Can stands:

5,544

Pounds of Produce
Served:

148,328 lbs



Our Programs

Everyone deserves to have access to the healthy foods we all need to thrive. Instead, one in nine Americans do not eat enough fruit and vegetables.

Food Dignity's sustainable regional food system increases community access to fresh local produce while supporting local farmers.



Nonprofit Distribution

We distributed an average of **3,000 lbs** of produce per week to our nonprofit community partners. The nonprofits provide these local fruits and vegetables to their members when coming for services throughout the week. We purchase this produce from local farms to provide a steady, reliable market outlet while increasing access to fresh healthy produce for individuals receiving other social services.



“Take What You Need, Pay What You Can” food dignity® Produce Stands

In September of 2023, Food Dignity launched a new model for food distribution in Luzerne County, PA. The “Take What You Need, Pay What You Can” produce stands are donation-based and designed to increase access to farm fresh fruits and vegetables while paying PA farmers for their goods. We use an envelope system during the stands so any payment is anonymous. All donations allow us to continue purchasing produce for our community stands.

5,544 individuals were served at
18 farm stands in 2023.



**HARVESTING
CHANGE**



New Roots Cooking Program



With the support of the McGowan Foundation, Food Dignity® held a food as medicine program to support the members and staff of New Roots Inc., a substance use recovery organization in NEPA. Food Dignity held small weekly focus groups to gain programming insight from all participants. Recipes were cooked and shared at New Roots every Tuesday, serving **10-20** meals per week. Individual nutrition counseling was provided by our Registered Dietitian as requested. Meals were made with produce, eggs, and meats purchased from our local farmers.



King's College Food Dignity[®] Project



COLLABORATION

COMMUNITY

LEADERSHIP



The King's College Food Dignity Project, funded by the AllOne Foundation, established food storage infrastructure that allowed nonprofits to receive both non-perishable and perishable food items. This provided an opportunity to connect our local farmers to local nonprofits through Food Dignity's nonprofit produce distribution, increasing access to healthful fruits and vegetables at pop-up market locations throughout the community.

For more information, check out this article in the King's Magazine:

www.issuu.com/kingscollege/docs/kings_magazine_2023web



food dignity®

a food equity movement



WE'RE CREATING A MARKET FOR FARMERS

Food Dignity® has begun acting as a regional wholesaler, purchasing farmers' food at a fair price for nonprofits and businesses serving marginalized populations across Pennsylvania. We're an accelerator in this space, and in need of investment to continue connecting farmers to this market. This initiative has been recognized by Google Food Labs and Tufts University.



WE'RE OFFERING A NEW KIND OF SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR THOSE IN NEED

We moved away from the typical food bank and food pantry model. We partner with nonprofits that serve vulnerable populations to provide food at their time of service – now a mother leaving domestic violence receives farmers' food directly during counseling at a resource center. She doesn't have to find transportation, plus the food is fresh and nourishing.



WE'RE A COMMUNITY-DRIVEN REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEM RESPONSE

We created a new regional food system in rural Pennsylvania that offers dignified access to nourishing food for all. We include the farmer, the consumer, the nonprofit, and the business leaders in all our processes and planning. Equity means everyone has a spot around our decision-making table.

Don't Take It from Us

Listen to our farmers and other partners!
This 30-minute documentary shares the simple ways Food Dignity® is reinvesting in economic, social, and environmental sustainability.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6hXwgbQS-hg>

Jordan Delzell and Jay Jadick
Twofold Farm and Studio

"Food Dignity Project provided us a consistent and dependable market outlet, ensuring that all our food was bought and distributed each week and that we were fairly compensated for its full worth. This has allowed us as farmers, and first year farmers, to have dependable weekly income, allowing for us to focus less on marketing and distribution and more on farming, attending to quality of produce, pest management, building soil health, and long term planning for creating a viable business in the years to come."

Amanda Banta
Rowland's PA Produce

As a small farm working with food dignity has been a huge blessing. working against the big farms is always a battle. Creating a loyal customer base has been our goal and we are always thankful for our community.

Having the ability to sell directly to a nonprofit alleviates a lot of the stress that running a small farm encompasses. Food Dignity has been a resource that we never new was available to small farms. Thank you!

You have created not only a way for low income families to get local fresh produce but also a steady flow of income to us farmers.

Suzanne M. Kapral, MSc. AWB, MSc.OM
The Lands at Hillside Farms

"Registered dietitians from Food Dignity Movement, a local non-profit, play a vital role in educating children about the importance of consuming nutritious foods as they navigate through trauma and growth. These dedicated professionals impart valuable knowledge on how a balanced diet can support physical and mental well being, helping children develop resilience and cope with difficult circumstances. Moreover, children are encouraged to "shop" at a weekly Food Dignity free farmer's market, an on-site arrangement that offers a large variety of local produce."

Leonard Burger III
Burger's Farm

"Food Dignity has helped reduce food waste and income loss by helping move excess produce during times of overproduction. If ourselves and other local farmers didn't have FD as an outlet for this excess produce we would not only lose money but also waste perfectly edible food by having to dispose of it."



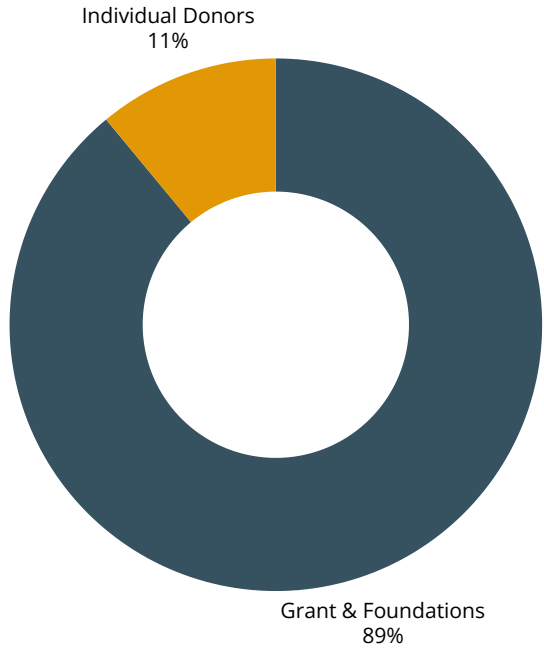
a food equity movement

2023 Financial Contributions

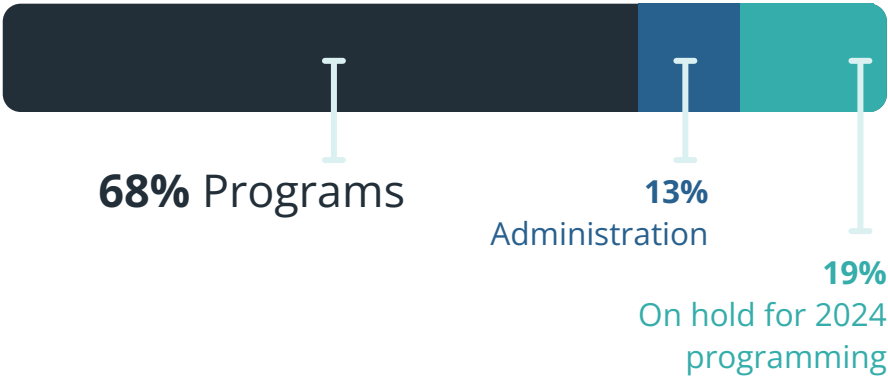
68% of Food Dignity expenses went to programs

19% of funds held for 2024 programming

Donations and Grants: \$443,188



How Were These Funds Used?



Our Sponsors



William G. McGowan
Charitable Fund

WILLARY FOUNDATION

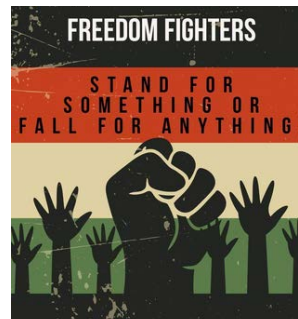
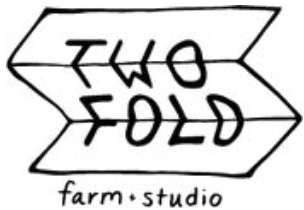


THE OVERLOOK ESTATE FOUNDATION, INC.

Nesbitt Family Charitable
Foundation



Our Partnerships



Our Volunteers



Our volunteers have given countless hours of time towards Food Dignity's mission in 2023. Their support is overwhelming and continuously appreciated.



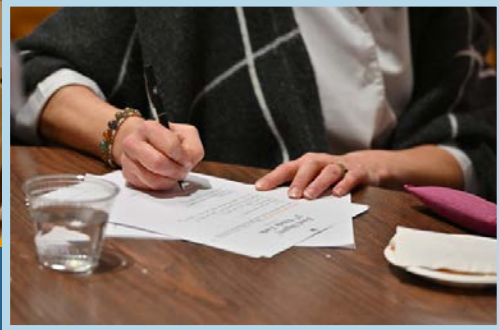
Their commitment to our community is truly inspiring and has a lasting impact. Thank you for continuing to create positive change and a sense of togetherness.

We thank you!



food dignity[®] Annual Think Tank

Food Dignity invites current partners, nonprofit organizations, and community leaders to meet for a day of connection and reflection at our annual Think Tank. During the event we share best practices and areas for improvement, discuss opportunities for further collaboration, and brainstorm new ideas to create a resilient food system that supports local farmers and the needs of our community.



Hillside Farms Care Farming Program

Each summer, Food Dignity collaborates with The Lands at Hillside Farms Children's Grief camp to provide nutrition education and fresh local produce for children to shop and bring home for their families.

Food and nutrition are key to growth, learning, and healing. Further, providing families with food will ideally lessen stress for caregivers.





NEPA's Summer in the City is an annual fundraising event organized by high school students in NEPA. A local non-profit organization is chosen each year to receive the proceeds. We were honored to be selected as the recipient for 2023. This fundraising event allowed Food Dignity to purchase more produce for our community members in Luzerne County.





Pennsylvania CareerLink Day

Food Dignity and PA CareerLink joined forces to host a Take What You Need, Pay What You Can produce stand at the 2023 PA CareerLink Day in Wilkes-Barre, PA. This collaboration allowed attendees to access fresh, local produce among the workforce services, job opportunities, and other community resources available at the event. Our produce stand provided job seekers with local produce at a price that matched their budget due to our anonymous donation-based setup. All donations were used to purchase more PA produce for our community. Thank you to King's Students and Shoal Center staff for volunteering!

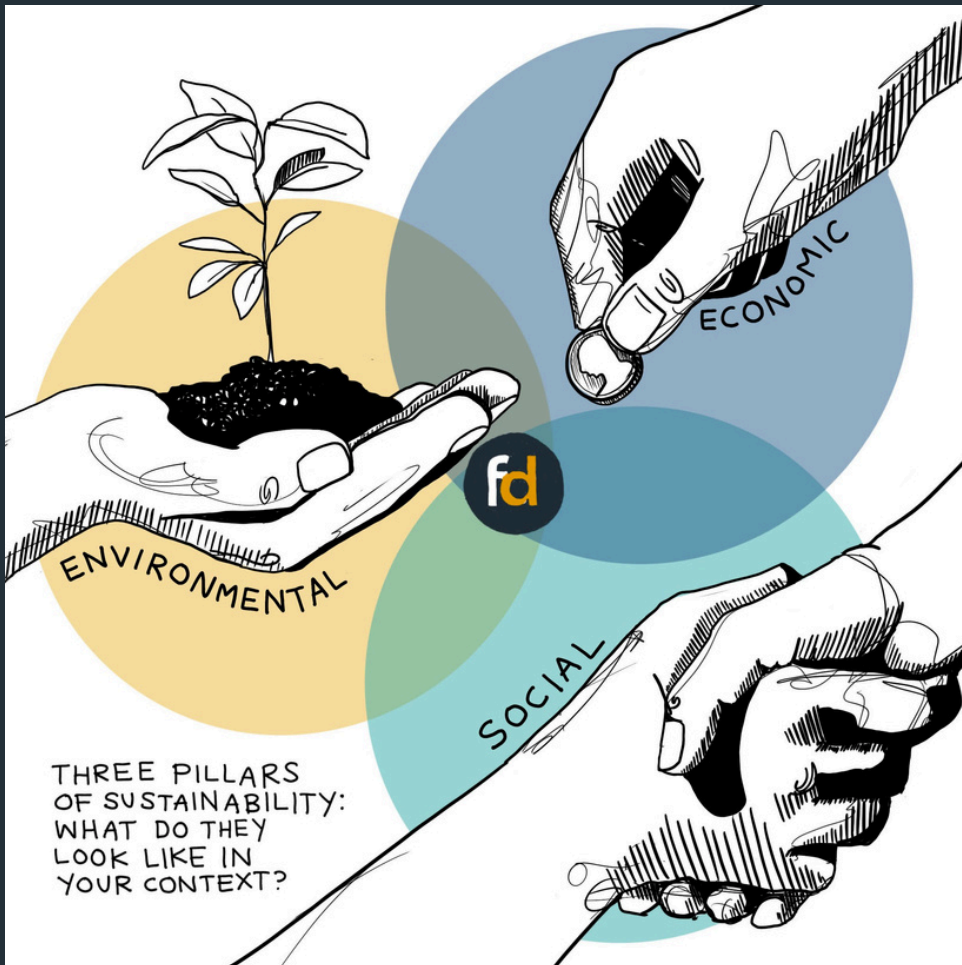




Food Dignity is grateful for the 2023 fundraising opportunities that brought our community together. Thank you, NEPA Racing!



As we move into 2024...



[@veggiedoodlesoup](https://www.instagram.com/veggiedoodlesoup)

Lets reflect and strive for growth!

Here We Come, 2024!

2023 was a successful year, but the best is yet to come. Follow along on our journey to create food equity while supporting small Pennsylvania farms.



2023 ARPA Funding PA Ag Investment Outcomes

- ◆ A 5th generation family farm, reported that 2023 was the first year their farm operated year-round, thanks to our purchases of their storage crops during the winter months.
- ◆ First-generation farmers, planted nut and fruit trees, focusing on long-term sustainability.
- ◆ A female farmer, facing closure after a decade, successfully rebranded and continued operations, retaining all of their employees.
- ◆ Our community partners reported increased participation in their services on days when food was available at their location.
- ◆ Our purchases prevented **over 30,000 lbs** of local fruits and vegetables from food loss.



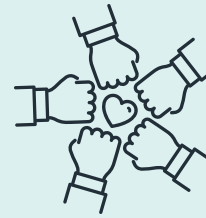
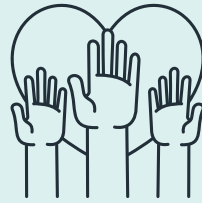
Learn More

Follow us on [social media](#):



Subscribe to the Food Dignity podcast hosted by our founder, Clancy Harrison.





JOIN THE MOVEMENT

Let's work together to make 2024 our best year yet.
Here are some opportunities to support the movement:

Donate



Sponsor



Volunteer



Collaborate



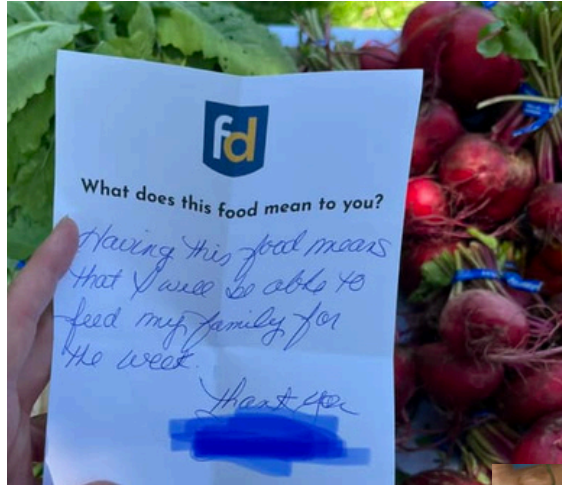
THANK YOU!

What does this food mean to you?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH

Helping US have dinners this week!

the ability to continue healing
to be having healthy food



GOD BLESS YOU ALL + THANK YOU

I appreciate the help and healthy food always helps keep you healthy.
Thanks again

Having this food means that I will be able to feed my family for the week.

By making fruits and vegetables available to me helps me be more aware and gives me healthy options: I need to add fruits and vegetables to my diet.

feel healthier

Alot

I love the good food and fresh produce

Feel better with the healthy food

Notes
Thank You!
These two words don't describe how thankful I really am. I am not a proud man, humble at best. I always have paid it forward and given God the glory, in the good and the bad. After not working for several years and scraping by, I came across your event for help. I passed many times, too ashamed to stop and accept help. I am a father of four boys and husband to the most supportive, loving, christian wife a man could ever have! I pulled up my pants and swallowed my shame and got in line one day, keeping my head down and shutting through quietly. Yet! The return home to a family that was able to come home and find food in the fry and a fresh home cooked meal, I measurable! Love! With tears+Joy, Thank you
GOD BLESS!!

What does this food mean to you?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR DOING THIS IT GIVES ME A CHANCE TO GET VEGETABLES AND ALSO A CHANCE FOR ME TO MAKE A DONATION SO YOU CAN KEEP ON DOING FOR HELPING OTHERS

Access to fresh fruits & veggies has increased the frequency my family consumes them.

Thank You!