

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

At Feast Down East we are strengthening our local food system and farming communities in Southeastern North Carolina by cultivating bridges between regional farmers and local communities.

Our passionate and tenacious staff is committed to nourishing our community by helping local, small and limited resource farmers in accessing increased market opportunities to our diverse range of customers, but especially to those experiencing food insecurity.

Now more than ever, we need your support in financial giving to carry out this mission. In 2023 alone we...

- **Purchased and distributed 237,530 pounds** in local farm fresh products from **45 farmers** through the Food Hub
- Increased our farmer sales by 10% from previous years
- Reached a total of **3,502 customers** between the Food Hub and Local Motive Mobile Farmers' Market
- **\$172,976 in sales** going directly into farmer's pockets and **71,570 pounds** nourishing our food insecure community members through our food access programs – **Local Motive Mobile Farmers' Market and Farmers Fighting Hunger**
- Launched our Food Prescription voucher program in partnership with Novant Healthcare, seeing a **85% redemption rate**
- Launched the inaugural Farmer Scholarship program, benefiting **17 small to midsize farmers**

Supporting Feast Down East is an impactful way to show your support for continuing to root in our success, sustainability, and growth of our collaborative programming throughout the region.

You can feel good, knowing that your contribution will do good.

Please consider sponsoring Feast Down East to further uplift our programs and community. The enclosed materials share details about our programs, sponsorship levels, and the power of your donation. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to me directly.

Thank you so much for your consideration and support,



Jordyn Appel-Hughes
Executive Director
jordyn@feastdowneast.org



Board of Directors

Caitlin Osgood
Live Oak Bank

Grace North
Goose Haven Farm

Andre Brown
Legal Aid of North Carolina

Sarah Arthur
Novant Health

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UNC-Wilmington

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Bee Blessed Honey

Morgan King
Cooperative Extension

THE IMPACT IS GREAT. THE NEED IS GREATER.



FEAST DOWN EAST

With a mission to strengthen farming communities in and around Southeastern NC by providing resources, education, and distribution opportunities to farmers while addressing equitable food access in communities with the greatest need.

THE IMPACT IS GREAT – THE NEED IS GREATER.



FARMER SCHOLARSHIPS

\$11,250 sponsors **25** Farmer Scholarships.



PACKAGING

\$5,000 provides packaging for farmer product distribution.



MOBILE MARKET

\$20,000 covers the cost of operating **15** Mobile Markets.



FUEL

\$1,000 covers **4 weeks** of Food Hub deliveries.



FRESH BUCKS

\$15,000 matches **600** purchases made with food stamp benefits.

Because of the work of Feast Down East, over **\$450,000** was reinvested directly in our economic system by our Food Hub's work with small local farmers in 2023.

Every day, you come in contact with our work by visiting local restaurants, grocery stores, institutions, food pantries and our mobile market. Our Mobile Market alone brings over **\$75,000** of local, nutritious foods to our low-income neighbors throughout the year.

THE NEED.

With your support we can **increase farmer sales by 15%** while serving **10 new Mobile Market sites** reaching **250 new low-income neighbors**.

Your donation has never been more important.

SPONSORSHIP TIERS



OVER \$50,000

- Logo on Website for 12 months
- Logo on 12 months of E-newsletter
- Social Media Recognition
- Vehicle Magnet

RAIN MAKER



UP TO \$20,000

- Logo on Website for 9 months
- Logo on 9 months of E-newsletter
- Social Media Recognition
- Vehicle Magnet

HARVESTER



UP TO \$10,000

- Logo on Website for 6 months
- Logo on 6 months of E-newsletter
- Social Media Recognition

CULTIVATOR



UP TO \$5,000

- Logo on one month of E-newsletter
- Social Media Recognition

SEED SOWER



UP TO \$1,000

- Social Media Recognition

PLANTER

BECOME A FEAST DOWN EAST SPONSOR TODAY.

Whether you do this annually, quarterly, monthly – **EVERY** donation makes difference.

100% of every donation is tax deductible.

Feast Down East, Inc. is a registered 501(c)3 nonprofit organization, Tax ID# 32-0333038

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2023 IMPACT REPORT

Over **\$1 Million**
of Community Impact In 2023

FEAST DOWN EAST

Our mission is to strengthen the farming communities in and around Southeastern NC area by providing resources, education, and distribution opportunities to farmers while addressing equitable food access in communities with the greatest need.

ECONOMIC IMPACT

\$448,823

Food Hub Sales

\$386,604

Back to Farmers

\$96,319

Farmers Fighting Hunger Sales

\$57,133

Mobile Market Sales

MOBILE MARKET ACCESS

237K

Pounds of Food Sold

3,968

Visitors

384

Markets

33.5%

Customers Used Food Stamps or Vouchers

\$21,570

Food Stamps, Fresh Bucks, and Food Voucher Sales

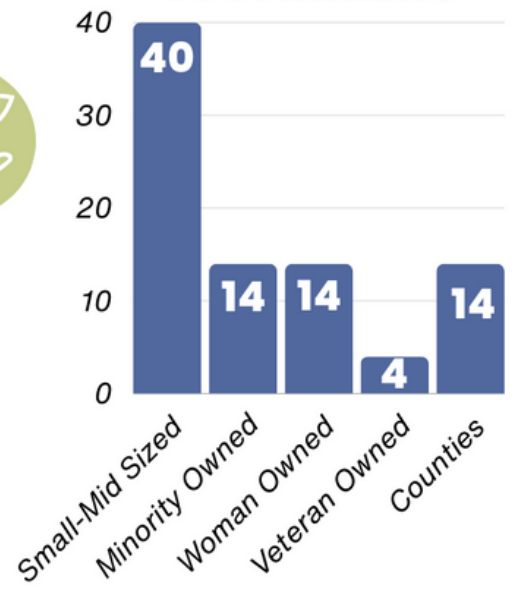
FARMERS SCHOLARSHIPS

17 Farmers Awarded

\$7,370



SUPPORTING 45 FARMERS



FUNDS RECEIVED

\$24,135

Donated



\$527,500

In Grant Funding



WHAT WE DO



45 FARMERS

Representing **15** North Carolina Counties in 2023.



\$390,000

Directly in the pockets of local farmers.



87 WHOLESALE CUSTOMERS

Averaging **30** orders a week.



\$79,503

to **14 Farmers Fighting Hunger** partner feeding programs.



\$7,370

Issued in **SEVENTEEN** Farmer Scholarships.

THE FOOD HUB

Located in Burgaw, NC, the **Food Hub** connects **local, small-to medium-scale, limited-resource farmers** with new year round market opportunities and access to education and technical assistance. It is Feast Down East's heartbeat, serving as **a national model for a GAP certified, wholesale aggregation** center for farmers while facilitating food distribution for all of our programs.

If you have shopped or eaten out in Pender or New Hanover counties, **chances are you have tasted the seasonal, local food brought to market by Feast Down East**. Our reach includes Whole Foods and Tidal Creek Food Co-op; restaurants such as, Pinpoint, Savorez, Benny's Big Time Pizza, Manna, The Green House Restaurant; institutions such as New Hanover County Dept of Social Services and UNCW Campus Dining; and food relief agencies like Farmers Fighting Hunger, **who have the opportunity to feed their patrons at no cost**.

NEW COLD STORAGE EXPANSION FOR 2024!



Thanks to the support of GoldenLEAF Foundation, Feast Down East will increase farmer distribution, offering an additional **100 square footage** for farmers, expanding their storage and market channels.



"During the 2 years we've worked with Feast Down East, we have seen changes being implemented that makes it easier and user friendly for the producers, as well as the buyers. Our partnership with Feast Down East is one that we treasure and recommend to any producer."

**LINETTE HEWIN,
4-EVER VISTA FARMS**



WHAT WE DO



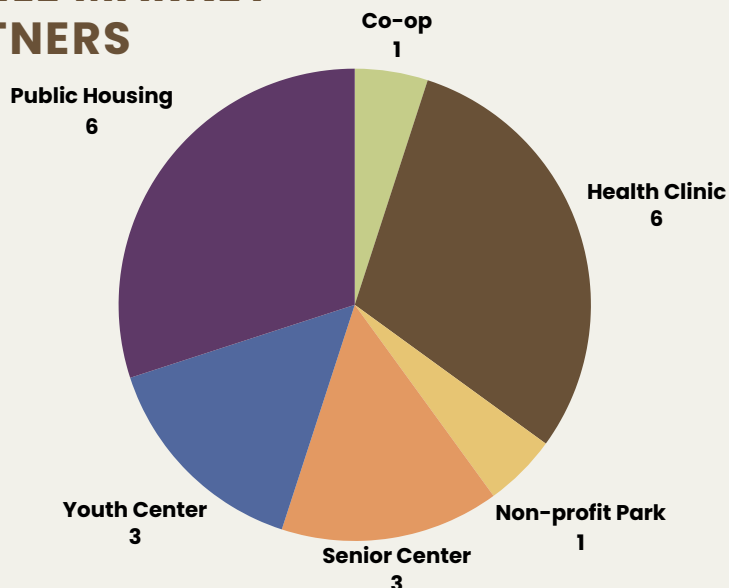
THE MOBILE MARKET

The **Local Motive Mobile Farmers' Market (Mobile Market)** brings affordable, locally-sourced, nutrient-dense foods directly into communities with high levels of food insecurity. Since 2018, the Mobile Market has distributed over **\$250,000** in fresh, local products, sold at significantly reduced costs.

Found at **20 different sites**, as well as at numerous pop-ups with community partners, across **Pender and New Hanover Counties**. The Mobile Market provides a unique model that closes the food system circle, expands purchasing power, and addresses limited healthy food access **providing patrons with dignity in their food choices**.

Find the Mobile Market in a neighborhood near you by visiting the Feast Down East website and social media pages.

MOBILE MARKET PARTNERS



36 FARMERS

Supported, **17** being new farmers in 2023.



\$15,206

Combined EBT and matching Fresh Bucks sales.



3,415 VISITORS

23% using Food Stamps.



384 MARKETS

At **20** community partner sites in **THREE** North Carolina counties.



\$6,364

In Fresh Food Voucher sales.



"I use Feast Down East services because I get access to locally grown, high quality products at an affordable price. They are reliable by coming weekly right into my neighborhood. Plus, the volunteers are always friendly and provide excellent customer service."

**MARGARITA MENDEZ,
REGULAR BRIGADE SHOPPER**



WHAT WE DO



OUR VISION

Since 2006, Feast Down East has **cultivated Southeastern North Carolina's regional food system** by connecting farmers with local communities. Feast Down East's core values ensures our **vision of building a more resilient and equitable food system.**

To do this, in 2024 we will accomplish:

- **Food For All:** Serve **10 new Mobile Market sites**, increasing greater access to high quality, fresh foods for our low-income neighbors.
- **Advocacy:** Work with Cape Fear Food Council, cultivating **local government support for Fresh Bucks**-doubling SNAP purchases at the Mobile Market.
- **Resiliency:** Farmers will be able to **store thousands of pounds** of cold product at the Food Hub, opening up new wholesale markets and alleviating storage burdens for small farmers.
- **Economic Vibrancy:** Grow new market channels for small and medium sized farmers, **increasing farmer sales by at least 15%.**
- **Social Justice & Equity:** From ensuring that low-resource neighbors can access healthy food to **providing scholarships to 15+ historically-disadvantaged farmers**, we will build a better local food system for everyone.
- **Leadership:** Through in-depth analysis of our region's infrastructure and capacity, Feast Down East will **lead Southeast NC to a healthier, economically-vibrant regional food system.**

THE WHY

North Carolina agriculture is the **third** most diverse agriculture-based state in the United States and brings over **\$76 billion annually to the state's economy.** However the local farming communities in NC have faced ever-growing challenges, including:

- **Increased inflation** leading to increased input costs
- Extreme weather patterns causing **unpredictable growing seasons**
- **Market instability** as processing facilities and customers close their shops.

Feast Down East recognizes the **infrastructure and logistic barriers that small- to mid-sized farmers experience**, especially those who have been historically marginalized and underserved. These injustices are witnessed from farmers to consumers as seen by:

- **98% of Feast Down East farms** being located in a Low Income/Low Food Access Census Tract
- **1 in 5 children** in New Hanover County are food insecure
- **30% of food insecure families** do not qualify for SNAP benefits because they fall slightly above the poverty threshold

"The professionalism, warmth, and unwavering commitment of the Feast Down East staff have been nothing short of remarkable. Their dedication is reflected in their tireless efforts to serve partners and communities with utmost care and efficiency."

**EMILIE HART,
CATHOLIC CHARITIES**





WHAT WE DO

CULTIVATING RELATIONSHIPS

A key to the success of Feast Down East lies in our **commitment to connect and cultivate regional food economies through partnerships**, strengthening the regional food system. Enhancing these collaborative relationships is imperative in continuing to bolster and sustain **transformative programs reflecting community needs, desires, and autonomy in accessing healthy foods**.

In August-September 2023, Feast Down East and Food Bank of Central & Eastern NC collaborated in conducting a Community Engagement Survey, assessing specific food-related needs in the Southside community of Wilmington, NC. **Producing a number of profound findings regarding regional food insecurity and the importance of programs** such as those at Feast Down East, with:

- **83%** of participants **experienced food insecurity** in the past two months (as measured by the Hunger Vital Signs)
- **93%** of people reporting **2+** barriers to a healthy diet were food insecure.

"We have seen FDE stand the test of time, which we attribute to their leadership's witt, gritt, and collaborative spirit! As an active member in the NC Food Hub Collaborative, they are always eager to share resources, find solutions, and try new things with other mission-aligned organizations."

**OLIVIA PERCOCO,
RESOURCEFUL COMMUNITIES**

PARTNERSHIPS



Golden LEAF
FOUNDATION



CFS

