



ANNUAL REPORT

Please note that this annual report provided does not yet include audited financial statements. The information presented in the report is based on unaudited data and should be used for informational purposes only. When the audited financials are completed, they will be posted.



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DEAR FRIENDS OF THE FARM



As we reflect on yet another remarkable year of advancements, partnerships, and programs, I can't help but to be humbled by the tremendous outpouring of support from the wonderful community we are blessed to serve.

2023 was transformative as the Campus literally came out of the ground. The site took shape as grading provided clarity on the location and placement of the key buildings and growing areas. After a significant amount of pumping and hauling, our dutifully dubbed "Muck Mountain" finally dried up and disappeared!

Despite construction challenges, completion of the 1-acre Greenhouse awaits only the final installation of electricity from our partners at OUC. Once activated, the advanced technology of the 9 unique growing systems in the Greenhouse will stand as a first-of-a-kind in the controlled environment agriculture space. Fueled by the biomass from 400 tilapia, the Greenhouse is equipped to produce over 40,000 lbs. of produce a week! The produce will be enjoyed by guests visiting the Farm, restaurant partners, families in need, and...manatees! Yep, our friends at SeaWorld have come by our side to make sure their manatees are some of the very first to enjoy romaine lettuce from our Greenhouse...and a lot of it!

Just behind the Greenhouse will be the long-awaited opening of the Education Building. Its unique regenerative design marks it as the only building meeting the Living Building Challenge in the state of FL, and only the second in the Southeast. Our design partners at Little Architecture have much to be proud of already receiving multiple design awards including the FL Educational Planners Assoc Award of Merit, the American Society of Landscape Architects FL Award of Excellence, and the AIA Charlotte Design Award.

2023 brought about the finalization of an agreement with Valencia College which allows students enrolled in their Agriculture and Plant Science classes to work alongside Head Farmer Josh Taylor in bringing the growing systems to life. Among many others, students from OCPS and programs with Orlando Science Center will benefit from the Classrooms this Spring as well.

Another major milestone in 2023 was AdventHealth and Gordon Food Service joining Florida Blue to round out the final partnership for the launch of the Culinary Health Institute (CHI). Joining Dr. Monica Aggarwal, our Chief Medical Officer, the CHI partnership is already hard at work designing the CHI building, planning education classes, research programs, and clinical intervention on the use of food as medicine that will undoubtedly create breakthroughs that will change community health.

Under the leadership of Tommy Ward, Executive Director of 4Roots, programs continued to thrive and expand in both reach and diversity. The Mayors Match Program from the City of Orlando funds after school workshops focused on soil, plant, and nutrition health. Grants from Orlando Health and Orlando City Soccer funded the creation of our program “Rooted In Health” supporting participants at the Salvation Army Catherine Booth Towers in promoting health and wellness. A grant from the USDA enabled us to build and activate the Permaculture Forest, fondly titled the Never-Ending Forage. And Fresh, our farm to home CSA delivery program grew to an astounding 1,100+ household members throughout Central Florida making it one of, if not the largest CSA program in the Southeast.

2024 awaits several exciting new initiatives, including a collaboration with Dr. Phillips Performing Art Center and the Orlando Science Center to host youth summer camps and community-based performances on the Williams Stage. In partnership with Orlando

Health, the sponsorship of an interdisciplinary design program with the UCF School of Engineering will bring to market an aerobic biodigester that transforms food waste into solid organic fertilizer.

Looking ahead in construction, we anticipate the opening of the Barn, the Permaculture Forrest, the William’s Family Stage, and Community Green in 2024. All the while, we are working toward final drawings, funding, and permitting for the Event Center, Restaurant and Café in anticipation of a 2025 opening.

We are extremely grateful and excited to introduce Chef Michael Collantes as the Culinary Director for the Farm. A recipient of one of the first Michelin Stars in Florida, Chef Michael will orchestrate the farm to table culinary efforts for the entire campus. Additionally, we are excited to share our plans to launch Cooking on the Farm led by the highly decorated and good friend, Chef Norman Van Aken. Along with Chef Michael and guest chefs from around the world, the cooking class series promises to introduce participants to new and exciting cooking techniques from some of the best chefs in the world.

In closing and as always, I cannot express enough gratitude for the tremendous outpouring of support, encouragement, and prayers for our 4Roots Farm project. To think that what started as a dream in 2015 sits only weeks away from planting its first seed humbles me and once again gives me reason to thank God for the amazingly talented team, friends, and community He’s surrounded all of us with.

Blessings to you and again, thank you.
See you on the Farm!



John Rivers
CEO & Founder, 4Roots



2023 brought forth the launch of Fresh by 4Roots which has since reached 1,100+ members. Fresh is a program housed at 4Roots that offers subscription produce box deliveries of fresh organic items grown by our local farmers.

Now shipping all across Central Florida, community members have easier access to local, seasonal, non-GMO produce that has a guarantee of being grown using a variety of clean growing practices. Fresh is also a proud source of responsibly produced meats, dairy

products, eggs, and other pantry essentials.

Fresh has the interest of community health and the prosperity of Florida Farmers as a top priority. Fresh by 4Roots offers the additional advantage of helping to cultivate a more personal connection between local farmers and consumers. With this program, we can support our farmers by increasing sales channels, ultimately alleviating food waste. Fresh produce is SNAP eligible and will be available at our Farmers Markets.





2023 MOBILE MARKET ROLL OUT

The Mobile Market is an exciting initiative set to hit the Orlando roads in 2024. We've transformed a van into a mobile farmers market, equipped with custom technology to maintain the freshness of our produce while on the move. This Mobile Market will have the ability to bring organic local produce to areas that may lack accessibility to such options.



Another remarkable feature of Mobile Market is that it is officially a part of the **Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)**, allowing the acceptance of SNAP benefits in exchange for produce. This not only expands our potential reach but also aids our commitment to making healthier food choices accessible to all members of our community.



Dr. Monica Aggarwal
Medical Director of 4Roots Farm



Educating EATS

CULINARY SERIES

The Educating Eats Culinary Series is a series of cooking classes taught by Dr. Monica, head of the Culinary Health Institute. Dr. Monica will continue conducting engaging cooking classes at the Center for Health and Well-Being as well as on campus. These classes will focus on health and nutrition through hands-on culinary experiences. Participants will continue to learn practical cooking methods that prioritize well-being at home.





4ROOTS BOARDS

GOVERNING BOARD

John Rivers, Board President
4Roots and 4R Restaurant Group

Mayor Buddy Dyer, Honorary Board Member
City of Orlando

FJ Flynn, City of Orlando

Robert Gordon, FreshPoint

Sandy Hostetter, LIFT Orlando

Tony Jenkins, Florida Blue

Mark Jones, Orlando Health Foundation

Greg McNeill, Lowndes

Kay Rawlins, Orlando City Foundation

Kenneth Robinson, Dr. Phillips Charities

Tim Seneff, National Christian Foundation

Tom Sittema, Conversus, a StepStone Company

Demetrius Summerville, LIFT Orlando

Tony Massey+, Massey Services

IN MEMORY OF

Harvey Massey, Massey Services

ADVISORY BOARD

Doug Doudney

Amy Duda-Kinder, Duda Farms

Nathan & Stacey Ecelbarger,
The Parable Foundation

Rick Fletcher, Environmental Services

Jose Gonzalez, Walt Disney Parks and Resorts

Dr. Joel Hunter, Action Church

Jim Lewis, 4R Signature Products

Ben McLean III, Uncle Matt's Organic,
McLean Family Farms

Doug McMahon, Tavistock Group,
NEXUS Luxury Collection

Eddy Moratin, LIFT Orlando

David Morillo+, Full Sail University

Joann Newman, Orlando Science Center

Casey Silver+, AdventHealth

Paul Sohl, Florida High Tech Corridor Council

New Members+

DONOR LIST

DONORS BY GIVING LEVEL FROM 10/01/2022 TO 09/30/2023

\$100,000+

Dr. Phillips Charities
Gordon Food Service
Humana
Mead Family Foundation
Orlando Health
Orlando Utility Commission
Robert and Lyn Shoemaker
U.S. Department of Agriculture

\$25,000 - \$99,999

Ardmore Institute of Health
Ed and Billie Jo Burr
Steve and Wendy Catone
City of Orlando
Disney
Jim and Jennifer Etscorn
John and Monica Rivers
Truist Foundation

\$5,000 - \$24,999

Acahand Foundation
Bailes Family Foundation
Guy and Nancy Bryant
Central Florida Foundation
CI Group
Eric and Michelle Dudley
Florida Blue Foundation
FreshPoint*
GFG Solutions
JASKY Foundation
KPMG
Krista and Jonathan Ledden
Lipman Family Farms
Bob and Robin Miles
Mick and Vickie Night
The Numismatic Financial Corporation
Publix Super Markets Charities
Regions Bank
Tim and Michelle Seneff
Andrew and Isabel Sheeter
Greg and Suzanne Spencer
Liz and Bill Spivey

Andy and Mai Swanson
Michael and Tina Tetrick*
Truist Bank
Velvet & Twine*
Verizon Foundation
Walmart
World Wildlife Fund

\$1,000 to \$4,999

Ryan Adams*
Elisa and Rich Baker
Jennifer and Alex Benedetti*
James (JB) Berry*
Jacquelyn and Adam Bert
Matthew and Virginia Biegler*
Dennis and Alice Blackmon*
Bruce Blackton
James and Darlene Boyle*
Pam and Steve Brandon*
Dean and Marissa Caravelis*
Thomas Cavanaugh
Greg Chapman*
Cheerwine*
City of Orlando/Families, Parks and Recreation
Edward and Rae Clement
Preston and Sally Copenhaver
Jim and Joyce Cunningham
Robert and Bobbie Dellecker*
Dan and Joan DeRango*
John Dietz*
Julie and Doug Doudney
Elizabeth Dvorak
Keith Dvorchik*
Edyth Bush Charitable Foundation
Elliott-Sant'Anna Fund*
Kathryn Ennis*
Enterprise Holdings Foundation
Nicole Euler*
Experience Christian Center*
Carol and Marc Feuerman*
Tom and Debbie Finn
Florida Blue
Stephen and Sue Foreman

Jay Frye*
Sharon Ginsburg*
Good Salt Restaurant Group*
Robert and Madeline Gordon*
Hello! Destination Management
Elizabeth and Jim Hobart*
John and Josie Joyce*
Junior League of Greater Orlando*
Gladys LaBoy*
Jim Lewis
Long and Scott Farms
Yamile and Maxi Luna*
Eric Magendantz*
Katherine and Bill Martin*
Massey Services
Jeff and Jennifer McLeod
Douglas and Molly McMahon*
Gregg and Wendy McNeill*
Monarch Learning Academy*
Eddy and Giselle Moratin
Joseph Morse*
Greg and Denise Musselwhite*
JoAnn Newman
Clay Osburne*
Charlie Pioli*
R.C. Hatton Farms
Ram Realty Advisors*
Roger B. Kennedy Construction*
Rotary Club of Winter Park
Robert Roy*
Suzanne Saltsman*
Suzi Shirley*
Anne Snodgrass*
Julie and Richard Tressler
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Dale and Richard Van Gelder
Wawa Foundation
Whole Foods Market
Wild Goose Farms
Larry and Joyce Williams
Len and Marilyn Williams*
X-Team*
Z88.3 FM Radio*

*Participated in the 4Roots Tree Naming Project

PARTNER TESTIMONIALS

Carmen and 4Roots have been a tremendous partner for Humana and our desire to help our under served communities. Together we have been able to make a magnificent difference in the lives of thousands of people across Central Florida. 4Roots does an amazing job of incorporating recipes for the fresh fruits and vegetables they provide from local farmers.

Humana

Michael Corallo, Orlando and Gulf Coast Market Director

The food pantry program does really fantastic work with our pregnant clients who run into hard times and have a need for nutritional food . An example is one of our pregnant clients, this expectant mother came to us at 20 weeks of pregnancy along with her little child. The mother expressed being a single parent with financial hardship. Both the child and mother were deprived of nutritional food. The client was one of the first clients to participate in the Food Pantry. Each visit this client kept her appointments and also received the food pantry assistance. We were all overwhelmed with the pleasant growth and change in both mother and child with food pantry assistance. This program is a lifeline to the mother and child along with many of our other clients. Thank for the assistance for the nutritional prepack boxes and fresh vegetable received by our much needed pregnant community.

Shobha Shah, APRN, FNP

*Florida Department of Health - Orange
Family Planning and Prenatal Health,*

Thank you for the service that the Food Pantry has given to the clients of Family Planning and Prenatal Health. I also remember this mother and her toddler. I remember one visit when I saw the toddler enjoying the fresh fruits they received. The toddler had a smile that I had not seen prior. Many of our clients are in need of this program. When they leave with their food packages the are really appreciative. Please continue with this positive best practice. This is a true model of how we can start to address the food insecurity that many of our clients face each day.

Joy Bayley, RN

*Registered Nurse Consultant
Florida Department of Health - Orange
Family Planning and Prenatal Health*

As a multi-generational farming family who have operated in Florida for 75 years we were drawn to 4 Roots for a lot of reasons. Their mission has always been to show people where their food comes from while finding the next food systems that will sustain local farmers for the next generations. It will become an educational tool that will connect consumers, students, and future farmers to help us continue to feed and nurture an expanding world population.

Jaime Weisinger

*Director, Community & Government Relations
Lipman Family Farms*

**UNEARTHING THE POWER OF FOOD
TO BUILD HEALTHY COMMUNITIES**



4ROOTSFARM.ORG
(407) 775-6424