

# “AND THEN LIGHTNING STRUCK”



**HORN FARM CENTER**  
2021 ANNUAL REPORT







## Sometimes lightning strikes and changes everything.

### A letter from the President

2021 was a year of vision and hard work at the Horn Farm Center. Our new Executive Director, Alexis Campbell, brought considerable organizational skills to the job, and together we quickly advanced our policies and procedures. We embarked on a new strategic evolutionary plan and charted an ambitious path forward for the organization.

As we engaged in our evolutionary planning process, it became apparent that we needed increased classroom space. We assumed that such an undertaking would span several years, but sometimes lightning strikes and changes everything.

On October 25, lightning struck our farmhouse, gutting it with a devastating fire. In an instant our plans were transformed. We scrambled to keep our organization serving its mission while we also handled insurance claims, demolition, remediation, and rebuild plans. The fire was such a defining moment, we began to speak of the Horn Farm in terms of before and after the fire.

Before the fire, volunteers got their hands dirty in a wonderfully tangible way, helping to heal the land by planting over 10,000 trees. Events such as our Plant Sale and Pawpaw Festival brought folks back together as we learned to safely gather and successfully navigate the limitations of a pandemic. Under Alexis's leadership, we forged new community connections and rekindled old friendships.

After the fire, our staff performed admirably, rising to the difficult occasion. They worked through the winter months out of graciously shared Hellam Township offices and then out of a donated work trailer that they lovingly beautified. All the while, they continued our mission.

In nature, disturbance creates opportunities for change. In this case, the fire forced us to focus on facilities needs immediately. As we plan to rebuild the farmhouse, we are committed to restoring it in a way that respects its history while mindfully designing for our future needs.

The fire focused the community's attention on the Horn Farm Center and reminded us of just how much the Horn Farm means to us. Public support has been strong, and we are grateful for a community that truly cares. As we plan for the future, we look forward to ever increasing participation from folks eager to join us in our efforts to protect our waters and heal our land, and in so doing, contribute to the healing of ourselves as well.

March 16, 2022

**Dave Dietz,**  
Board President

**“IN NATURE,  
DISTURBANCE  
CREATES  
OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR CHANGE.”**





## By the Numbers

# 10,000+

Native Trees Planted

## 47

Participating  
CSA  
Members

## 11

New  
Land  
Stewards  
Trained

## 768 | 186

Educational  
Participants

Acres of Farmland  
and Forest Preserved

## 173 = 1049

Volunteers

Volunteer Hours

Approximately

## 1800

Pawpaw Fest Attendees

## 3

Educational  
Internships

## 102

served

## 180

Community Plots

Families  
including  
those served  
through our  
partnership  
with **Sprout  
of Hope**

# HORN FARM





## Transformations

### Volunteer, to Student, to Employee

When I first visited Horn Farm, I spent a sunny October day digging up sweet potatoes as a volunteer. It was the first of many occasions when working alongside others at the farm enriched my thinking.

By March, I was a student in the Land Steward Training Program. The program was transformative. "I gained a new lens to understand nature and our role in it." While still in the program, I transitioned to staff at the Horn Farm Center, helping at first in the office and eventually in the field.

Having experienced the farm in such varied ways, I learned that the work here is healing. The practices that heal the land and our relationship with it, heal us too. I am grateful to be a participant in the work of this place.

**Anna Echo-Hawk** :: HFC Project Manager

### Theory to Impact

While studying at the College of the Atlantic, I learned theory—which is important—but at the Horn Farm Center, I gained real-world experience, and I observed and participated in restorative stewardship on the land.

Perhaps the most profound thing I learned from my time with the Horn Farm Center is that everyone can make a positive, tangible impact on the environment. It is easy to get lost in the narrative that there is nothing we can do to stop the inevitability of environmental collapse. But seeing the difference between restored and unrestored forests made me realize that it doesn't take an army of people to restore our habitat. It certainly takes considerable knowledge—and a lot of sheer physical labor—but I saw that improvement is truly within reach.

**Tess Wilson** :: 2021  
HFC Summer Intern  
Volunteer



### Student to Steward

In 2021, I convinced my employer to allow me to take off one day per week to participate in the Land Steward Training Program. This intensive 16-week training was one of the most enjoyable endeavors that I have been involved in, and it quickly became the highlight of my week and of my year. The deep personal connections that I made were not just with the land and its inhabitants, but with the other students that took the class with me. We became fast friends, united around our common goal of restoring degraded land on the farm.

I became familiar with not only the trees, flowers, shrubs, and animals of the Horn Farm but with ways to protect and nourish them, to help them flourish. We learned methods to fix the scars created by man and while we did that, at the same time, the earth fixed the scars in us.

The lessons that I learned from the Land Steward Training Program are innumerable, and it stirred up in me a yearning and a desire to have a deep meaningful connection with the earth. Working on the land is where I truly feel alive and vibrant. Where the stresses and little irritations of the world disappear and the peace and joy of doing something with meaning and purpose, nourish my soul to its very core.

**Anthony Damiano** :: Land Steward Training Program  
Student



# Financials

## 2021 Expenses

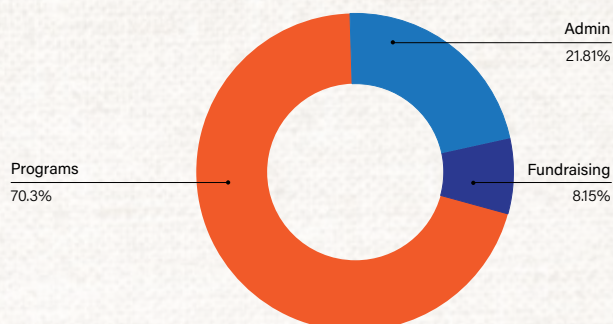
Programs  
 ■ \$252,083

Admin  
 ■ \$78,508

Fundraising  
 ■ \$29,338

Total = \$359,929.00

*Total Fire Related Expenses in 2021:*  
 \$30,109.00



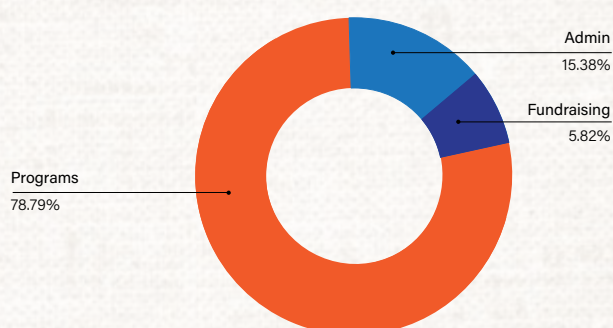
## 2020 Expenses Compared

Programs  
 ■ \$239,453

Admin  
 ■ \$46,743

Fundraising  
 ■ \$17,717

Total = \$303,913



## 2021 Income

Program Fees & Generated Income	\$111,786
Special Events	\$11,314
Endowment	\$88,450
Paycheck Protection Program	\$37,884
Interest Income	\$111
Gifts In-Kind	\$500
<b>Grant Income</b>	
Before the Fire	\$37,000
After the Fire	\$72,409
<b>Contributions</b>	
Before the Fire	\$28,318
After the Fire	\$49,314
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$437,086</b>

\*2021 Income and expenses are preliminary and have not been audited.



# Looking Ahead

Before the fire, we knew we had important work ahead of us. Emerging from two long seasons impacted by COVID, we had already dreamed of a stronger, more capable organization. With more team members, more dynamic programs, and more appropriate facilities to carry out our mission, we envisioned a future where the Horn Farm Center's impact could be felt throughout our bio-region.

**“AFTER THE FIRE, WE KNOW OUR DREAMS CAN BECOME REALITY, AS LONG AS WE STAY CENTERED ON WHAT TRULY MATTERS - OUR RELATIONSHIPS.”**



Ignited by the flames of your support, the Horn Farm Center is moving boldly towards a new vision for the organization. Our goals have been set, and we are determined now more than ever to bring value, innovation, and transformation to the farm and our beloved community.

## **With our new vision, we will:**

- Grow and diversify the Horn Farm Center team
- Improve and expand our facilities, building as sustainable as possible
- Transition production to perennial agroforestry systems inclusive of animals
- Reduce operational costs and become completely carbon neutral by 2028
- Train 150 new land stewards by 2025
- Cultivate a regenerative community of learners and practitioners
- Become a bio-regional destination for transformative experiences, ecological learning, and earth-focused skill-building
- Expand our reach by 25% by 2024, establishing a unique brand, educational content, and communications plan
- Foster an organizational culture rooted in relationships and values
- Create regenerative organizational systems and increase our capacity to support the organization's growth and transformation

Unlike traditional strategic plans, ours will continue to change over time. Throughout the next year, we will share in detail our plans for the evolution of the Horn Farm Center. And we will seek your feedback as our audacious vision continues to develop.

The tragic circumstances of October 25th taught us that we can overcome any obstacle we face. We didn't do it alone. We persevered because of you. And so it goes with our forward momentum. Together we will bring restorative transformation to our local communities and ecosystems for the benefit of generations to come.

**Alexis Campbell** :: Executive Director



# Thank You, Donors

We believe that our power and our resilience lie in our relationships. Since our founding, the Horn Farm Center has survived and thrived because of our community. 2021 was certainly a testament to that. We thank the following organizations, businesses, and individuals for supporting our mission, before and after the fire.



## Before the Fire

7group  
Barton Associates  
County of York  
C. S. Davidson, Inc.  
Department of Conservation and Natural Resources  
Emmanuel United Church of Christ  
Energy Opportunities, Inc.  
Evolution Power Yoga\*  
The Fertrell Company  
FirstEnergy Foundation  
The GIANT Company  
Give Local York  
John Wright Restaurant  
Keep Pennsylvania Beautiful  
Keystone 10 Million Tree Partnership  
Lemon Street Market  
Locally Seasoned\*  
Mid-Atlantic Media Hub  
PennVest  
Powder Mill Foundation  
Richards Energy Group Inc  
Shank's Mare Outfitters\*  
Specialty Tree Service\*  
Stauffers of Kissel Hill  
United Natural Foods Inc.  
UPMC  
WellSpan Health  
The Wenger Group Inc.  
White Rose Leadership Institute  
Wise Printing Company, Inc.  
Wrightsville Hope United Methodist Women  
York County Community Foundation

## After the Fire

Anonymous Fund of York County Community Foundation  
Art Farm Project  
Atlas Rubber Stamp & Printing\*  
Beam Consulting\*  
Beazley USA Services  
BOCO Enterprise LLC  
Brown's Orchard & Farm Market  
County of York  
C. S. Davidson Inc\*  
Capital Electric Supply\*  
Commonwealth Fire Protection  
Double Dog Communications\*  
Emmanuel United Church of Christ  
Energy Opportunities, Inc.\*  
FirstEnergy\*  
Hallam Borough  
Hayman Studio  
Heartwood Nursery  
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Holleran Consulting\*  
Home Depot\*  
J. William Warehime Foundation  
Jeff Rohrbaugh\*  
John Wright Restaurant\*  
Kilgore Family Farm\*  
Kinsley Construction  
Kinsley Education Center  
Kwee-Jack Fish Co.  
LadyBug EarthCare  
Lancaster Conservancy  
Lebanon Seaboard Corporation  
Leg Up Farmers Market  
Leonard Leiphart\*  
Marc Laucks Photography\*

Mid-Atlantic Media Hub Fund of York County Community Foundation  
Miller Plant Farm  
N. P. Wordsmiths\*  
Octoraro Native Plant Nursery  
PennWaste\*  
Phunk Soul Brothaa\*  
Powder Mill Foundation  
Re-Source York\*  
Rich McGowan\*  
Richards Energy Group, Inc.  
Rivertownes PA USA  
Rotary Club of York  
ShipleyEnergy\*  
Stambach & Shindler, Inc.\*  
State Farm Companies Foundation  
Stombach & Schindler\*  
Swenson Family Foundation  
The David Hogg Family Foundation Inc.  
The Hershey Company  
The York Water Company\*  
TIPPETTS/WEAVER architects\*  
Traditions Bank  
Twin Brook Farm\*  
YoCo Strong Restart Grant  
York County Economic Alliance  
York County Community Foundation Agriculture & Land Preservation Fund  
York County Solid Waste & Refuse Authority  
York Electrical Institute\*  
York Monthly Meeting of Religious Society of Friends  
York Rotary Charitable Endowment  
York Young Professionals

*\*In-Kind Contributions*

**Note:** We took every precaution to get this list right, but sometimes, mistakes are made. Please drop us a note if your name is not quite right in our records at [info@hornfarmcenter.org](mailto:info@hornfarmcenter.org)

For a full list of individual contributors visit [hornfarmcenter.org/thank-you/](https://hornfarmcenter.org/thank-you/)



**The Horn Farm Center for  
Agricultural Education**

4945 Horn Road  
York, PA 17406



**Donate on May 6th!**

When you donate during Give Local York, your donations will help us

- Cultivate a regenerative community of learners and practitioners
- Improve and expand our facilities, building as sustainably as possible
- Become a destination for transformative experiences and ecological learning



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