



**SMALL
PLACES**
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@fincatresrobles
@smallplacesmatter

2023 annual report



Finca Tres Robles
257 N. Greenwood St.
Houston, TX 77011



Foreword

TOGETHER, WE ARE A SMALL PART OF OFFERING A DIFFERENT EXAMPLE OF WHAT A NEIGHBORHOOD CAN ENVISION FOR ITSELF AND EACH OTHER.



Mission

To nurture a culture of health in our communities to renew the bond between people, place and food. We develop farms as essential health infrastructure to upend systemic inequalities at the neighborhood level. We invest in small solutions as the pathway to realizing larger structural change.

Vision

Neighborhoods where farms are part of the fabric of the community's daily life and where everyone regardless of age, income, race, or circumstance has the tools to be healthy.

Board Members

Drew Patton, Retired PDR
(Chair)

Christi Vasquez-Martin, Meow Wolf
(Vice Chair)

Dana Shamas, Expansive Living
(Secretary)

Mark Garcia-Prats, Greystar

Breah Koosono-Ampem,
Frost Bank

Alan Sheppard, Gulf Star Group

Rozina Damani, Chevron

Dear Friends and Supporters,

As we reflect on the past year, I am filled with immense gratitude and pride for the progress we have made at Small Places. Our mission to nurture a culture of health in our communities and renew the bond between people, place, and food has guided us through a year of remarkable growth and impact.

2023 has been a pivotal year for Small Places. Thanks to the unwavering support of our community, we have not only continued to provide fresh, organic produce to the East End but also embarked on a significant journey towards expanding our reach and enhancing our services. Our successful "First of Many" Capital Campaign has brought us to 90% of our campaign goal, allowing us to break ground on the construction of our new farm location in July 2024. I am looking forward to being on our farm, grocery store, teaching kitchen sponsored by H-E-B, post-harvest station, and covered pavilion instead of just imagining it.

Rebuilding the farm hasn't been without its challenges and barriers and we've continued to learn how hard it is to make a project like this happen in our city. It's a huge credit to this community and all our partners who have helped us navigate these new endeavors with patience and persistence. I am continually inspired by the dedication of our board members, staff, volunteers, and supporters. Your belief in our mission and your generous contributions have been instrumental in driving our success. As we look forward to breaking ground on our new farm, I invite you to continue this journey with us. Together, we are a small part of offering a different example of what a neighborhood can envision for itself and each other. To think our new farm, situated at 5715 Canal Street, will be feeding our East End community for decades to come continues to motivate me.

I am excited about creating a farm that welcomes all community members—a place where everyone can come together to learn, grow, and enjoy the benefits of fresh, healthy food. This inclusive space will be a testament to our shared vision of a healthier, more equitable future.

Thank you for your unwavering support and commitment. We look forward to inviting you out to the farm soon.

With heartfelt gratitude,



Bringing Community Together Again

This year we held a variety of events on the farm including a potluck and open mic night.

Salsa De Mayo

We kicked off our inaugural Salsa De Mayo Festival, marking the end of tomato season in Houston with flair! Attendees savored a variety of mouth-watering salsa entries, participated in a neighborhood bike ride, and we experienced an incredible turnout from the community. Don't miss out on the fun next year!

2023 Recap

Launching the Perennials

We're thrilled to unveil our new monthly giving program, "The Perennials." This initiative is designed to empower our community members to contribute to our financial stability, fostering a resilient and purposeful community centered around the farm for the coming 40 years.

Current Perennials include:

Mack Armstrong
Anthony D Banks
Jasmine Bradley
Lauren Croucher
Sarah Crulich
Emily Dickerson
Cara Gabris
James Garcia-Prats
Joseph and Cathy Garcia-Prats
Cassie Hoeprich
Haley John
Geneva Marquina
Christi Vasquez-Martin
Michael Martin
Greg and Sarah Mast
Lynn Morstead
Melissa Noriega
Annie Sharman
John Weaver
Margaret Wood



Listening Sessions

In 2023, we conducted three listening sessions. These sessions are vital to our work, providing a platform for current program participants and community members to offer feedback and identify gaps in our existing programs.

Feeding America Visits Finca

As part of the @FeedingAmerica Food Security Equity Impact fund. We held a farm tour for the other Feeding America Grantees. We toured the old farm site as well as the location of the soon to be new Finca Tres Robles. We are grateful to be included in this national initiative for community-based Food-equity.





Programs & Impact

Neighborhood Food Distributions

Neighborhood Produce Program, Pre-K Produce Program, and other community distributions



1,794

Boxes Distributed



25,077

Pounds of Food



219

Households

2023 marks our 4th year of running the Neighborhood Produce Program. During our transition to our new farm we are proud to have been able to continue this program delivering fresh produce directly to food insecure households in the East End.



53%

16 of our 30 NPP households self reported improved health outcomes as a result of participating in the program



86%

26 of the 30 households reported they are more confident cooking with fresh produce since joining the NPP

Common Market Partnership



Our Partnership with Common Market has been ongoing for four years. During our transition to the new farm, Common Market has enabled us to sustain our free food distribution through the Neighborhood Produce Program.

Pre-K Produce Program



Our Partnership with Ninfa Lorenzo Early Childhood Center started in 2017, then took a hiatus due to the pandemic. We are delighted to announce the resumption of our produce box deliveries to Ninfa Lorenzo Preschool, starting February 2023.



"The First of Many" Capital Campaign Update

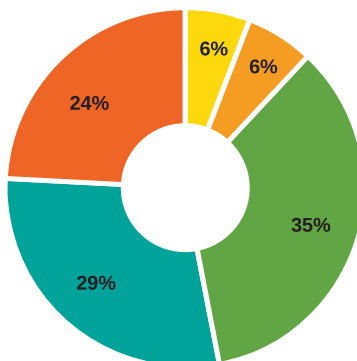
Move to new site

On September 1st 2022, we officially began our 40 year land agreement with Harris County. Our new 1.5 acre piece of land located at 5715 Canal street, only one block from the old farm, is the new home for our urban farm, Finca Tres Robles. Land security remains one the biggest barriers to urban farming in Houston and as we enter into a 40 year lease on this new piece of land, we recognize the magnitude of this opportunity. This achievement is a reflection of the impact the farm has had since its founding as well as the community's support for the integral and worthy part it plays in the East End Community.

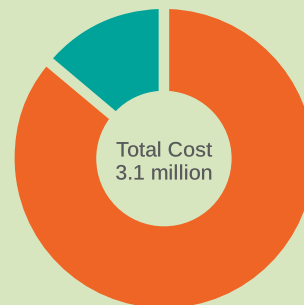
We are profoundly grateful for the overwhelming support we have received for our Capital Campaign to build our new farm. Your generosity has brought us to the brink of achieving our goal, and we are truly blown away by your commitment and belief in our mission. Together, we are reshaping the food system of our East End neighborhood.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN BREAKDOWN

- Government
- Foundations
- Corporations
- Individuals
- In-Kind



Call for Support



\$2.7 million Raised
\$400,000 Needed

Due to inflation, cost of project has increased by 400k

NAMING OPPORTUNITIES

- Pavilion | \$200,000
- Farm Store | \$175,000
- Post Harvest Station | \$50,000
- Arbor and Picnic Area | \$40,000
- Rescued Oak Tree Bench Sponsorship | 10 @ \$10,000 each (1 Sold)
- Sponsor a Fruit Tree | 40 @ \$1,000 each (15 Sold)

**these amounts are open to change based on determined period of naming rights*

The New Finca



July 2024
Construction Begins

December 2024
Grand Opening

October 2024
Hiring Farming and Farm Store Staff

January 2025
Onsite Programs Launch

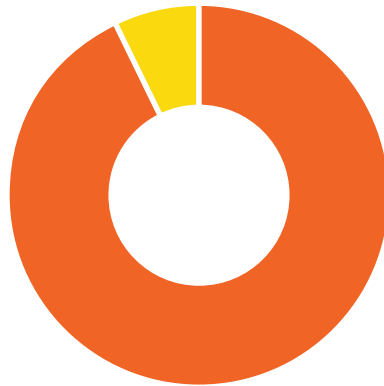
The infrastructure at the new Finca Tres Robles will include

- ▶ Farm Grocery Store
- ▶ H-E-B Education Center
- ▶ Post Harvest Station
- ▶ Covered Pavilion
- ▶ Greenhouse
- ▶ ¾ Acre of Farm Fields
- ▶ Storage

Financials

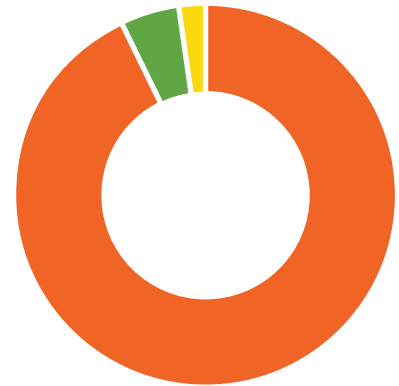
2023 EXPENSES BREAKDOWN

- Transitioning the Farm
- Food Distribution



2023 INCOME BREAKDOWN

- Grants
- Donations
- Program Income



2023 Expenses

Transitioning The Farm	93%	\$302,901
Food Distribution	7%	\$24,093
Total	100%	\$326,994

2023 Revenue

Grants	93%	\$920,019
Donations	5%	\$51,754
Program Income	2%	\$12,478
Total	100%	\$984,253

Thank you to our donors

Aaron Drusic

American Heart Association

Angelica Garza

Charity Guild of Catholic Women

Charles and Faye Popeney

Charles Sommer

Chick-fil-A/Houston Astros Corporation

Complete Communities/Humana

The Cullen Foundation

Dan Cohoon

David Woodard

Drew Patton

Dynamo Dash Charities

Good Earth Foundation

H-E-B

Heimbinder Family Foundation

Helmuth Goepfert

Albert and Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation

Houston Food Bank

Hugh M McIntosh

Humphrey Company, LTD

James P Hennessy

John S Dunn Foundation

Josh Beker

Keating Family Foundation

Lynn Aven

Patricia Calvo

Paul Smith

Charlotte B. Proehl Foundation

Sandra Tirey

Sara McIntosh

Susan Vaughn Foundation

Taylor and Krissi Reid

TCP Group

Teri Ogg

Texas Methodist Foundation

Vitol, Inc

William Stamps Farish Fund

Get Involved

OUR PERENNIAL COMMUNITY

When you join our monthly giving program, you do more than provide food-insecure families with access to high-quality produce. You become a vital part of a community dedicated to shaping the future of food and agriculture in Houston. Your support ensures that every household has the opportunity to enjoy fresh, nutritious food while promoting sustainable agricultural practices that benefit our entire city. Join us today and be a part of a movement that cares deeply about our community and its future.



JOIN A COMMITTEE

Whether it's organizing a Salsa Competition or assisting with fundraising, our committees are crucial to the success of our organization. No matter what your passion or area of interest, we have a variety of opportunities for you to make an impact. Your involvement can help shape the future of our initiatives and bring vital community services to those who need it. Join us today and become a key player in our mission!

If you are interested in joining a committee please reach out to us at info@smallplaces.org



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