

# 2023 IMPACT REPORT





ELAWA FARM

Our mission is to steward a historic farm that enriches the greater Lake County community as a center for experiential learning to broaden access to education, nutritious food, and our local food system.

# CONTENTS

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Our Mission	<a href="#">2</a>
Note from our Executive Director & Board President	<a href="#">4</a>
2023 By the Numbers	<a href="#">5</a>
Seed to Plate Education	<a href="#">6</a>
Healthy Food Access	<a href="#">7</a>
Farmer Support	<a href="#">8</a>
Partner Spotlight	<a href="#">9</a>
2023 Financials	<a href="#">10</a>
Our Donors	<a href="#">11 - 12</a>
Meet the Team	<a href="#">13</a>
Get Involved	<a href="#">14</a>



## NOTE FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Community,

Our 2023 season was one of abundant growth at Elawa Farm Foundation. New programs took root to deepen our impact, and a new chapter at Elawa began to blossom. This growth was made possible by our strong ecosystem of supporters like you.

In June 2023, we opened our ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) accessible Discovery Garden to the public. For the first time in the farm's history, we are now able to welcome community members of all ages and abilities to enjoy our farm grounds and participate in educational programs in the garden. We partnered with Center for Enriched Living to offer weekly garden engagement activities for their members with disabilities, in addition to hosting several local families in this new garden. We look forward to opening the next phase of this garden, named the Discovery Hive, this summer.

We prioritized healthy food access through weekly donations of fresh produce from our fields and meals from our kitchen to local families facing food insecurity. In the fall, we started our popular 'Soup & Bread Night: Community Supper Series' at the farm. This weekly event has become a favorite at Elawa. For each ticket sold, a serving of that week's soup and bread is donated to families served by North Chicago Community Partners.

This past year also brought transition on the Elawa Farm campus. With the closing of the Wildlife Discovery Center in March 2023, we made plans for an exciting expansion of our programs. We received approval to develop a farm animal program, on-site café, community cooking school, visitor center, classroom, and more. Construction for phase 1 of the project, including animal barn, café, and production kitchen, kicks off in spring 2024.

Your support has allowed us to deepen our impact and make way for our exciting expansion in the 2024 season. We could not do this impactful work with you. Thank you.

Sincerely,

**Laura Calvert**  
Executive Director

**Elizabeth Borland Blodgett**  
Board President





**1,200**

Servings of soup and bread  
donated to North Chicago  
Community Partners

---

**2,190**

Servings of fresh produce and  
kitchen meals donated to  
Roberti Community House

---

**3,552**

Youth and adults participated in  
educational programs

---

**94**

People with disabilities  
participated in free gardening  
and culinary engagement

---

**50+**

Local farmers and  
producers supported through  
our food sourcing

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# SEED TO PLATE EDUCATION

Our educational initiatives seek to teach youth and adults about nutritious food – from seed to plate! In 2023, we offered engaging educational programs with our in-house experts (our staff!) and a wide array of talented educators from the region, from chefs and butchers to farmers and florists to artists. These programs included summer camps, field trips for school and community groups, free family activities and tours at Elawa, on-site classes, and workshops held at partner locations. **We provided 209 programs to over 3,500 youth and adults in 2023.**

We strived for greater accessibility of our education by offering ADA adaptive, dual language (English/Spanish), and free programs. **We provided 71 accessible programs for 1,223 youth and adults in 2023.** These programs were open to the public at Elawa Farm, as well as held in partnership with local community organizations, including Center for Enriched Living, North Chicago Community Partners, Lake Forest and Lake Bluff libraries, and local Girl and Boy Scout groups.

Our goal is to reconnect all people to the food system – to inspire our community to grow and cook nutritious food and to care about the people and land who produce our food!



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# HEALTHY FOOD ACCESS



A core component of our mission is to improve healthy food access in Lake County and share our bounty with our neighbors who need it the most. **Throughout the 2023 growing season, we donated 2,190 servings of fresh produce and kitchen meals to families served by Roberti Community House in Waukegan.** In addition, we donated 430 seedlings to Roberti Community House to plant in their community garden.

New in 2023, we started our Soup & Bread: Community Supper Series at Elawa Farm. Tickets to this weekly event supported the donation of our healthy soup and bread to families served by North Chicago Community Partners. **We donated 1,200 servings of soup and bread in fall 2023.** We will introduce a summer season version of Soup & Bread Night in June 2024. To further expand the reach of our nutritious food in Lake County, we formed a wholesale partnership with Supermercado Gonzalez in Waukegan. They feature our fresh, farm-grown produce on the shelves of their grocery store for local residents to purchase throughout the growing season.

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# FARMER SUPPORT

**We are proud to support a local network of 50+ farmers and producers in sourcing our food.** We aggregate local produce, meat, eggs, dairy, grains, and more for our market, CSA subscription shares, and dining programs. This support helps local producers scale their businesses and connects our community to nutritious food.

Elawa Farm Foundation also provides administrative and funding support to the Northern Illinois Young Farmers chapter. This chapter supports small-scale and beginning farmers across the region with resources, advocacy, and social engagement.

We also provide support to This Old Farm, Inc., a woman-led livestock farm and meat processing facility located in Central Indiana. This Old Farm, Inc. leads a network of stakeholders to explore opportunities to sustainably expand small to medium sized meat processing facilities across the Midwest.

Elawa's support of the Northern Illinois Young Farmers chapter and This Old Farm, Inc is made possible by Food:Land:Opportunity (funded by the Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust).



Pictured: Bert and Julie of Golden Gills



# PARTNER SPOTLIGHT



## NORTH CHICAGO COMMUNITY PARTNERS

North Chicago Community Partners (NCCP) provides holistic support to children in North Chicago through after school programming, family events, teacher care, annual physicals, and more. We partnered with NCCP to host fun garden and culinary activities for their youth participants in 2023. NCCP is also our lead partner with our Soup & Bread Night: Community Supper Series program. For every ticket sold through this weekly event, we donate a serving of healthy soup and bread to families served by their Family Care Closet program.



## DRIP & CULTURE

Drip & Culture is a socially minded coffee shop located inside Supermercado Gonzalez in Waukegan. We hosted Drip & Culture as our resident coffee vendor at our on-site Garden Market throughout the 2023 season. In addition, we partnered together on Cultivar, a bilingual, healthy cooking demonstration series at Supermercado Gonzalez in fall 2023. More than 40 attendees received free cooking lessons that highlighted the benefits of eating in season. This partnership included Drip & Culture, Gathr Creative Studio, Mano a Mano Family Resource Center, and Elawa Farm Foundation. Funding for this program was provided by Chicago Region Food System Fund.

# 2023 FINANCIALS

## REVENUE

**\$1,672,192**

TOTAL REVENUE IN 2023

**\$876,555 | 52%** ●  
Earned Revenue

**\$323,246 | 19%** ●  
Fundraising Events

**\$198,231 | 12%** ●  
Contributions

**\$253,000 | 15%** ●  
Program Grants

**\$21,159 | 1%** ●

Other Income (Including Investments)

Other Income (Including Investments)

1%

Program Grants

15%

Contributions

12%

Earned Revenue

52%

Fundraising Events

19%

## EXPENSES

**\$1,607,755**

TOTAL EXPENSES IN 2023

● **\$741,034 | 46%**  
Personnel & Program Delivery

● **\$530,381 | 33%**  
Operations & Facility

● **\$154,150 | 10%**  
Program Expenses

● **\$99,517 | 6%**  
Fundraising Expenses

● **\$82,673 | 5%**  
General & Administrative

General & Administrative

5%

Fundraising Expenses

6%

Personnel &  
Program Delivery

46%

Program Expenses

10%

Operations & Facility

33%

# OUR DONORS

Elawa Farm Foundation would like to acknowledge the generous support of the following donors for making our work possible. Thank you!

## \$20,000 and above

Allan, Elisa  
Fletcher, Ron and Nancy  
Food:Land:Opportunity funded  
by the Searle Funds at  
The Chicago Community Trust  
The Grainger Foundation  
Lake Forest Garden Club  
Olson, Benjamin and Megan  
Packaging Corporation of  
America  
The Plansoen Foundation  
Westcott, Carla

## From \$10,000 to \$19,999

Blodgett, Elizabeth  
The Buchanan Family  
Foundation  
Carney Family Foundation  
Cortesi, Richard J.  
Crowley, Richard and Catherine  
Durkin, Brian and Tammy  
Hunter Family Foundation  
McCormick, Tony and Holly  
Northwestern Medicine Lake  
Forest Hospital  
Pykosz, Lindsay and Michael  
Peck, Ellory and Rudberg, Mark  
Walvoord, Tom and Ellen  
William Blair, Tony Hoban

## From \$5,000 to \$9,999

Anonymous  
Amylu Foods, LLC  
Borland, John and Suzy  
Connell, Liam and Francesca  
Ganshirt, Stephen and Linda  
Goodman, Mark and Susan  
Harold M. & Adeline S.  
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Hodges, Alexander and Jane  
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## From \$2,500 to \$4,999

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Plant, John  
Rhoades, Corlene and Michael  
Schneider, Fred and Laura  
Robin and Sandy Stuart Fund  
Sunset Foods

## From \$1,000 to \$2,499

Anonymous  
Athas, James and Gretchen  
Beans, Jason and Kim  
Bergmann, Craig and Klug, Paul  
Bischoff, Mark and Darlene  
Blacksmith, Jill  
Brennan, Chip and Mary  
Calvert, Glen and Cynthia  
Calvert, Laura  
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Chody, Megan  
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Cruz, Jamie and Shane  
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Downe, Matthew  
Erker, Barrett  
Gabel, Laura  
Gedge, Karl and Joan  
Glazer, Mia  
Griffeth, Gaby and Ryan  
Hans, Philippe  
Hillis, Genevieve

Hoban, Tony and Cammie  
Holman, Jon  
Hunt, Andy and Veronica  
Isham, Robert and Nancy  
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Kennedy, Michele  
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Tomsidis, April and Alex  
Walters, Jeffrey and Ann  
West, Henry and Georgia  
White, Gordon  
Wood, Richard and Patricia  
Yarrington, Kathleen  
Zavitz, John and Diane  
Zwick, Katy

## From \$500 to \$999

Anonymous  
Arnson, Germaine  
Beidler, Francis and Prue  
Borland, Edward and Samantha  
Bryzinski, Brian and Ingrid  
Capes, Geordan  
Carruthers, David and Sarah  
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Heinz, Allegra and Thom

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Kletecka, Charlotte and Edward  
Kral, Richard and P.B.  
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Kutko, Lydia  
Lardner, Timothy and Heidi  
LoPresti, Chris and Camille  
Maentz, D. Scott and Ashley  
Mann, Kara  
Marshall, Harold and Margaret  
Maxwell, Terrance  
McDonald, Suzanne  
Medvec, Paul and Victoria  
Miles, Pam  
Moore, David and Diana  
Morgan, Kate and Nicholas  
Mosner, Lawrence and Judy  
Murley, Robert and Mimi  
Nippert, Zach and Martha  
Noble, Ginny and Matthew  
Pannier, Matthew  
Perkins, Luke and Marilla  
Petersen, Adrienne and Joel  
Potrykus, David and Jane  
Price, Rick and Janice  
Prindle, Ross and Camille  
Rouse, David and Sarah  
Rupp, Ted and Kristin  
Salgat, Michael  
Sandner, Angela  
Sannes, Andrew and Heather  
Scholz, Matthew  
Sharman, James and June  
Shepard, Kirk and Nadine  
Souers, Jill  
Soukup, Annalisa and Jeffrey  
Teich, Beth  
Tri City Garden Club  
Velo, Robert and Gail  
Wald, Norman and Jennifer  
Webb, Chris and Diana  
Weiss, John and Beth  
Zafirovski, Mike and Robin  
Zeeman, Greg and Martha  
Zuerlein, Jeffrey

## From \$250 to \$499

Albrecht, Kira  
Ashley, Courtney  
Ayres, Alison and Don  
Bartram, Benjamin  
Berns, Jacob  
Boyle, Renee  
The Bravos Landscape  
Bro, Susan

Bruns, Dennis and Diane  
 Bushala, Walter and Brenda  
 Calhoun, Michelle  
 Carney, Edward and Laura  
 Carton, Ellen  
 Chocol, Tracy  
 Davidson, Tom and Kathy  
 Davis, Sylvia and Toby  
 Denison, Matthew and Elizabeth  
 Ehrhard, Louis and Susan  
 Faramouth Weber, Lisa  
 Fleming, Eileen and David  
 Fletcher, Sally  
 Foster, and Chantal  
 Frantz, Alexandra  
 Friedman, Judy  
 Fritz, Neelie  
 Frost, Calvin and Anne  
 Georgi, Toby and Sarah  
 Goltra, Ren and Alice  
 Gonzales, Trey and  
 Halverson, Kip  
 Gorter, Jackie  
 Griesbach, Kristan and Nicholas  
 Griffiths, William and Guita  
 Grumhaus, Diane and Peter  
 Hahle, Laurel  
 Hance, Chip and Marietta  
 Johnson, Arlene  
 Kaesebier, Tara  
 Lamphere, Charles and Sarah  
 Malloy, John  
 Marquardt, Steven  
 Martucci, Jim and Mary  
 McGowan, Michael and Karen  
 Nicholson, John and Jill  
 Nocella, Michael and Renee  
 Oertel, John and Nicole  
 O'Keefe, Eileen  
 Pandaleon, George and Peggy  
 Patenaude, Shelley  
 Patras, Dean  
 Quick, Matthew  
 Roberts, Theodore  
 Serbanescu, Laura  
 Shannahan, Kevin and Joan  
 Smith, Jessica  
 Sterling, Katie  
 Stone, Natalie  
 Sweet, Elizabeth  
 Tolles, Jamie and Daisy  
 Tytenicz, Shane and Luciana  
 Van Gerven, Mai  
 Villacis, Diego  
 Westrich, Brad and Jennifer  
 Zelisko, Paul and Judith

**From \$100 to \$249**  
 Amazon Smile  
 Anderson, James and Trisha  
 Bagdade, Jennifer  
 Boyden, Thomas and Susan  
 Bruce, David and Meridith  
 Burmeister, Monica  
 Carr, Barry and Randi  
 Chaffee, Margaret  
 Champion, Annette  
 Chantler, Art and Dorothy  
 Chung, Oke  
 Clow, Kent  
 Czech, Diane  
 Daniel, Amanda  
 Dean Household  
 Dibrito, Dean and Marlene  
 Drake, Tricia  
 Egan, Emilie  
 Erickson, Steven and Sally  
 Fairchild Foundation Trust  
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 Fowles, Kyle  
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 Georgi, Otto and Gay  
 Grabowski, Mary Ann  
 and Roger  
 Griffin, William and  
 Sanders, Ada  
 Gunderson, Mark and Sarah  
 Handley, Lee  
 Havey, Michael and Jill  
 Hayes, Megan  
 Heim, Ann and Michael  
 Hoagland, Peter and Susan  
 Hodge, Frances  
 Hoffmann, Janet  
 Jacobson, James and Karen  
 Janis, Allan and Sandy  
 Jaskiel, Uri  
 Jensen, Barbara  
 Katz, Howard and Susan  
 Kesman, Tony and Barb  
 Knight, Mary  
 Koester, Katie  
 Kohlmeyer, Kurt  
 Kolb, Charles and Jane  
 Kuhn, Jordan  
 Larimer, Thomas and Juliann  
 Magnusson, Rachel Shaw  
 McMurray, Susie  
 Meliet-Kinane, Paige  
 Milani, Robert and Kelly  
 Mohr, Roger and Pauline  
 Mooney, David and Melinda  
 Moorhead, Gene

Morin, Amy  
 Mower, Chapin and Jen  
 Neal, Lawrence and Dawn  
 Newcomb, Joyce  
 Ogden, Heidi  
 Omes, Elizabeth  
 O'Neil, Corey  
 O'Neil, Riley  
 O'Neil, Thomas  
 O'Neil, Thomas and Molly  
 Pantazis, John  
 Papastefan, Thomas and Val  
 Paras, James  
 Pearson, Caleb  
 Peterson, Scott and Judy  
 Pollock, Alexander and Anne  
 Post, Carol and Roper, Steve  
 Proesel, Jay and Donna  
 Riccio, Ralph  
 Rowland, Charles and Sarah  
 Rydstrom-Larson, Karen  
 Scodro, Kathryn  
 Sexton, Kevin  
 Soderberg, Leif and Jill  
 Staunton, Brian and Elizabeth  
 Stewart, Chris and Maggie  
 Stoll, Ralph and Sally  
 Tautimes, Mari  
 Thiem, Erin  
 Tiedmann, John  
 Toser, Thomas  
 Turchi, Dominic and Marilyn  
 Turner, Scott  
 Willett, Maeve  
 Woll, Dave  
 Zhang, Jie  
 Zidek, Charles

**From \$1 to \$99**  
 Anderson, Edward  
 Anonymous  
 Boren, Suzanne  
 Brown, Jackson  
 Campbell, Sierra  
 Considine, Maria  
 Cullum, Kevin and Molly  
 Danyliuk, Nataliya  
 DeMaria, Theresa  
 Fondriest, Diane  
 Frankel, Jeffrey  
 Holloway, Renee  
 Howard, Margaret  
 Hunt, Joi and David  
 Janus, Bobette  
 Lown, Maxwell and  
 Krimen, Lisa  
 Mathis, David and Tini

Miller, Arthur and Janet  
 Miotti, Mary and Daniel  
 Morgans, David and Susie  
 Moskoff, William and Gayle,  
 Carol  
 O'Connor, Jim and Lynda  
 Pace, Stephan and Jill  
 Razny, Christine  
 Rojahn, Theodore  
 Smith, Kitsy  
 Spiel, Robert and Gail  
 Stanich, Michael  
 Stein, Werner and Jacoba  
 Swift, Stewart and Dodie  
 Sylvester, Nancy  
 Timbers, Stephen and Elaine  
 Walsh, Blair and Andrea  
 Walters, Gina  
 Weeden, Caroline  
 Weissman, Eric  
 Welsh, Brian and Rebekah  
 Werwicki, Christopher  
 Wyckoff, Carla

**Gifts made in Memory of:**

Allison Buck  
 Tom Gorter  
 David L. Long  
 Tica Marquardt  
 Jana O'Neil  
 Jane O'Neil

**Gifts made in Honor of:**

Jim Bellanca  
 Craig Bergmann  
 Andrew Patrick McStay  
 Bud and Eileen Metzger  
 Ben Olson  
 Taddy Opat

**In Kind Contributions**

Craig Bergmann Landscape  
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 Thomas Hunter IV  
 Le Colonial Lake Forest  
 Manfredini Landscaping &  
 Design

**Matching Gifts**

Abbie  
 Discover Financial Services  
 Horizon Therapeutics, Inc.  
 RBC Wealth Management

# MEET THE TEAM



Pictured (left to right): Danielle Robinson (Pastry Assistant), Nick Marsalek (Cook), Charlie Mickey (Kitchen Assistant), Lee Kuebler (Resident Chef), Elaine Madansky (Farm Manager), Karen McGowan (Event Coordinator), Ana Poznanski (Distribution Manager), Gaby Griffith (Market Manager), Maggie Logan (Pastry Chef), Lorrie Damrow (Finance & Development Manager), Laura Calvert (Executive Director), Susan Stenander (Director of Finance and Operations), Paul Rottman (Communications Manager), Not pictured: Tom Wilson (Maintenance Engineer)

## STAFF

Laura Calvert  
Lorrie Damrow  
Gaby Griffith  
Lee Kuebler  
Nick Marsalek  
Charlie Mickey  
Maggie Logan  
Karen McGowan  
Elaine Madansky  
Ana Poznanski  
Danielle Robinson  
Paul Rottman  
Susan Stenander  
Tom Wilson

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Elisa Allan  
Ammar Bahrani  
Elizabeth Borland  
Blodgett  
Ned Borland  
Field Oster Carton  
Marion M. Christoph  
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Tammy Durkin  
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Carla Westcott

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Paul Bergmann  
Austin DePree  
Madeleine B. Dugan  
Dianne FitzSimons  
Ashley Maentz  
Robert Shaw

# GET INVOLVED



As a nonprofit organization, Elawa Farm Foundation relies on the generosity of its supporters to steward our historic campus and achieve our mission to broaden access to education, nutritious food, and our local food system.

**DONATE** - Support Elawa Farm Foundation by making a contribution on our website at [elawafarm.org/donate](http://elawafarm.org/donate).

**VOLUNTEER** - Help us on the farm as a volunteer or organize a group volunteer day.

**SHOP AT OUR MARKET** - Purchase our products and support local businesses at our weekly Garden Market from May - October.

**ATTEND A CLASS** - Register for a class and learn about many gardening, culinary, wellness and sustainability topics.

**TOUR OUR FARM** - Schedule a private tour or attend our monthly farm tours to learn about our history and our current initiatives.

**FOLLOW US** - Sign up for our weekly newsletter at [elawafarm.org](http://elawafarm.org) and follow us on Facebook and Instagram @elawafarm.

For more ways to get involved, email us at [info@elawafarm.org](mailto:info@elawafarm.org) or call at 847-234-1966.



## ELAWA FARM FOUNDATION

1401 Middlefork Drive | Lake Forest, IL 60045

TEL 847.234.1966 | EMAIL [info@elawafarm.org](mailto:info@elawafarm.org)

INSTAGRAM & FACEBOOK [@elawafarm](#)

[www.elawafarm.org](http://www.elawafarm.org)

