

Harvest CROPS

Community Residents Offering Produce Seasonally
A 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization

2017 Annual Report

January 2018

2112 Ensenada Street, Lemon Grove CA 91945 www.harvestcrops.org

619-318-3423 info@harvestcrops.org Chairperson: Sergio D. Padilla



"Give us permission to fulfill our mission"

Mission Statement: Harvesting residential fruit with volunteers for the benefit of less fortunate people.

For 2017 Harvest CROPS continues to grow, a tad taller than the previous year. Just like any fruit tree, simply find the perfect location with plenty of sun shine. Dig the right size hole and mix in quality soil. Saturate with water. Then let Mother Nature do her best. Under constant attention, eventually you will see the tree begin to flower, signs of fruit soon to flourish. The seasons remind us when the fruit is ripe to harvest. Harvest CROPS is no different. Having chosen our location, the County of San Diego offers promising and nurturing weather. We dug the right size commitment, as we continually find faithful residents and harvesters who volunteer. We thrive to be saturated from sustaining tax-deduction financial donations from businesses and individuals. Then we let our nonprofit organization do its best, constantly monitoring and attending the needs of the public's challenges: to feed less fortunate people with fresh residential fruit. Nutritious and healthy, fruit provides an alternative to canned and boxed processed foods. [KPBS Four minute](#) News Report enhanced our mission



As of current we have saved and provided over 281,000 pounds of fresh residential fruit, all having reached the tables of families and seniors. Various types of oranges, tangerines, lemons, avocados and much more did not fill our landfills. Fruit that would otherwise spoil is now given to people who greatly enjoy our labor of love.

Collaboration offers various keys needed, as we continue to open doors. [Youth Works](#) is one great example. June to August, an eight-week summer program, they provide volunteers, visiting as far from New York. Ten groups, each one visit, they harvested close to 7,000 pounds. Teenagers with parents or church leaders, they returned home sharing their experience of San Diego—to include our mission. But wait, this gets better. Youth Works donates, reimbursing our gasoline and miscellaneous expenses. Volunteers and donations—an annual sweet deal which everyone wins. [San Diego Realtors Association](#) of El Cajon also is another great example. For



twelve once-a-month meetings, we presented our mission. A great experience, the founder experienced confidants in speech presentations. Realtors now call us when their house-for-sale has fruit trees to be harvested. SDRR sponsored us with a \$659 donation. Phone calls and a cash donation is such a nice combination. A donation total of \$1,075, [Sycuan Casino](#), [Seven Miles Casino](#) and [Walter Andersen Nursery](#), each recognized and supported our mission

from our simple letter request. We placed their logo-icons on our Thank You receipts, webpages, flyers, social

media and other marketing literature for their wonderful financial much needed support. \$1,041.44 in total donations was received from 14 wonderful and caring individuals. [SDG&E](#), [Amazon Smile](#), [Facebook's Network for Good](#) and [C-MSS](#), continue to donate, totaling \$739. [Walmart](#), [Home Depot](#), [Lowes](#), [Harbor Freight Tools](#) and one individual, all donated requested equipment, \$431 total. Our final figure was \$3,759 from 26 donations. In return we harvested 69,741 pounds or \$53,000 at 75 cents a pound.

We welcome Ms. Reem Yousif, our new volunteer board member. Reem enjoys writing and working with numbers. Supporting our mission with grant applications is her focus and contribution. Reem was introduced by a coworker, Sara who is also an active volunteer, our Secretary Board Member.

Our board is currently seeking two more board members, extending an invitation to qualified volunteers who would like to share our passion and vision. Please inquire by visiting our website [Resource page](#): Please download an application.

We purchased our second trailer, used, but works great. A little paint, detail work and DMV registration fees, we use our new (used) trailer for the East County. The first trailer is now used for the North County, where Gumaro is available for residential harvest appointments. Gumaro's volunteer service as Field Leader is greatly appreciated.

What better way to thank our volunteers than to offer free symphony concert tickets! [San Diego Symphony](#) chose us as a nonprofit, providing free concert tickets. Very grateful, we passed out symphony tickets to our volunteers and supporters. Thank you San Diego Symphony for your recognition and wonderful support.

Last year, the founder, Sergio had a terrifying experience, realizing his 92 Ford F150 truck began smoking on the freeway. Immediately he pulled to the side, first exit off 94 West Freeway, Lemon Grove. Red oil dripped on the ground—not good news. The transmission had overheated while hauling 2,000 pounds of oranges. Still smoking at a rest, the truck was towed to Economy Transmissions of Lemon Grove. The next morning, the phone call was great news! The transmission had “gurgled” oil, spilled onto the manifold, the reason for the smoke. After oil filling the transmission, the mechanic stated, “No damages.” Nice! In December another incident happened. Sergio heard a loud bang and thought his trailer was hit from behind. There was no one following. Ok, then? Another loud bang, followed by scraping noise stopped the truck cold down the road. The drive shaft had snapped. With good fortune, a witness pointed to a mechanic's shop and instructed “ask for David.” I did. Within a couple of hours, David fixed the drive shaft for \$95 on the spot. The trailer was hitched again, waving good bye with 1,700 pounds of oranges to deliver. Recently Sergio had to purchase new tires, \$550 plus \$200 for services from his personal pocket to continue his free nonprofit service.

We hope in 2018, we can find a sponsor to donate a badly needed truck or van to bring relief to the founder's Ford Pickup. Thank you for your wonderful support and continuous help harvesting, permission or donating.

**Our budget is less than \$5000 a year.
In return we provide more than
\$50,000 of free residential fruit. We
(you) give to people in need and saved
from landfills. Please support our
mission. Please sponsor us with an
annual sustaining donation.**



Click Here To
DONATE



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2017 End of Year Report

Residential Harvesting

Summary

2017	Total	Harvest Average
Pounds	69,741	532
Market Value *	\$52,306.	\$399.
Harvest Visits	131	11 ¹
Miles	4,269	33
Volunteers	913	7
Hours ²	2,631	20

Description	Value	Notation
Provided	\$ 52,306.	Free Fruit
Expenses	\$ 4,125.	Annual Budget
Results	\$ 48,181	Positive Gain

Staff

All are volunteers, to include five board members. No salary was paid

* .75 cents a pound

¹ Each Month

² All Volunteers

Finance

Received	Cash	Count	Averages
Cash	\$ 3,759.03	26	\$ 145.
Equipment	\$ 355.79	3	\$ 119.
Total Donations	\$ 4,114.82	29	\$ 142.
Paid			
Gasoline	\$ 1,806.28	76	\$ 24.
Insurance	\$1,179.94	2	\$ 590.
Marketing	\$ 216.13	9	\$24.
Administration	\$ 374.37	20	\$ 19.
Materials	\$ 548.49	25	\$ 22.
Total Expenses	\$ 4,125.21	132	\$ 31.
Balance:	- \$ 10.39		

We Thank You for Your Donations

Julie Tarra

Schafer Family Trust

Karla Cochran Padilla

Erlene M. Johnson

Sandra Vidman

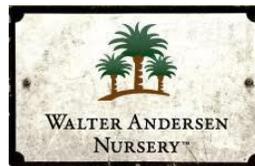
Veronica Archer

Carolyn Jones

Sara Gurwitch

Jeremy Janke

Carolyn Plou



Please ask how to contribute, supporting our mission. We are available for presentations at meetings. Be a part of our growing success, feeding people in need with fresh residential fruit. You can make a difference! Simply email, text or call for details. Please donate today

Click Here To
DONATE