

AMPLEHARVEST.ORG

ANNUAL REPORT

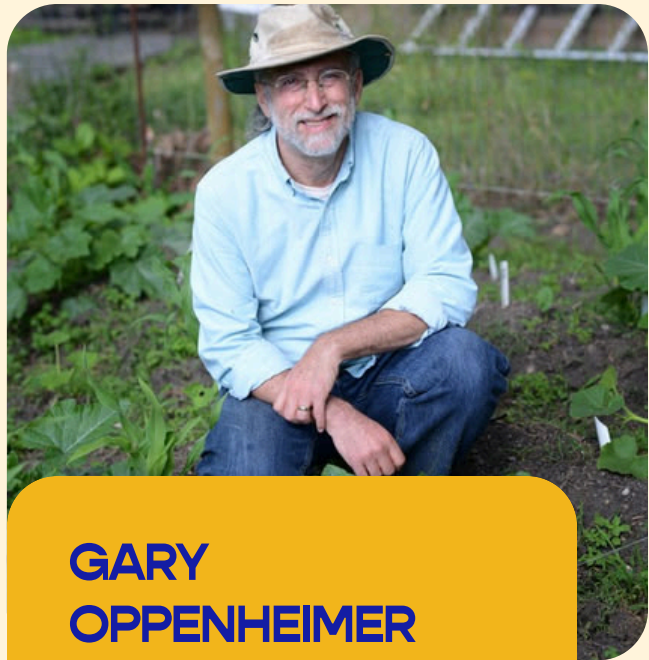
2025



TABLE OF CONTENTS

		LETTER FROM GARY	1
		LETTER FROM WENDY	3
INDIAN COUNTRY	7	ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW	4
FAITH FIGHTS FOOD WASTE	8	GARDENER OUTREACH	5
OUR FOUNDER ON THE ROAD	9	FOOD PANTRIES	6
INNOVATION	10		
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS	11		
MARKETING PARTNERS	12		
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	13		

LETTER FROM GARY



**GARY
OPPENHEIMER**

Founder and Executive Director

As we close the books on 2025, I keep coming back to one simple thought: this works because you make it work.

This year also marks something personal. We just wrapped up AmpleHarvest.org's sweet 16th year, and I am still amazed that an idea born in a community garden has grown into a nationwide solution that shows up, quietly, in thousands of communities.

Back in 2009, AmpleHarvest.org served exactly one community. I had just taken over our local community garden in West Milford, New Jersey, and like most gardeners, we grew more than we could use. Then I saw the real problem hiding in plain sight: too much food for our needs, and missing information that prevented donating fresh produce. Once those barriers were removed gardeners donate. Hunger-relief agencies receive. Families and seniors benefit.

That is still the heart of what we did in 2025.

We grew. We continued expanding into more and more communities, strengthening the nationwide network that helps local hunger-relief agencies be findable and donation-ready for the millions of home and community gardeners who want to help. And each new community is not just a dot on a map. It is a local, repeatable pipeline of fresh food, donated neighbor-to-neighbor, season after season.

Most people assume hunger is a logistics or legal problem. It is not. We removed the information barriers that kept would-be donors on the sidelines, then let communities do what communities do best: help their neighbors. That is why a small team can drive national-scale change, and why your support goes so far.

What's next: our 2026 priorities

If 2025 was about growth and strengthening the system, 2026 is about making that system easier to use, easier to scale, and dramatically easier for trusted institutions to activate.

1) Make AmpleHarvest.org plug-and-play for local government

In 2026 we are building out a dedicated, government-friendly section of AmpleHarvest.org so agencies can use what already exists in their communities to reduce hunger, malnutrition, and fresh food waste. Think of it as practical civic infrastructure: easy actions, copy-and-paste outreach, and a clear way for government to help local hunger-relief agencies keep listings accurate and donation-ready.

2) Partner with the entire gardening industry

We are working to bring the full gardening industry to the table with two simple, rally-the-nation moments: April as Plant for Hunger Month and August as Harvest for Hunger Month. The idea is straightforward: help gardeners plant with purpose, then make donating surplus harvests the most normal thing they do all season.

3) Invest in AI to increase efficiency and improve pantry data accuracy

Finally, we are leaning hard into AI to make our operations more efficient and to make the information gardeners rely on far more accurate and dependable. When pantry listings are current, donations are easier, repeat donations happen more often, and fewer would-be donors hit a dead end. This is one of the highest-leverage ways to increase impact without adding cost or complexity for communities.

I have said for years that you can do the impossible if you first believe it isn't. Sixteen years in, I believe it more than ever, not as a slogan, but as a scoreboard.

Thank you for standing with us, believing in a smarter model, and helping prove that a healthier America can start with something as simple as a gardener sharing what they grew.

LETTER FROM WENDY



**WENDY
GONZALEZ**
Board President

The heart of AmpleHarvest.org is the connection between growers and neighbors. That connection has never felt stronger than in 2025. From small towns to bustling cities, the momentum we carried into this year continued to grow in ways that tangibly helped to move communities forward.

None of this happens without the people behind it. The volunteers who tend their gardens with purpose. The donors who believe that a handful of tomatoes can change a life. The partners who show up, season after season, to make sure no harvest goes to waste. You are the foundation of everything we do, and my gratitude for your continued support runs deep.

2025 has shown, once again, that when generosity meets intention, real change follows. Together, we have made a meaningful dent in food insecurity, and there is still more we can do.

As we look ahead to 2026, I am encouraged by what remains possible. Let's keep growing, sharing, and showing up for one another and for the communities that count on us. Thank you for being part of this.

As we close the chapter on 2025, I find myself reflecting with gratitude on what this organization has accomplished and what lies ahead. It has been a meaningful year, and the progress AmpleHarvest.org has made continues to reaffirm why this work is so important.



ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW

VISION

AmpleHarvest.org envisions an America where millions of gardeners eliminate wasted food, malnutrition and hunger in their own community.

MISSION

To provide food insecure people with a sustained source of fresh, nutritious produce by educating and enabling America's gardeners to donate their surplus harvests to local food pantries.

GARDENER OUTREACH

GROWING A NATIONAL NETWORK

In 2025, AmpleHarvest.org connected with gardeners across urban, suburban, and rural communities nationwide. The network expanded significantly, with pantry searches increasing by 46% compared to the previous year. New gardeners found a pantry in their neighborhood, while seasoned participants continued to donate, reinforcing a grassroots movement founded on local action and shared responsibility.



46%

Increase in pantry searches

TURNING OUTREACH INTO IMPACT

Gardeners contributed an estimated millions of pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables directly to nearby food pantries, significantly boosting access to nutritious food and cutting down on waste. These local donations enabled food pantries to offer healthier options and address community needs more effectively.

FOOD PANTRIES



200

new communities



200

food bank partners



60%

new communities

ONGOING PARTNERSHIPS AND SUPPORT

We are actively engaged with more than 200 Feeding America food banks across the nation, as well as their member agencies. Our efforts focus on ensuring that these organizations are registered on AmpleHarvest.org and that their information remains current and accurate.

FACILITATING COMMUNITY DONATIONS

By maintaining up-to-date records and supporting the registration process, we aim to simplify the donation process for gardeners. As the gardening season begins, AmpleHarvest.org makes it easy for gardeners to locate food pantries and food assistance programs. This ensures that their fresh produce donations are delivered efficiently to those in need, fostering a stronger connection between gardeners and local food banks.

INDIAN COUNTRY

Expanding AmpleHarvest.org into Indian Country has required far more than extending our national model into a new geography. When AmpleHarvest.org launched in 2009, we were addressing one nation-wide challenge: removing the missing information and misinformation that prevented gardeners from donating their surplus harvests to nearby hunger-relief agencies. In Indian Country, that work must respect the realities of more than 300 distinct Native Nations, each with its own culture, traditions, governance, and community needs.

From the beginning, AmpleHarvest.org in Indian Country has been led and guided by Tribal elders and Indigenous food sovereignty experts. Their guidance has helped shape a program grounded in respect, relevance, and practical value for Native communities.

This work is especially important because malnutrition remains a serious issue in many Tribal communities. At the same time, Native Americans garden more per capita than any other segment of the U.S. population, creating an extraordinary opportunity to increase access to fresh, healthy, locally grown food. By helping hunger-relief agencies become more visible and accessible for fresh food donations, AmpleHarvest.org in Indian Country can strengthen food access in ways that are local, sustainable, and community-centered.



The benefits often extend beyond Tribal lands. In many regions, Native communities and surrounding rural areas are deeply interconnected. As stronger food donation pathways take hold in Indian Country, neighboring rural communities can benefit as well, just as stronger rural networks can support Native communities. This creates broader regional impact while honoring the distinctiveness of each Nation.

Support from donors is essential to helping this work take hold in more Tribal communities sooner rather than later. Philanthropic investment can help AmpleHarvest.org expand this effort nationally so that many more Native Nations, and the surrounding rural communities connected to them, can benefit from healthier food access and stronger local food resilience.

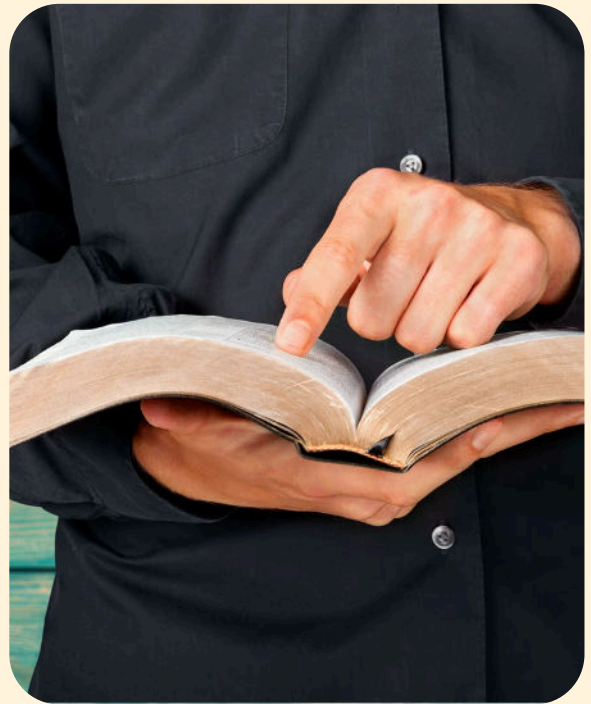
With donor support, AmpleHarvest.org in Indian Country can take hold in more Tribal communities sooner rather than later, bringing the benefits of healthier food access and stronger local food systems to many more Nations. We welcome partners ready to help expand this work nationwide with the respect, care, and urgency it deserves.

FAITH FIGHTS FOOD WASTE

Faith Fights Food Waste reflects a simple but powerful reality: in communities across America, faith leaders often have the trust, reach, and moral influence to inspire action in ways most nonprofits cannot. For AmpleHarvest.org, that matters greatly. The faith community can help gardeners understand that one important solution to hunger may already be growing in their own backyard.

AmpleHarvest.org is not a faith-based organization, and we do not advocate for, support, or promote any particular faith. But because so many food pantries are located in houses of worship, the faith community is a logical and highly effective partner in this work. In fact, about 70% of America's food pantries are housed in or connected to houses of worship. That means the more clergy and congregations we reach, the more food pantries can sign up, the more communities AmpleHarvest.org can serve, and the more fresh, healthy food can reach families in need.

Faith leaders also bring something especially important to this effort: the ability to connect action to values. Across many traditions, caring for neighbors, reducing waste, and being good stewards of what we have are deeply held principles. Faith Fights Food Waste helps turn those values into practical community action by encouraging more gardeners to donate their surplus harvests and more houses of worship-based food pantries to become visible and accessible to them.



For a small nonprofit like AmpleHarvest.org, this is a powerful force multiplier. By working through clergy and faith communities, we can expand our reach far beyond what traditional nonprofit outreach could accomplish alone. Support from donors and faith-based partners can help this effort grow nationwide, reaching more clergy, more food pantries, more gardeners, and many more communities sooner rather than later.

If you are part of a house of worship, regardless of faith tradition, please encourage your faith leader to visit FaithFightsFoodWaste.org. The site offers resources to help clergy share a sermon or message about food waste, hunger, stewardship, and the opportunity growing in our own backyards. One sermon can open eyes. One congregation can inspire gardeners to donate. And one faith community can help bring more fresh, healthy food to neighbors in need while strengthening the health of the entire community.

OUR FOUNDER ON THE ROAD AND ON THE SCREEN

AmpleHarvest.org's Founder and Executive Director, Gary Oppenheimer, is routinely on the road, and sometimes on Zoom, speaking to a wide variety of audiences across the country.

When Gary is invited to give a keynote or join a panel discussion, he is not there simply to talk about AmpleHarvest.org. He is there to help people see that some of America's biggest problems are not always caused by a lack of caring, resources, or money. Sometimes the real problem is that no one stopped to notice the missing information, the misinformation, or the barrier hiding in plain sight. That is the kind of thinking Gary brings to every talk.

He speaks about hunger, malnutrition, food waste, public health, leadership, innovation, and problem-solving. But most of all, he speaks about how change actually happens. Audiences hear the story of how one simple idea grew into a nationwide solution now helping more than 8,500 food pantries in more than 5,800 communities across all 50 states, including Native American reservations. More importantly, they leave thinking differently about what may be possible in their own work, their own organizations, and their own communities.



That is why these talks matter. They do not just inform. They open minds. After Gary's recent opening keynote in Atlantic City, focused on how improving the health of people also improves the health of the planet, one attendee wrote, "Amazing solution for solving food insecurity." Another described it as a "simple, fun, effective community-driven way to help alleviate hunger, improve health, and reduce food waste for the planet." Comments like these show that audiences are not just hearing the message. They are seeing the possibilities.

And when an organization hires Gary for a keynote, the impact does not stop there. He also donates a colloquium to a local college or university so students can better understand that they do not have to wait for permission, wealth, or age to start changing the world. They can begin by seeing a problem differently and daring to solve it.

If your company, conference, association, university, or organization is looking for a keynote speaker or panel participant who brings both inspiration and practical ideas, please visit AmpleHarvest.org/speaker.

INNOVATION



Innovation has always been at the heart of AmpleHarvest.org. From the very beginning, our work was built on a simple but transformative insight: hunger is not only a food problem, it is also an information problem. America's gardeners were already growing surplus harvests in communities nationwide, but missing information and misinformation prevented that fresh, healthy food from reaching nearby food pantries. By removing that barrier, AmpleHarvest.org introduced a new kind of nationwide solution that works locally, at zero cost to communities, with no logistics and no need for local facilities or volunteers.

That same spirit of innovation continues to shape our work today.

One important advancement is AmpleHarvest.org's ability to inform food pantries about the types of crops gardeners in their area are likely to be donating in the near future based on the USDA growing zone where the pantry is located. To our knowledge, no one has done this before. This gives food pantries an opportunity to better anticipate likely donations, prepare more effectively, and make smarter use of fresh, healthy food as it arrives.

We are also now using AI to improve the quality and reliability of our food pantry data. Accurate pantry information is essential to a smooth and successful donation experience. Instead of relying primarily on annual updates, AI now helps us move toward monthly review cycles, making it far more likely that gardeners will find current information when they are ready to donate. That means fewer dead ends, greater trust in the platform, and more fresh food reaching more people.

Looking ahead, AmpleHarvest.org will also be creating a toolkit specifically for local, county, and state government leaders, helping them bring more healthy food into their communities at zero cost. As we look to the future, AmpleHarvest.org will continue to identify new opportunities to innovate and strengthen the model so America makes better use of the healthy, fresh food it already has.

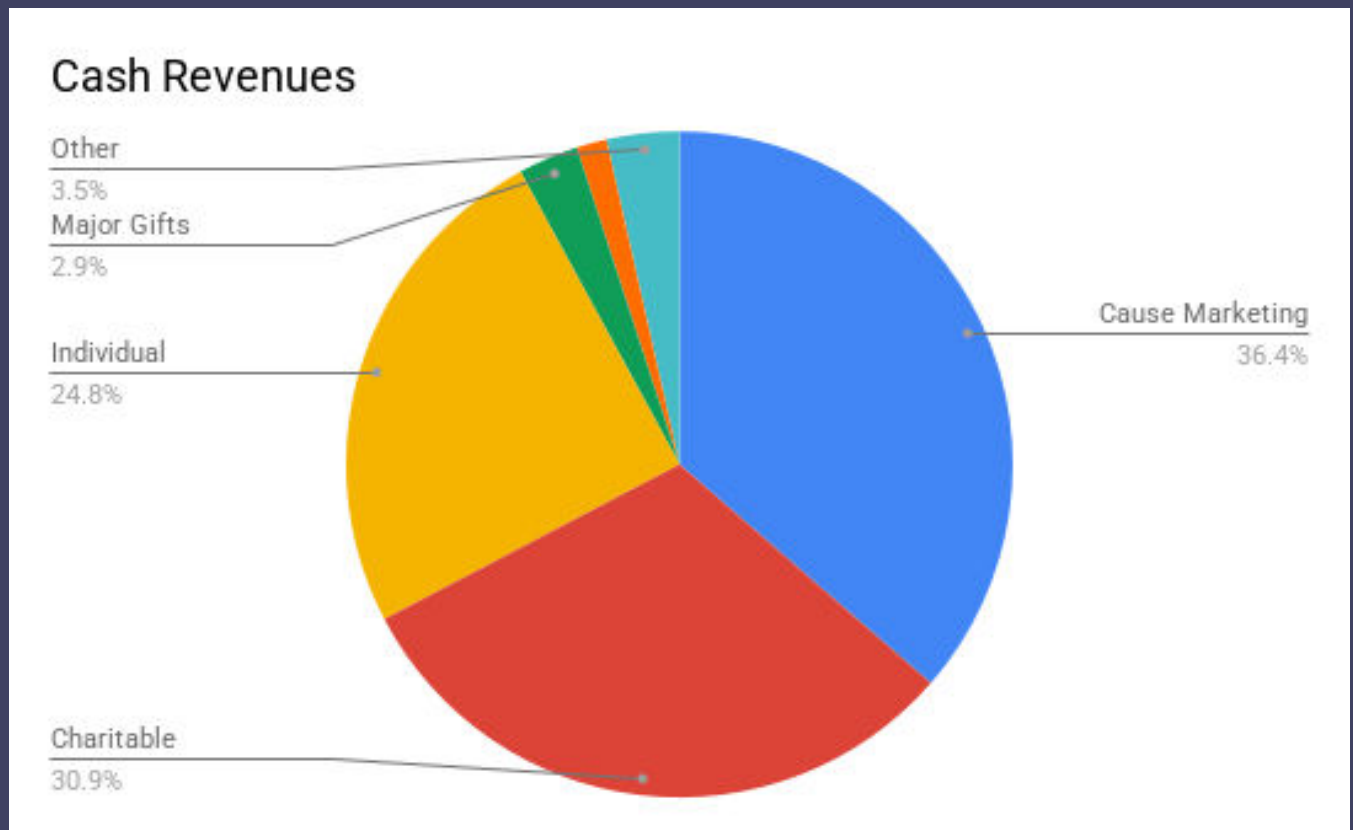
FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

* INCOME STATEMENTS

AmpleHarvest.org also received continuing support from Google in the form of in-kind donations to support our online advertising and public awareness campaigns. These in-kind donations allow us to spread awareness of our program and educate the American public about the severity of the hunger and food waste crisis.

Revenue

\$592,341.92





MARKETING PARTNERS

We would like to thank all of our individual donors, partners, staff, volunteers, and board for their support in 2025.

- Bonnie Plants
- Broadway Cares
- Clif Bar Family Foundation
- Google
- The Home Depot
- Scott's Miracle Gro
- Whole Foods
- Costco
- Horizon Blue Cross NJ
- ///What3Words
- Thomas G. Aruth Foundation
- Lewis Family Fund
- Sierra7
- USDA
- White House Office of Faith and Communities
- Feeding America
- Protagona
- Harvard Tech For Social Good
- Praxis
- Isabelle del Rosal
- Chief Henry Red Cloud
- Indigenous Food Sovereignty Experts nationwide
- CFC
- Feds Feed Families
- Donor Advised Funds

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Thank you to all our donors! We use your contributions to:

- Expand to more communities nationwide
- Add pantries to our registry
- Grow Faith Fights Food Waste and Indian Country program
- Create more engaging educational material and videos
- Build additional strategic partnerships
- Operate a lean national program with outsized impact

Our donors all made a difference! Thank you to individuals and companies that are sponsoring pantries!

