

## LEAF

## Connecting People to the Land and Nature through Agriculture

As the season winds down and we begin to prepare the farm for the winter months ahead, we are grateful for another year of good work on the land, growing healthy food, caring for happy animals, and building new relationships on the farm with our community.



Bringing in the fall vegetable harvest with a farm volunteer group.

## **2021 Farm Programs and Outreach:**



- We collaborated with local Waldorf schools and homeschool groups to offer farm education programming for students 3rd grade thru High school in the Spring and Fall. Over 200 students participated in our programs this season learning how to milk the cows, build compost, work with the draft horses, plant and harvest crops, and gain practical skills on the farm.
- This summer we held 3 weeks of Farm & Nature camp programs for kids, teaching them practical farm skills and playing games outside. Summer camp was a huge success, with many returning campers from our first year programs.
- This Fall we have been collaborating with local organizations, <u>Boulder Community Health</u> and <u>Open Space and Mountain Parks</u>, to offer weekly sessions of Farm and Nature wellness programming for adults struggling with mental health challenges and adults in addiction recovery. The farm provides a healing outdoor setting with guided practical and purposeful work activities that foster connection, reduced stress, and promote mindfulness. Mental health in young people has recently been declared a "national crisis" and this programming has been well received and impactful.
- We held multiple farm volunteer days throughout the season, harvesting vegetables, cleaning chicken coops and working on irrigation ditches! We will offer more volunteer opportunities next season.
- In September we hosted a farm education retreat with students from Colorado University of Boulder introducing them to small farm economics, soil health, and regenerative farming practices.



As farmers, we are grateful to be able to work with the soil, the plants, and the animals, and to produce nourishing food for the community. The farm provides us an opportunity on a daily basis to participate in the rhythms of the year and connect deeply to the workings of nature. We continue to be inspired to share this experience with others by offering meaningful work and connection to the farm. Whether introducing 3rd graders to the magical workings of a compost heap or providing a healing space for adults in a recovery program, the farm can provide a much needed connection to nature for all of us.

The Farm cultivates hope for the Future. Please support LEAF's work by making a donation to further this mission. This year LEAF is participating in Colorado Gives Day. It is through your generosity and support that we can help change people's lives with LEAF's programs. If you can help us with your donation (or share our donation information with your networks), you can help reconnect people of all ages to the land and nature at Living Earth Agriculture Foundation.

With Gratitude,

Daphne and Cameron,

**Farmers and Education Directors for LEAF** 

## **Donate to LEAF Here**

Schedule your donation to <u>LEAF</u> with Colorado Gives day now. Every donation scheduled for or received on December 7th Contributes to additional funding for LEAF through the Colorado Gives Day incentive Fund.



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