



SMALL PLACES

CULTIVATING HEALTHY NEIGHBORHOODS

2025 ANNUAL REPORT

This Was Our Year

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Last year, I wrote to you as construction began on our new home on Canal Street. At that time, the farm still lived in the collective imagination of everyone who believed in what Small Places could become. Today, I write to you after our first full year rooted in this place.

From the beginning, Small Places has taken a hyper-local approach, believing that the most meaningful solutions start with the small. **The East End is not simply where our work happens; it is who our work is for and who it is built with.** Every harvest, every class, every conversation at the farm store reflects the belief that healthy communities are built through relationships, trust, and shared investment in place.

This year helped make the scope of that vision visible. The farm now produces fresh food grown in the neighborhood, for the neighborhood. The store creates a welcoming space where families can access healthy food with dignity and choice. Our food access programs connect neighbors to nutritious food in ways that meet people where they are. Apprentices and volunteers contribute their time and labor to care for the land, while partnerships with local farmers circulate resources throughout our regional food system.

Each of these efforts may seem small on its own. Together, they represent something much larger: a model for what it looks like to treat farms as essential health infrastructure at the neighborhood level.

At its core, this is generational work. The soil we are building today, the partnerships we are strengthening, and the systems we are reshaping are all part of a longer effort to ensure that neighborhoods have the tools they need to care for themselves and for one another.

Thank you for helping us take the first full year of steps toward that future. Your support, trust, and partnership make this work possible. We are grateful to be building it together.

With gratitude,
Tommy Garcia-Prats



OUR MISSION

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.

OUR VISION

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



GRAND OPENING
APRIL 5, 2025



APPRENTICES' FIRST HARVEST
APRIL 18, 2025



SALSA DE MAYO
MAY 10, 2025



FIRST FOOD PRESCRIPTION FILLED
SEPTEMBER 27, 2025



GREENHOUSE NURSERY BUILT
NOVEMBER 1, 2025



FIRESIDE ON THE FARM
NOVEMBER 6, 2025

Meeting our Community Where they Are

Reshaping Food Access in our Neighborhood

In 2025, we expanded our approach to food access with the launch of several new layers to our Neighborhood Food Access (NFA) Programs. In Houston, your economic circumstance determines whether you can access food through a food bank or high-end grocery store, creating a disjointed and unequal food system. At Small Places, we aim to ensure everyone can access the same high quality food at the same place.

In 2025, percentage of families we served:

96%

Lived within **3 MILES**

73%

Lived within **2 MILES**

60%

Lived within **1 MILES**

65%

Had a household income **BELOW \$16K**

Neighborhood Food Access (NFA) Programs

Our Neighborhood Food Access Programs serve households across the East End, offering multiple points of access and programs to reach more families and community members where they are:



HOME DELIVERY

Families receive bi-weekly box deliveries directly to their homes consisting of fresh produce, eggs, meat, and pantry staples sourced from our farm and local partners.



IN-STORE ACCESS

Enrolled households receive a reloadable monthly card to shop directly at our Farm Store.



FOOD PRESCRIPTION PROGRAM

Through partnerships with local clinics El Centro de Corazon and Christus St. Mary's Clinic, we connect neighbors managing chronic diet-related conditions with consistent access to fresh food through a card to shop in store, alongside nutrition education and coordination with healthcare providers.



NEIGHBORHOOD FOOD ACCESS & FOOD PRESCRIPTION PROGRAM

39,345 lbs Distributed

374 Households

served through our various Food Access Programs



“Finca has helped feed so many of our patients who need healthy fresh organic foods. It has brought smiles to those who need food on their tables. I can say more, but that is why I love Finca Tres Robles.”

— Veronica Ruiz, MSW (El Centro de Corazon)



El Centro de Corazón
Quality Health Care



FRESH FOOD FOR ALL - TIERED PRICING MODEL

We have taken a proactive approach to ensure no families fall through the cracks. Beyond accepting SNAP and participating in the Double Up Food Program to extend those benefits, we offer a Tiered Pricing Model where shoppers select the price point that aligns with their household circumstances.

Tiered Pricing Discounts

32% of Shoppers

Leveraged a Tiered Pricing Discount,
or about 1 in 3

\$12,290.19

provided last year in **directly subsidized discounts** to families shopping in our store.



Developing a Model for Lasting Change

Impacting Neighborhood Families

Our model ensures that food grown here stays close to home, reaching neighbors in the zip codes that surround the farm: 77011, 77012, 77023, and 77003. Through consistent support and strategies aimed to overcome barriers, we cultivate long-term relationships rooted in trust, nourishment, and a shared commitment to community health.

We're excited to be partnering with Dr. Shreela Sharma and the team at UT Public Health to research the impact of our food prescription program with St. Mary's Clinic.

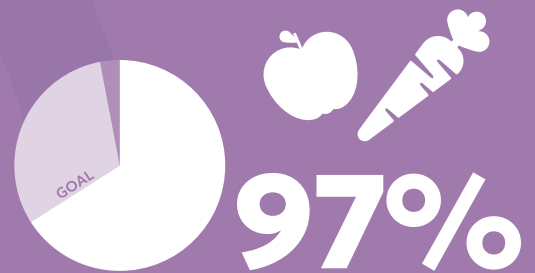


"My family and I love Finca Tres Robles because in our time of need we found this place. Our kids didn't know it but we were worried how we were going to make it for food that week. They helped us make it till we were back on our feet. They have helped plenty more in similar situations. So we are very thankful to them."

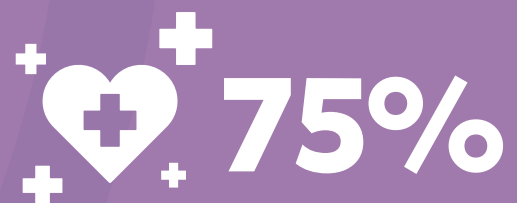
— Program Participant

2025 NEIGHBORHOOD FOOD ACCESS SURVEY RESULTS:

Participant feedback demonstrates strong program impact. In our most recent end-of-year survey (*December 2025*)



97% of participants reported **eating more fruits and vegetables** during weeks they received food support, exceeding our initial goal of 66%.



75% reported **positive health impacts** and



80% reported **positive economic impacts** since joining the program

Cultivating the Agriculture Ecosystem

Investing in Young Farmers and the Food System

We have developed our farm model as a generational, strategic investment in our neighborhood, our farm community, and the broader food system. We have intentionally designed our programs and operations to serve a greater purpose in the movement towards health, food equity, and a sustainable food system that supports everyone along the way.

INVESTING IN THE HOUSTON FOOD SYSTEM TOGETHER

Each year, we intentionally purchase food from local farmers, keeping resources circulating within our regional food economy with 100% of all food coming from Texas farms and food producers. These investments directly support our Food Access Programs and Storefront, ensuring all of our neighbors receive fresh food while sustaining the growers who make that access possible.

WE PURCHASED

\$112,604.11

WORTH OF FOOD

for our Store and Neighborhood Food Access program from our farm partners:



FARM to TABLE



“Getting to learn how to farm in the same neighborhood where I live makes this feel bigger than a job. I’m learning how to take care of my own community.”

Rocio Puente - Farm Apprentice

FARM APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM

Our Apprenticeship Program invests in the next generation of farmers and food leaders, equipping them to carry this work beyond our fields with the hands-on experience to launch and manage their own farms. In 2025 we brought on three full time apprentices who are from or live in the East End: Rocio Puente, Mariah Zepeda, Leo Merino

In our first 9 months of cultivating about $\frac{3}{4}$ acres, we grew and harvested over 4,000 lbs of produce.



PLANT IT FORWARD

We provide additional farmer training to Plant it Forward Farm apprentices, who spend 20 hours a week learning with our team. This partnership strengthens our local farming ecosystem, builds lasting relationships, and preserves community wisdom.

Community Engagement

Creating a Place to Connect

The farm is designed to be more than a place to grow food. By opening our space to partners, neighbors, and community groups, we create opportunities for connection, learning, and shared ownership of this place.



VOLUNTEERS

This year, volunteers showed up in steady, generous ways—planting, building, harvesting, sweeping, celebrating. Their time is an investment in shared ground and shared futures. The farm carries their fingerprints.

912
VOLUNTEER
HOURS

**EQUIVALENT
\$ INVESTMENT**
(\$34.79/hour) =

\$28,249



PROGRAMMING, CLASSES, & EVENTS

Our classes and events reflect the interests, cultures, and needs of the community we serve. These gatherings invite neighbors onto the land not just as visitors, but as participants in the life of the farm.

73 COMMUNITY EVENTS HOSTED

including cooking classes, and workshops

17 **1,600**
PARTNERS ATTENDEES



AARP PARTNERSHIP

Our AARP partnership classes and workshops focused on celebrating our community's Hispanic culture traditions, and it was a very enriching experience for all who attended.



How We Sustain the Work

2025 Financial Summary

Our year closed the way it unfolded: through collective effort. With construction completed and our capital campaign fully paid off, we transitioned from building the farm to sustaining it, thanks to the continued support of everyone who believes in this work and helps carry it forward.

Every dollar tells a story about what we choose to prioritize.

WHAT WAS INVESTED



THE ORGANIZATION

\$335,212.09



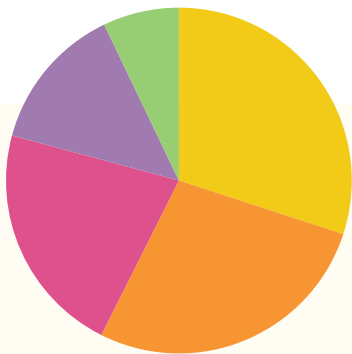
THE FARM

\$1,072,276.80



THE COMMUNITY

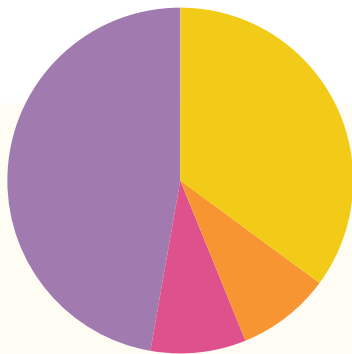
\$476,898.91



2025 Income Breakdown

• Individual Contributions	\$512,882.40	30.01%
• Government Grants	\$468,156.84	27.39%
• Foundation Contributions	\$372,207.30	21.78%
• Corporate Contributions	\$234,173.50	13.70%
• Program & Event Income	\$121,538.50	7.11%

Total Income \$1,708,958.54



2025 Expenses Breakdown

• Program Expenses	\$659,431.18	34.99%
• Management & General Expenses	\$165,939.68	8.81%
• Fundraising Expenses	\$169,272.41	8.98%
• Capital Expenses	\$889,744.53	47.22%

Total Expenses \$1,884,387.80

Who Made This Possible

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Adaeze Ugwu	Cindy Meredith	Hiidoon Muili	Kris Larson	Michael Marchand	Shaw Adcock
Alex Ramirez	Claudia Pruitt	Honey Drizzle	Laura Donnelly	Michael Powell	Sonja Earthman Novo
Alexandrea Hickson	Dana Shamas	Iris Ann Schmidt	Laura Quinn	Misti Pace-krahl	Stephanie Toppin
Alexia Kazilas	Danielle Corrick	Isaac Stein	Laura Reyes	Morgan Dearing	Susan Brochstein
Amanda Ahr	Danita Gallegos	Isabel Wilson	Lawrence Lander	Noah Fons	Susan Graham
Amy Lawson	Darla Berry	Drew Patton	Leah Chambers	Pamela Bregenzer	Susana Salgado
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Brant Croucher	Elisabeth Stone	Jessica Hulsey	Madison Narges	Richard Sepulveda	Thomas & Anne Olson
Brenda Croucher	Elizabeth Howley	Joanna Botvin	Malisa Oyeniyi	Robyn Rothman	Timothy Beeson
Brian Tully	Elizabeth Newton Hayes	Mary and John Craddock, Jr	Marcely Macias	Russell Etherton	Tommy Garcia-Prats
Brian Broussard	Ernesto Becerra	Jordan Wolff	Marcia Jackson	Sally Bates	Travis Wolf
Brooke Colarelli	Fahad Punjwani	Joshua Beker & Annette Frenk	Margo Fendrich	Samera Owahadian	Trudi Smith
Patricia & Jorge Calvo	Frida Villalobos	Juan Sebastian Romero Torres	Marial Biard	Sandra Tirey & Jan van Lohuizen	Vanessa Moran
Camden Kirkland	Gabriella Flournoy	Judith McMahon	Martha Lawler	Sandra Perez	Veronica Torres-Martinez
Carlos Gonzalez	Gregory Cain	Justin Sandy	Martha Zimmerman	Sara McIntosh	Vincent Rodriguez
Carmelia Rameau	Grisel Acevedo	Justin Jerkins	Mary Ann Cobb	Sarah Bates	Veronica Zavala
Carmen Flores	Hector Torres	Kara Marshall	Mary Clark Granberry	Sarah Fanelli	Walter Rzecznik
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Chris McCarthy	Joann & Helmuth Goepfert	Kimball & David Moriniere	Mary Jane Wakefield	Sarah Stauder	
Chrissie Dickerson Ramirez			Melanie Rodriguez	Shamice Thurston	
Chuck Jackson			Melissa Zamora-Marentez	Shashi Menon	

PERENNIALS In 2025, our Perennials grew from 44 to 70 members

Alejandro Pozo & Hadill Calderon	Cecilia De Lankford	Elvia Jablinski	Kim Huynh	Matthew & Mary Garcia-Prats	Rachel & Nick Lockhart Folkerts
Amanda Trevino	Christine Stewart	Geneva Marquina	Lauren Croucher	Megan Henson	Rebekah & Hao Le
Amber Mollhagen	Claudine Skucius	Hadley McIntosh	Linda S Abbott	Christi & Michael Vasquez-martin	Rita & David Garcia-Prats
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Brooklynn Sanders	Douglas Hellmann	Janna & Jack Koppert	Maria Campos	Olga Rodriguez	Tamra Pierce
Carolina Hernandez	Duane Bradley	Jennifer Stewart	Margaret Wood	Oscar Becerra	Theresa Price
Carolyn Keating	Emily Dickerson	Julia McGowen	Marianellys Noble	Patricia & Ivan Garcia	Timothy & Catherine Garcia-Prats
Cassie Hoeplich	Erika Hornsey & Brendan Ford	John Weaver	Marisol Mendez	Patricia Cabrera	Veronica Abu-lail
Catherine & Dr. Joseph Garcia-Prats	Emily Olin	Katherine Dominguez	Martha Cipolla	Priscilla Picasso	

CORPORATE & FOUNDATION PARTNERS

100+ Women Who Care, Cy-Fair	CenterPoint Energy Foundation	El Centro De Corazón	Hispanic Heritage Foundation	Rawley Foundation	The Permanent Endowment Fund of Moody Methodist Church
Agmenity	Charity Guild Of Catholic Women	Frost Bank	Houston Arts Alliance	River Oaks Garden Club	The Reid Family Fund
Albert & Ethel Herzstein Charitable Foundation	Cochinita & Co.	Glenn/Lamb Charitable Fund	Houston Methodist	San Jacinto Environmental Supplies	University of Houston - College of Medicine
American Association of Retired Persons - AARP	Concept Neighborhood	Greystar	Keating Family Foundation	Simon Bolivar Foundation	Valero Energy Corporation
Barbacana	Congregation of the Sisters of Charity of the Incarnate Word, Houston, Texas	H-E-B	Key Capture Energy	Stephen And June Barth Charitable Giving Fund	Villas Arcos Restaurant
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas	Dynamo and Dash Charities, Inc.	Harris County Office of Sustainability	Ladies of Libation	TDECU Cares Foundation	William Stamps Parish Fund
		Healthy Food Financing Initiative - HFFI	Lovett Commercial		
		Higginbotham Community Fund	Padron & Co.		
			Port Houston Precinct 2gether		

Thank you to all the donors who wished to remain anonymous.
Your support is greatly appreciated.

GET INVOLVED



JOIN THE PERENNIALS:

Join our growing community of recurring donors who believe in long-term change rooted in local food, health, and community.



VOLUNTEER WITH US:

Lend a hand at a farm volunteer day or share your talents on one of our community committees.



COME VISIT THE FARM:

Stop by for a tour, shop at our farm store, or join us for one of our on-site classes and events.

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



BOARD MEMBERS

David Cisneros

Dana Shamas

Melanie Rodriguez

Lauren Croucher
Treasurer

Josh Beker
Secretary

Betsy Kruse

Marisol Mendez
Vice Chair

Cassie Hoeprich
Chair

Christi Vasquez-Martin



**FINCA
TRES ROBLES**
A SMALL PLACES FARM

Finca Tres Robles
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SMALLPLACES.ORG

