

October 2016 Quarterly Update Linn Benton Food Share

Here are some highlights from the last three months at Food Share!



Partnerships – That's What!

Intentional Production: This spring Food Share launched into a new Intentional Production partnerships with local small farmers: Turpen Family Farm, Alsea; RainShine Family Farm, Kings Valley; Joyful Noise, Corvallis; and Pitchfork & Crow, Lebanon.

Linn Benton Food Share Garden: Another food production partnership has been with OSU Extension Small Farms and Albany Helping Hands to establish the Linn Benton Food Share Garden Project in Albany. We had about 2 acres under cultivation this first year, thanks to a lot of volunteer effort!

And the results of all this food production partnering? An influx of 10,000 pounds of **really** fresh, **really** diverse produce to our agencies! The bounty included: Apples, beans, beets, brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, cherries, corn, cucumbers, eggplant, garlic, greens, herbs, kale, lettuce, melons, onions, peas, peppers, potatoes, radishes, rhubarb, squash, strawberries, tomatillos, tomatoes, turnips and zucchini.



Another Partnership – Garfield Mobile Pantry: We've completed a full year of service at the Garfield School Mobile Pantry in Corvallis. This pantry is all about partnerships, starting with Garfield Elementary School and St Vincent de Paul/Corvallis Pantry. In partnership with Benton County Health Department Garfield has a bilingual School Health Navigator onsite to assist families – her support of the pantry has really helped families feel comfortable and welcome! Along the way we also have had monthly food tastings provided by OSU Extension Food Hero staff, a children's winter coat giveaways compliments of the local Knights of Columbus (who also volunteer to do pantry set up and take down each month), a visit by the Corvallis/Benton Co. Public Library Bookmobile, and Energy Assistance outreach from the Community Services Consortium Corvallis office staff. What a year!

And here are the numbers, Oct 2015 - Sept 2016:

Total Pounds: 40,321 Produce: 9,208 (23%)
Boxes/Families: 320 Individuals: 1266

