



ANNUAL  
REPORT

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New Orleans  
**Sprout**  
Growing Growers

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2022

# Sprout

## New Orleans

### Who We Are

SPROUT is a nonprofit organization in New Orleans, Louisiana, that works to build a food economy that belongs to the people who live here.

### Mission

We support established and developing small-scale and sustainable farmers, community gardeners, and farm workers in Louisiana with technical and social support to build a stronger, more equipped community of growers in Louisiana and help all New Orleanians be part of a community food system.

### Vision

SPROUT envisions a community food system rooted in equity. We work alongside community members to build lasting relationships and increase access to jobs, food, and land. By acknowledging the policies and practices that have explicitly harmed and prevented people of color from benefiting from the food system, we can collectively act and advocate for new ways of growing, buying, and selling, while restoring our relationships with the land and each other.





# 2022 IMPACT

**\$255,500**  
redistributed to  
**Black & Indigenous**  
farmers in  
reparations

**11**  
farmers  
assisted with  
land leasing or  
ownership

## **Land & Equity**

SPROUT's Land & Equity programming seeks to correct historic racial injustices in land access and ownership by redistributing resources, moving resources to our frontline communities, and pushing for progressive policies that reduce barriers and create new, equitable opportunities.

### **Reparations**

This year, SPROUT began distributing \$500,000 in reparations to Black and Indigenous-led land projects throughout Louisiana. Facilitated by SPROUT, land stewards are shepherding the process of decision making and fund distribution, and are using these funds to make the purchases they need, like land, farm equipment, and higher education. Reparations is an important first step to restoring justice. SPROUT is fundraising to fund further administration of this programming.

We will continue to grow this programming in the direction decided by farmers.





## **Community Food**

Our Community Food Programs seek to re-envision our food system by fostering connections between people, the land, and food. Through local food aggregation, we connect suppliers, value and supply chain workers, and customers. We also work on city policies that impact urban growers.

## **Community Garden**

Our tight-knit community of gardeners is thriving, providing fresh food across the city, and now preparing to expand to a community farm; Truck Farm vendors have built community and their businesses through the marketing collective. SPROUT has advocated for policies that reduce barriers for urban growers, as well as supported the development of other community gardens and grassroots organizations through advising and our fiscal sponsorship program.

## **Truck Farm Table**

SPROUT's Truck Farm Table at the Crescent City Farmers Market continues to put money in the pockets of urban growers, and connects them with resources that can help them scale up. In 2022, the Truck Farm Table earned \$50,000 for small urban growers.

## **Local Policy Work**

This year we premiered our most recent city-wide policy platform "A Greener New Orleans" with The Greater New Orleans Grower's Alliance and New Orleans Food Policy Action Committee. This platform will protect the food sovereignty of the City of New Orleans by making policy changes to allow more residents to excel at urban gardening and farming.







#### In 2022, SPROUT:

- Hosted over 176 open garden hours where neighbors, new gardeners, and folks looking to get closer to their community food system could learn and get their hands dirty
- Coordinated over 400 individual volunteers to support community gardens and farmers markets in their neighborhood
- Generated \$50,000 in direct sales for farmers through the Truck Farm Table, and valuable connections brokered between food businesses, wholesale buyers, and Louisiana farmers
- Distributed over \$700 in market tokens to families to incentivize the easy purchase of fruits and vegetables and to help families familiarize themselves with SNAP at market
- Gathered over 500 individual signatures and over 50 organizational signatory partners to support A Greener New Orleans campaign

#### **Community Garden**

“Thinking about what the garden means to me... it’s about community. It’s about family. In these past couple of years, with all of these things that we’ve been going through, I was shut in. I couldn’t go out. I had people from the garden every week, every couple of days, coming to drop off vegetables to me, to drop off bouquets to me at my doorstep. I’m telling you, the garden is a lifeline to me.”

**Susan Clay**  
Community Garden Member





## **Producers & Sustainability**

SPROUT's Producers and Sustainability Programming supports Louisiana farmers by connecting them to resources and each other. We also work on state and federal agricultural policy.

### **Farmer Technical Assistance**

With office hours each week, cover crop field days, and a demonstration pollinator tract in the Lafitte Greenway, SPROUT has provided hands-on training and technical advice to 120 growers in the state this year as part of our Producers & Sustainability Programming.

### **Fundraising for Growers**

In the wake of hurricane Ida we raised over \$6,000 for local food purchasing from impacted farmers to make sure they had stable markets and Louisiana's residents had the freshest and healthiest food as they re-stocked their fridges.



**160  
hours  
of farmer  
technical  
assistance**





In 2022, SPROUT:

- Assisted 35 farmers with 216 office hours to: answer legal, tax, and land questions; conduct site visits; and provide paperwork help
- Provided cold storage -- a cost-prohibitive expense for many small farms -- to 11 farms, increasing the ease and access of storing and selling local food
- In collaboration with MAKE-UP: Improv & Drag, we hosted two Veggie Bingo nights, which raised \$600 for New Orleans neighborhood gardens, including Faubourg St. John Community Garden and Jeanette Bell's Gardens on Mars

Some of our success in policy work in 2022 include:

- Gaining acceptance to the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition
- Securing \$35,000 to support a statewide Farm Bill advocacy plan in 2023 including statewide listening sessions and DC fly-ins
- Completing a research project to determine the policy needs of growers, and concluding this with a public event to deliver results and advance the campaign

### **Cover Crop Program**

"The SPROUT cover crop program has expanded our use of cover crops and other sustainable farming practices at our farm. Not only has the actual seed been essential to putting fields to rest in between crops, but the insight and knowledge that SPROUT staff has been able to offer to us as we start this journey has been key to the success of our operation."

**Sierra Torres**

Cicada Calling Farm

### **Urban Agriculture Cohort**

"Thanks to the Cohort, I feel a deeper connection to the land and connected to Gulf South land workers in ways I could have never dreamed of. Working my plot is something I look forward to everyday. I feel so deeply rooted to New Orleans, the soil, the process of land cultivation and reciprocity, and honored to be a part of the SPROUT community."

**Kali Villarosa**

Urban Ag Cohort Participant



# Sprout

New Orleans

## Organizational Growth & Direction

After an expansion phase in programming, budget, and staff, SPROUT is embarking on a strategic planning process, with a focus on developing a shared leadership model. We are growing with intentionality.

**413%**  
**growth in budget  
& fundraising  
since 2019**



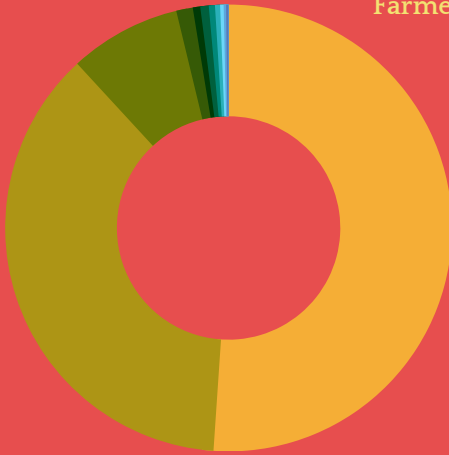


# 2022 Financials

## REVENUE

Grants	\$974,969
Donations	\$34,254
Interest	\$3,357
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$1,109,223</b>

## EXPENSES



Farmer Grants & Land Stewardship Disbursements	- \$238,500
Personnel (Healthcare, Payroll Taxes)	- \$173,102
Contract Services	- \$37,741
Programming Supplies & Materials	- \$34,840
Office Supplies & Software	- \$5,586
Rent & Lease	- \$2,510
Insurance	- \$2,861
Utilities	- \$2,074
Travel	- \$1,716
Honorariums & Stipends	- \$1,185
Marketing	- \$824
Professional Development	- \$830

## Team

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Shani Christopher  
Marcus Coleman  
Emily Mickley-Doyle  
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### STAFF

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Thank you to all of our supporters  
who helped to make this work possible!



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WALLACE CENTER

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# Thank you to all of our individual donors, partners, and farmers who work with us to deepen our impact.

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## PARTNERS & COLLABORATORS

Crescent City Farmer's Market  
Food Policy Action Committee  
Greater New Orleans Growing Alliance  
Recirculating Farms  
Top Box Foods  
Song CDC and VEGGI Farmer's Coop  
The Water Collaborative Steward  
Growing Local Collaborative  
Louisiana Small-Scale Agriculture Coalition  
Second Harvest Food Bank  
Oregon Tilth  
Food Systems Leadership Network

Louisiana State Association of Cooperatives  
Big River Economic Development Agency  
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Louisiana Central  
Campti Field of Dreams  
Louisiana for a Green New Deal  
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Xavier University  
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