

# Harvest CROPS

Community Residents Offering Produce Seasonally

A 501(c)(3) nonprofit charity organization



2018 Annual Report

January 2019

2112 Ensenada Street, Lemon Grove CA 91945 [www.HarvestCROPS.org](http://www.HarvestCROPS.org)

(619) 318-3423 [Donate@harvestcrops.org](mailto:Donate@harvestcrops.org) Chairperson: Sergio D. Padilla

*"Give us permission, so we can fulfill our mission"*

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

January 2019 celebrates our 10th year anniversary. Since January 2009, we have harvested and distributed over 340,000 pounds of fresh residential fruit—all delivered free to food distribution centers. Lemon Grove City Hall's four lemon trees was our first harvest, 100 pounds with three volunteers. 2009's grand total was 4,700 pounds from 19 harvests. Now we average seven volunteers for 600 pounds at one harvest. Annually we reach over 63,000 pounds. One harvest ranges from one to over 130 trees, 100 to over 6,000 pounds, from two to 32 harvest volunteers, five to over 90 miles round trip, and between 60,000 to 70,000 pounds annually from over 100 residential harvests. Our registered harvester volunteers' list is over 590. Our registered residents' list is 310. We delivered to 23 food distribution centers. Growing each year, we provide fresh residential fruit with the support of tax-deductible financial and equipment donations together with volunteered labor support. Our success is credited to our communities who have given us permission, so we can continue our mission. Harvest CROPS is here to flourish—deeply rooted and seasonally nurtured.



We cannot be successful without the support of our businesses and individuals financial, equipment and encouraging support. Our humble nonprofit is grateful to The San Diego Symphony's free tickets from January to May, averaging three to four concerts a month. For each concert we received ten to 50 free tickets for our volunteers--greatly appreciating the experience and gift of music. For most, the attendance was their very first, excited and thrilled of the opportunity. Our volunteer enthusiasm increased this year from San Diego Symphony's initiative and promotion. Another gift, out of the blue, was Brightwood College's decision to donate \$1,000. Four student volunteers harvested—and endorsed us as their top nonprofit experience. Volunteering and financial donating—two essential elements we survive on. Ask and ye shall receive came from Cuyamaca Community College on the attention of our only 92 Ford F150 pickup. The diagnostics alone, on top of the repairs, is a great relief to our limited budget. We purchased the part: They fixed a ruptured power-steering pressure hose. Wonderful! A few months later, the brakes needed serious attention. Mr. Dave Gahan of Lakeside heard our need. Instructed to contact Roger Daniel's Alignment & Brake of Santee, the brakes were fixed



from Daniel's significant discounts, and Mr. Gahan's covering the cost. Driving down a steep hill with over 2,000 pounds of fruit is no longer an anxiety experience. Mr. Gahan's generosity support extended for another opportunity—20 harvest poles donated! The Gahan family purchased the poles, originally \$40, at Lowe's clearance sale of \$10 each. Our dilapidated eight plus-years poles were replaced.

We considered the idea of charging a tax-deductible "residential donation fee," to sustain and secure our financial needs. Asking for resident's feedback, our survey was not in favor—understandable. Highly appreciated, some were very supportive, encouraging the implementation of our financial solution. We dropped the idea and decided on a win/win possibility. We now encourage a tax-deductible support donation request *after* our residential harvest. Our request is received by emailed when our residents receive their tax-deductible receipt. About 75 percent of our residents are retired senior citizens, on fixed income. We never want to discourage, or have a resident hesitate about allowing us permission, so we can continue our mission.



At one point, we were challenged on funds for gasoline. Our Board members from their personal pockets, completely unexpected, donated \$600. Although our annual bills were paid, this gave us assurance for an immediate assurance gasoline budget. Volunteering personal time together with donating financially speaks volumes. As founder, I am very blessed with a supporting Board.



Our support continues with our harvester volunteers. In particular we recognize two residential harvesters, Raheem and Sabri, our "Minute Men." Previous Iraqi refugees, they volunteer when asked on short notice—helping in a situation. Time after time, they have come to the rescue, especially in high season. We are truly blessed with their faithfulness and readiness as volunteers. Immediately behind them are consistent volunteers, our "core volunteers." Dr. Truong with family and friends, Thu, Cindy, Margaret & Musa, Amy and son Aaron, they all volunteer when requested, harvesting with enthusiasm. Our North Regional Harvester leaders, Gumaro Escarcega, (also Vice-Chairperson), with Becky Beattie and daughter Ella, of The Olivenhain Citrus Project, they are all priceless from their dedicated volunteering support.

A summer program, Youth Works continues to support with volunteers and financial donations. Introducing an idea is only an idea, if no one takes action. Highly dependent on volunteers to implement our mission, our nonprofit is successful from their efforts and dedication. The County of San Diego thanks you for your time, producing the fruits of your labor.

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. Please download, complete and submit an application.



Thank you for making our ten years a success. Without your support—we just cannot be effective. Residents, harvesting volunteers, food pantries and financial and service supporters, we thank you for your decision in supporting our mission each year.

**Our budget is less than \$5000 a year. We provide more than \$60,000 of free residential fruit. We (you) give to people in need and saved from landfills. Please support us. Please sponsor with an annual sustaining donation.**

Sergio Padilla, Founder & Volunteer



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## 2018 End of Year Report

### Residential Harvesting

### Summary

2018	Total	Harvest Average
Pounds	<b>63,835</b>	<b>597</b>
Market Value <sup>1</sup>	<b>\$63,835.</b>	<b>\$597</b>
Harvest Visits <sup>2</sup>	107	9
Miles	3,568	34
Volunteers	725	7
Hours <sup>3</sup>	2,144	20

Description	Value	Notation
Provided	<b>\$ 63.835</b>	Free Fruit
Expenses	<b>\$ 4,340.</b>	Annual Budget
Results	<b>\$ 59,495</b>	<b>Given Free</b>

<sup>1</sup>\$1.00 a pound

<sup>2</sup> Each Month

<sup>3</sup> All Volunteers

### Staff

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

### Finance

Received	Dollars	Count	Averages
Cash	<b>\$ 4,724.25</b>	30	\$ 157.48.
Equipment	<b>\$ 0.00</b>	0	\$ 0.
<b>Total Donations</b>	<b>\$ 4,724.25</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>\$ 157.48</b>

Paid	Dollars	Count	Average
Gasoline	<b>\$ 2,190.63</b>	68	<b>\$ 32.22</b>
Insurance	<b>\$1,180.89</b>	2	<b>\$ 590.45</b>
Marketing	<b>\$ 85.07</b>	11	<b>\$ 7.73</b>
Administration	<b>\$ 515.36</b>	17	<b>\$ 30.32</b>
Materials	<b>\$ 368.32</b>	25	<b>\$ 14.73</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 4,340.27</b>	<b>123</b>	<b>\$ 675.45</b>

**Bank Account Current Balance: \$ 975.99**

Please...

Click Here To

**DONATE**



# Thank You for Your Tax-deductible Donations

## Individuals

*Billie Jean Gahan*

*Barbara Taylor*

*Sara Holtmeyer*

*Bonnie & Geoff Copland*

*Dave Gahan*

*Jennifer Mendoza*

*Cindy McLaurin*

*Sharon Sabala*

*Barbara Taylor*

*Clarence Mascari*

*Heather Perry*

*Penelope Hamel*

*Gumaro Escarcega*

*Schafer Family Trust*

*Jeanne Willoughby*

*Karla Cochran Padilla*

*Erlene M. Johnson*

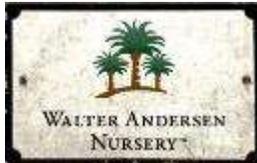
*Maria & Steve Castenado*

*Linda Romanow*

*Jennifer Marquie*

*...and Anonymously*

## Local Businesses



Please ask how to contribute. Support 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, tax-deductible.**