



ANNUAL REPORT 2024



Gaining ground for farmers

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dear Friends and Supporters,

2024 was a milestone year for Land For Good—we celebrated **20 years of working to ensure that farmland remains in the hands of farmers**. This anniversary was more than a moment to reflect—it was a chance to honor the partnerships, persistence, and purpose that fuel our mission every day. We're grateful to share this achievement with you—our community of funders, partners, and advocates—because it's your belief in our work that makes progress possible.

Access to land remains one of the biggest challenges for new and beginning farmers. High land prices, development pressure, and rising interest rates make it harder than ever to secure farmland. At the same time, nearly one-third of New England's farms are operated by farmers over 65. Many are ready to retire but need support navigating succession and finding the right successor. How this land changes hands will shape our food and farming system for years to come.

Our mission is to expand secure farmland access, tenure, and transfer. We offer one-on-one advising, connect stakeholders, and work to improve policies—always with farmers at the center. Whether we're helping a retiring farmer plan their legacy or a new farmer establish roots, our goal is the same: to keep land in farming and build a future where farmers can thrive.

In this report, you'll find stories from the field, highlights from two decades of impact, and a look at where we're headed. In 2025, we'll add a part-time Farm Transfer Coordinator, bring on new team members in Maine and Connecticut, and expand our board to grow our reach and expertise.

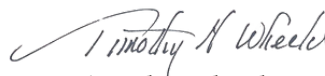
This past year, I was honored to step into the role of Executive Director after serving five years as Program Director. I'm proud to lead this dedicated, collaborative team and excited for the bold new work ahead as we launch our next [strategic plan](#).

Thank you for making this work possible. Your support is what keeps us moving forward—together, we're gaining ground for farmers.

With gratitude,



Shemariah Blum-Evitts
Executive Director



Timothy Wheeler
Board Chair



Photo credits Land For Good, and:
Free Living Farm (cover first row, right)
NH Charitable Foundation (cover second row,
left, and page 3, top)
Dancing Harvest Farm (page 3, bottom)

ABOUT US

At Land For Good, we connect, assist, and engage farmers, landowners, service providers, communities, and policymakers to grow equitable farming opportunity and sustainably keep land in agriculture. We work across scales, from individual support to federal policy, to improve how farmers get onto, hold, and transfer farms.

We envision a vibrant landscape of working farms managed by diverse farmers. Entire communities will benefit from increased farming opportunity, climate resilience, healthy lands, and a more secure food supply.

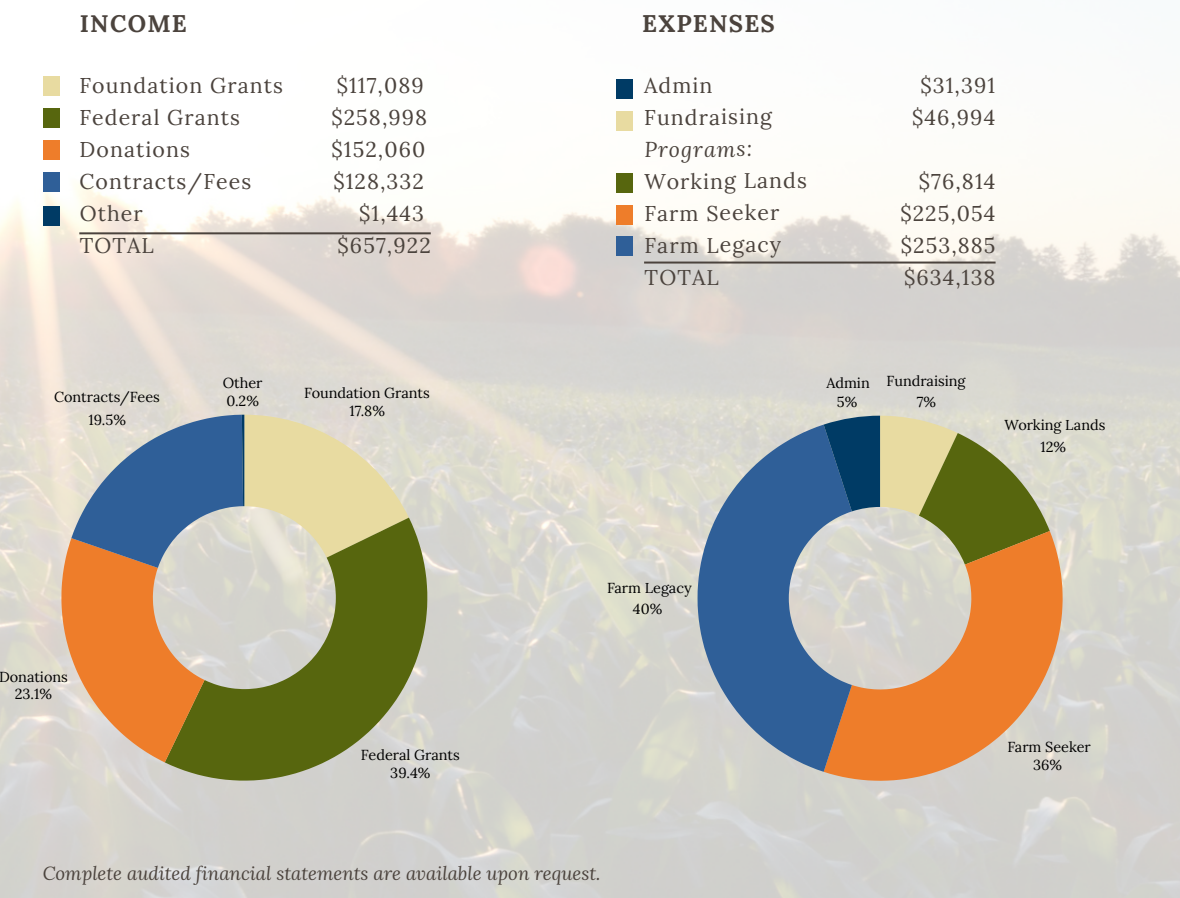
LOOK INSIDE



- Financial Summary
- Dancing Harvest Farm
- Our Team
- Our Impact
- Reflecting on 20 Years
- Crossroad Farm
- Special Thanks!

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Land For Good is a 501(c)(3) organization. This financial statement reflects January 1, 2024 - December 31, 2024.



DANCING HARVEST FARM

Daniela learned that searching for farmland was easier with a team on her side. It required assessing soil quality, utilities, and access to the markets on multiple properties. It also necessitated writing a secure lease that considers the farm's viability and growth.

Like many beginning farmers, Daniela started her farm business, Dancing Harvest Farm, at an incubator farm. She reached out to Land For Good in the fall of 2021 for help assessing land and for feedback on an offer she made on a property. While she was eager and excited about the opportunity, Daniela came to realize that the property did not align with her needs. She recalls asking if she was “crazy” for wanting to

buy this farm. After consulting with our team, Daniela felt empowered to walk away from that opportunity for good reason.

When Daniela was ready, she worked with our team to clearly articulate her farmland criteria, narrow her search, and assess multiple properties. Bolstered by this support, Daniela hit the ground; she knocked on doors hoping to talk to the landowner, dropped off veggie bags and letters, and scoured maps and public records.

Daniela secured a lease in 2024 on farmland in South Portland, Maine that better fit her needs. Read her story at landforgood.org/farmer-stories.



Daniela at
Dancing Harvest Farm
South Portland, ME

“All of these steps felt overwhelming to take on alone, but having LFG field agents who were both farmers themselves and experienced in this process made me more confident to keep moving forward,” shared Daniela.

OUR TEAM

Whether it's discussing new farmland access tools, working one-on-one, or leading a training session, our team demonstrates their commitment to strengthening farmer success. See our staff in action over the past year:

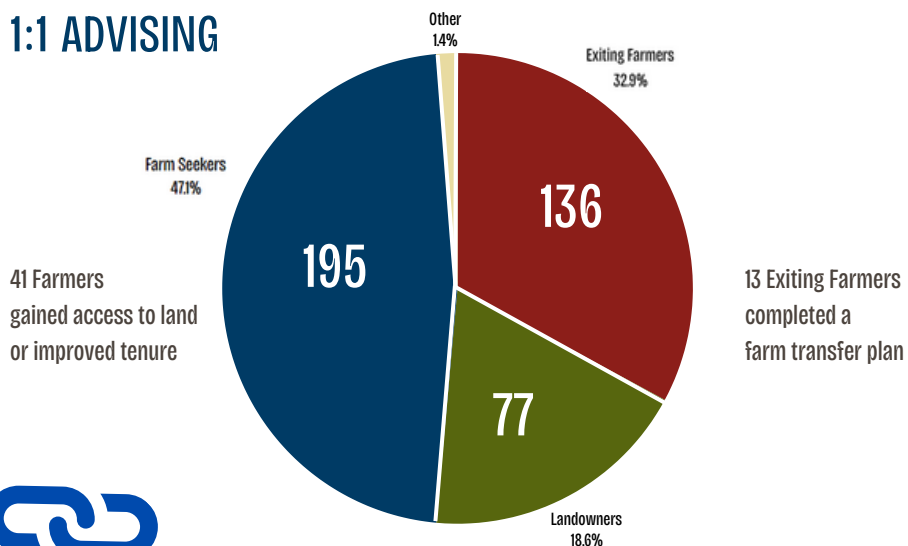


Land For Good team pictured above (L-R): Jae, Kali, Dee, Rachel, Shema, Kate T., Will, Kate K., Lisa, Kathy, and Mike.

OUR IMPACT

This past year 1,937 farmers, landowners, and service providers took advantage of LFG training through 58 workshops. We guided 414 individuals through one-on-one advising to secure access to land, improve land tenure situations, transfer a farm, or make land available for farming.

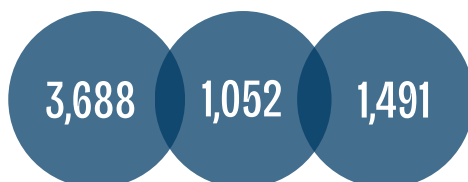
1:1 ADVISING



Website upgrade offered improved access to resources:

36,358

Online visitors



Farm Seekers • Exiting Farmers • Landowners received online resources to further land goals

Stay connected throughout the year! Follow us on social media and subscribe to our e-news at landforgood.org.



"One of my most vivid memories, and most impactful memories, of our time working together was when you came in and we all sat down together and somehow you were able to just pull everyone together and pull all those lease pieces together. And we all felt really good about it. There was no confusion about it. It was clear and comprehensive, and it was done."

David, Natural Roots Farm



[Watch our Impact Video!](#)

20 YEARS OF GROWING FARMLAND OPPORTUNITY

For two decades, Land For Good has been at the forefront of addressing the critical issues of farmland access, tenure, and transfer. When we first started, the challenge of “land access” for farmers was virtually unheard of. There were no dedicated services, no public awareness, and little advocacy on behalf of those facing barriers to land tenure. Land For Good changed the game. We developed one of the first farmland linking websites; produced a wealth of research reports, policy papers, and educational resources; advocated for new funding; trained other service providers in this work; and empowered programs nationwide.

Fast forward to today, and land access and farm succession are widely recognized as pivotal issues. Our efforts to raise awareness at the regional and national levels have turned these challenges into key priorities, not just for farmers, but for communities and policymakers alike.

In the past 20 years, Land For Good has provided over 9,340 cases of support and education to farmers, landowners, and service providers. Our personalized advising services have impacted more than 2,770 individuals, advancing their farmland goals and securing the future of over 107,000 acres. The work we do is creating lasting change for the farmers of today—and for the generations to come.

*Special thanks to our
20th anniversary
sponsors:*



FARM CREDIT EAST

107,264 ACRES

in New England were accessed, held, or transferred over the past 20 years to keep farmland in farming for future generations.



CROSSROAD FARM

Tim and Janet, founders of Crossroad Farm in Fairlee, Vermont, began on just one acre in 1980 and grew to the current 56-acre vegetable farm with 18 greenhouses. Community support played a key role in the farm's success, as Tim and Janet hired local students, donated to food shelves, and shared their expertise with other farmers.

As they approached their 60s, Tim and Janet decided to begin a gradual transition plan to transfer the farm by the time they turned 70. They worked with Mike Ghia, LFG's Vermont Field Agent, and the Vermont Land Trust, on conserving the land to make it more

affordable for a successor. After many discussions, and much reflection, Phil emerged as the successor. Phil had worked on the farm since he was a teenager. Mike supported Tim and Janet and Phil's long-term goals. Phil became a business partner in 2015 and helped expand the farm's operations.

In 2020, Janet retired, and Tim and Phil became equal partners. In 2022, after 12 years of planning, Phil officially purchased the farm, while Tim and Janet reduced their roles, with Tim still involved and Janet enjoying retirement. The gradual, planned transition proved successful and ensured the farm's future. Read their story at landforgood.org/farmer-stories.



Tim at
Crossroad Farm
Fairlee, VT

“For me, the idea that one day you can walk out on the farm, and this is no longer yours is difficult emotionally. You’re still interested, you’re still committed, and you want to see it succeed and be part of it,” shared Tim.



Gaining ground for farmers

Founded in 2004,
Land For Good
is a nonprofit
working with
farmers and
landowners to
expand secure
farmland access,
tenure, and
transfer across
New England.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jennifer Hashley
Tory McCagg
Joanna McCormick
Glen Ohlund
Allison Poirier
Carl Querfurth
Timothy Wheeler
Janet Woodward



[Donate Now](#) • [Become a Business Sponsor](#)

*Your generosity this past year allows us to keep farmland in farming
and connect more exiting farmers and landowners to our region's diverse farm seekers.*

20th ANNIVERSARY SPONSORS: Gold Sponsor: Johnny's Selected Seeds • Silver Sponsors: CT Greenhouse Company • Farm Credit East • Bronze Sponsors: American Farmland Trust • C&S Wholesale Grocers • Fassett Farm Nursery • Legal Food Hub; **BUSINESS DONORS:** Berry Creek Farm • Chip In Farm, Inc. • Greenfield Farmers Cooperative Exchange • Mascoma Bank • Mohawk Valley Trading Company • Monadnock Food Co-op • Natural Roots Farm • Nicola Farms LLC • Poverty Lane Orchards; **FUNDING PARTNERS:** American Farmland Trust • Clif Bar Family Foundation • Community Involved in Sustaining Agriculture • Connecticut Department of Agriculture • Elmina B. Sewall Foundation • Farm Aid • The Land Connection • Madelaine von Weber Foundation • Maine Farmland Trust • Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources • The Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture • New Hampshire Farm Future Fund • Northeast Agricultural Education Foundation, Inc. • Organization for Refugee and Immigrant Success-NH • Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences • Renewing the Countryside • Southeastern Massachusetts Agricultural Partnership • United Natural Foods, Inc. • University of Maine Cooperative Extension's Maine Agricultural Mediation Program • USDA Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program • USDA Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program • Vermont Housing & Conservation Board's Vermont Farm & Forest Viability Program • Viva Farms • Wild Geese Foundation