DEAR CCOF MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS,

Each spring, we write to you to tell you about all the things you’ve helped CCOF accomplish in the previous year. As we sit down now to reflect on 2019—in the middle of 2020 and the coronavirus pandemic—it almost feels like another lifetime ago with how much the world has changed in such a short time. But what we learned and achieved in 2019 can help us chart the path forward. We can’t know what healing and renewal for the world will look like after this crisis ends. But what I do know is that CCOF members will be there every step of the way to feed, nourish, and sustain our communities.

Last year, 3,885 CCOF members put healthy, nourishing food on tables across the country. You helped us give $30,260 to organic farmers and business owners who needed financial help to weather a tough season. You helped us teach 6,558 students about organic. You helped us give grants to 41 students who will become organic’s future leaders. You’ll see the full scope of our collective reach in this report, but suffice it to say that the organic community’s contributions go far beyond those that nurture people and our planet.

In 2019, many of you gave us input to help us publish our Roadmap to an Organic California: Policy Report. It’s full of concrete, science-backed steps we can take to promote organic as a solution to climate change, economic instability, and health inequity in our communities. The report proposes 37 policy recommendations that will help us reap the full benefits of organic, which will be more critical than ever as we collectively heal from the far-reaching effects of the pandemic. I encourage you to read the full report at www.ccof.org/roadmap.

Reflecting on last year gives me hope for the future because I know we can all continue working together toward a world of healthy people, healthy land, healthy climate, and a healthy economy. What the research and CCOF’s own history tell us is that organic business owners and farmers are resilient, creative, and passionate supporters of their communities. These are qualities we need now more than ever.

How will you help us unleash organic as a true solution to our world’s most pressing issues? There is strength in numbers, and we invite you to work toward this goal together with us. Join your local CCOF chapter, get certified by CCOF, or send us a donation. This all starts with our membership and our supporters, and we couldn’t do it without you.

Many thanks,

Kelly Damewood
CEO
Our members provide the financial cornerstone for all the ways CCOF supports organic. CCOF members support us by being certified, and many redouble their commitment to organic by donating directly to the Foundation. Organic leaders outside of CCOF take our members’ contributions even further through additional donations.

**FINANCIALS**

Eighty-one percent of revenue is directed to programs that support organic by providing service-oriented organic certification, diverse educational offerings, and dedicated policy work. The remaining 19 percent provides general and administrative services as well as fundraising.

**CCOF CROSS-ORGANIZATIONAL REVENUE**

- **CCOF Certification Services, LLC**
  Provides direct support to certified organic operations by staffing our offices with certification experts to answer questions, investing in technology that makes managing certification more efficient, and refining our processes to help the organic sector grow even faster.

- **CCOF Foundation**
  Enables the CCOF Foundation to educate future organic farmers, assist organic farmers in need, and provide ongoing training for organic professionals.

- **CCOF, Inc.**
  Provides cost-effective infrastructure for our certification, advocacy, and Foundation programs, including human resources, marketing, and technology for over 100 CCOF staff to advance CCOF’s mission. The CCOF, Inc. funds are also invested in advocacy activities to provide leadership and representation for organic in policy discussions across the United States.

**CCOF FOUNDATION FUNDING**

- **CCOF, Inc. Investment**
  CCOF, Inc. invests 2% of certification money per year into the CCOF Foundation.

- **Donations and Grants**
  The CCOF, Inc. investment is expanded through individual and business donations and federal and foundation grants. As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, the CCOF Foundation gives organic champions the opportunity to make tax deductible donations toward programs that support current and future organic producers across the nation.

**CCOF FOUNDATION PROGRAM EXPENDITURES**

- **Annual Event**
  Our annual event is a treasured tradition that provides a yearly opportunity for the organic community to network, share resources, and learn how to grow their businesses.

- **Bricmont Hardship Assistance Fund**
  A direct financial assistance fund open to all certified organic producers who suffer losses due to extreme hardship.

- **Consumer Education**
  An annual distribution of consumer education cards that explain why purchasing organic matters.

- **Future Organic Farmer Grant Fund**
  The only fund in the nation that provides educational grants exclusively to students and teachers of organic agriculture.

- **Organic Training Institute**
  Hands-on trainings, workshops, and seminars that support success in organic production for farmers, processors, and ranchers.

- **Roadmap to an Organic California**
  A comprehensive review of how organic agriculture promotes climate resilience, health equity, and economic prosperity, with a focus on California.
“I couldn’t do any of this without the help from [the CCOF Foundation]. They showed me that raising an organic hog is possible even though I am so young, and so many think that being young can stop me. I think being young in organic agriculture gives me an advantage—I am able to grow while organic agriculture does. As organic agriculture grows there are more opportunities for young people like me to get involved.

I am just one young future farmer of America, but maybe my story will inspire another and maybe their story will inspire someone else. That’s what keeps me advocating for organic agriculture wherever I go.”

—LAILA SOUZA, 12th Grade National FFA Organization Student

THE 2019 CCOF FOUNDATION ORGANIC CHAMPION Awardees

ORGANIC VALLEY’S FARMERS ADVOCATING FOR ORGANIC

Farmers Advocating for Organic was a founding partner of the CCOF Foundation’s Future Organic Farmer Grant Fund and has contributed every year since 2014. Farmers Advocating for Organic is the largest organic-focused and farmer-funded grant program in the United States and is a means for Organic Valley dairy cooperative farmers to support long-term, sustainable solutions to the problems facing organic.

DR. KAREN KLONSKY

Dr. Karen Klonsky was a trailblazer who paved the way for an organic California. In the late 1980s, she co-founded the University of California, Davis Sustainable Agricultural Farming Systems group. She created long-term trials of organic and conventional agriculture—long before organic was accepted in the research community—and conducted the first organic cost and return studies. Her work showed the farming community that organic farming is possible and can be profitable, which encouraged many farmers to make the transition. Dr. Klonsky passed away in September 2018 and will be remembered as a generous and widely respected woman who was a fierce advocate for organic.
WHAT WE ARE CELEBRATING

All of the progress you’ve helped us achieve in 2019 has pushed the envelope on organic as a solution for our communities. HERE’S WHAT WE ACCOMPLISHED TOGETHER IN 2019:

- 6,558 kids learned about organic agriculture at school from teachers who received $1,000 through the Future Organic Farmer Grant Fund for their organic projects.
- 20 high schoolers completed organic Supervised Agricultural Experience projects funded through the Future Organic Farmer Grant Fund.
- 21 vocational and higher education students received $2,500 from the Future Organic Farmer Grant Fund to give them foundations for organic careers.
- 538 organic and other professionals learned new skills through the Organic Training Institute’s 14 webinars, workshops, and technical assistance programs.
- In 45 states and 4 countries, CCOF certified 3,885 organic operations who are responsible for getting organic products to consumers around the world.
- 14 CCOF chapters held meetings to network and share news and research affecting the organic community.
- 968 CCOF members used MyCCOF Action Item Tracker to submit certification requests electronically.
- We wrote and delivered 22 comments to the National Organic Program and the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB).
- Over 80 CCOF inspectors conducted 5,500 inspections to ensure the integrity of organic.
- Organic businesses who experienced hardship received $30,260 in aid from the Bricmont Hardship Assistance Fund.
- CCOF crafted 37 policy recommendations to advance organic for a healthy world.
- 6,500 copies of the Roadmap to an Organic California: Benefits Report were distributed to policymakers, partner organizations, farmers, and consumers across the nation.
- 30 legislative staff attended a briefing about the benefits of organic agriculture described in Roadmap to an Organic California: Benefits Report.
“The Roadmap to an Organic California: Policy Report is both visionary and practical. It lays out why it is essential for our health care and farming sectors to work together to improve the health of all Californians, especially those who are most vulnerable. And it lays out the immediate steps we can take to make that vision a reality. At Ceres Community Project, we know firsthand the importance of nourishing our medically fragile clients with healthy, whole, and organic foods. We’re excited to continue partnering with CCOF to advance the most effective solutions to create a healthier California for everyone.”

—CATHRYN COUCH, Ceres Community Project
OUR SUPPORTERS

Thank you to the 3,885 CCOF-CERTIFIED MEMBERS WHO GAVE $228,923 back to CCOF’s programs by choosing CCOF for their organic certification. Additional support was provided by CCOF Foundation donors, listed below by level of giving.

VISIONARY

Champion
Fagundes Brothers Dairy
Sunview Vineyards
Sweet Earth Foods
Tanimura & Antle
Wawona Packing

SUSTAINABLE FUTURES FUND

Clarence E. Heller Charitable Foundation

Driscoll’s
Only the Finest Berries™

OPN
Organic Produce Network

Patagonia

Good Earth Natural Foods
Mission Ranches
Naraghi Farms
Adriene Niehaus
Organics Unlimited
Panorama Meats
Seed Dynamics
Straus Family Creamery
Taylor Brothers Farms
Top Brass Marketing
Traditional Medicinals
Val-Mar Farms Organics

FUTURE ORGANIC FARMER GRANT—VISIONARY

FUTURE ORGANIC FARMER GRANT—CHAMPION

FUTURE ORGANIC FARMER GRANT—ADVOCATE

FUTURE ORGANIC FARMER GRANT—FRIEND

VISIONARY

Fagundes Brothers Dairy
Sunview Vineyards
Sweet Earth Foods
Tanimura & Antle
Wawona Packing

ADVOCATE

Anthony Vineyards
Braga Fresh
Bolthouse Farms
Earl’s Organic Produce
Farm Credit
Front Porch Farm
GAIA Fund
Lundberg Family Farms
Marrone Bio Innovations
Mercaris
New Hope Network
Whole Foods Market

FUTURE ORGANIC FARMER GRANT—ADVOCATE

Bejo Seeds
Bonterra Organic Vineyards
CCOF Processor/Handler Chapter
Chino Valley Ranchers
Driscoll’s
INFRA

FUTURE ORGANIC FARMER GRANT—FRIEND

Awe Sum Organics
Capay Organic/Farm Fresh To You
Duncan Family Farms
Farmer and the Cook
Frey Vineyards
Green Hope Vodka
JSM Organics
MOM’s Organic Market
Sun Basket
Wild Roots Market

FRIEND

Abundant Harvest Organics
Associated Feed and Supply Co.
AgroThrive
California Organic Fertilizers
Anita and Josh Clerisse
Demeter USA
Duncan Family Farms

FUTURE ORGANIC FARMER GRANT—FRIEND

Clif Bar Family Foundation
UNFI Foundation

“At NRDC we believe that the food system, from farm to fork, has a profound impact on our health and the health of our planet. More organic farming in California will mean less pesticide exposure in vulnerable communities, healthier soil, more climate-friendly farms, and cleaner waterways. We are excited about the win-win solutions proposed in the Roadmap to an Organic California: Policy Report, and are looking forward to working with CCOF as we elevate solutions that will create a healthier and more resilient future for our state.”

—LENA BROOK, Director of Food Campaigns, National Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
YOU CAN HELP US ADVOCATE FOR ORGANIC AS THE SOLUTION TO OUR GREATEST CHALLENGES.

Help us advance organic agriculture for a healthy world by donating today. Learn more at www.ccof.org. Donate to the CCOF Foundation’s programs using the enclosed envelope or online by visiting www.ccof.org/get-involved.