75% of Western County schools do not have scratch cooked meals.

95% of food consumed is imported into Nevada County.

15,000 residents live without reliable access to affordable, nutritious food.

58 YEARS is the average age of a farmer.

“Eating is an everyday experience, and the decisions we make about what we eat have daily consequences. And those daily consequences can change the world.”

Alice Waters

Photo: Josephine McProud | Right: Lori Lachman
Cover: Lenkaland Photography
OUR VISION

Sierra Harvest envisions a thriving local food economy where residents of all ages have access to nutritious, local, seasonal food through strong connections among farmers, schools, and the community.

We envision a network of financially viable farms providing good food for the community, where health and wellness is the norm, and people are engaged in growing, harvesting, preparing, and sharing fresh food.
In partnership with Nevada Joint Union High School and Nevada City School Districts, the new Foothills Fresh school meal program served over 53,000 lunches cooked from scratch this year. The number of students eating school lunch more than doubled.

Now that they serve a side salad as part of the school meal, my son shocked me by saying, ‘I want a bigger salad’ at dinner time. We make salad every day and usually only give him a small portion. Now he’s eating more of it.”

Alicia Funk, Parent, Seven Hills Middle School

“School lunch is no longer something for the struggling families. Now students are happy to have their hands in the air to order lunch. It’s equalized food.”

Steve Gillespie, Seven Hills Middle School
Sierra Harvest is teaching children to fall in love with fresh food. Our farm to school program is in 32 schools and **1,700 children** visit the Food Love Educational Farm every year. Farm field trips and U-picks give children and families direct access to fresh, local food while building their self-esteem and developing their character.

“On the last day of Food Love Farm summer camp, my child was already asking to do the camp again next year!”

Sabina’s mom
Sierra Harvest has trained 59 farmers and ranchers who are now building a more robust local food economy. This year Sierra Harvest provided 962 hours of direct education to local farmers!

“FarmBiz provided me with a tool belt with which I am able to focus and plan my farm more effectively to make money.”

Stephanie Williams, Fungal Farm
Sierra Harvest also connects consumers to local farms and ranches. This year **1,700 people** attended farm potlucks, soup nights, and the Sustainable Food and Farm Conference.

“**I was petrified of the process of filling out the organic certification application. This class eased all my fears and insecurities about the unknown and the application process. It’s absolutely a must for anyone who wants to pursue farming.**”

Sandra Higareda from Higareda Family Farm
Farm Biz and the Organic Cert. class participant
The Sierra Gardens program empowers new gardeners who find peaceful time outside, enjoy the abundance of nature with their community, and are happier and more satisfied with their lives.

**THIS YEAR**

- **90** people learned to grow food in their new gardens
- **100% reduction** in participants who regularly had to skip a meal
- **92%** share excess produce with their neighbors
- **100%** of participants now feel confident growing their own food
- **83%** of them are low income

"I was struggling financially and really missed fresh vegetables in my diet when I heard about the Sierra Gardens program. Now, every time I pull vegetables and bring them in the house, I feel successful. It is good for both my physical and mental well-being. I am so grateful to Sierra Harvest."

Kimberly Acuña

Photo: Val Camp | Top: Lenkaland Photography | Above: Edy Cassell
FINANCIALS

DIRECT PROGRAM EXPENSES & CORE MISSION SUPPORT
$777,500

INCOME $1,032,500

- Individual & Business Donations 20%
- Grants (Foundation & Govt) 65%
- Earned Income 15%

STAFF AND BOARD

SIERRA HARVEST STAFF
Brianna Abundiz, Senior Farm Educator
Rachel Berry, Engagement Director
Malika Bishop, Co-Director
Edy Cassell, Sierra Gardens Coordinator
Nicole Keene, Development Associate
Miriam Limov, Engagement Manager
Lyndly Martin, Office Manager
Maggie McProud and Emily Koller, Food Love Farm Directors
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Photo: Lenkaland Photography
HARVESTING OUR FUTURE SOCIETY
The donors below pledged a minimum of $1,000 a year for 5 years toward the long term sustainability of Sierra Harvest. They are members of the Harvesting our Future Society. We deeply appreciate their investment in a thriving local food and farm future.

Sustainer Circle
$25,000+ per year for 5 years
The Edwin E. Perkins Foundation

Seed Circle
$1,000+ per year for 5 years

LEAVING A LOCAL FOOD LEGACY
Our gratitude to the following people for making a planned gift to Sierra Harvest.

Paul and Eileen Jorgensen
Dave and Aimee Retzler
Freda Scott
Anonymous

WE THANK the following donors who made contributions July 1, 2017-June 30, 2018. They educate, inspire and connect families to fresh, local, seasonal food.

$25,000+
Susie and David Bavo, BriarPatch Food Co-op, Tom Cunningham, Transformation Trust

$10,000+
Frontier Co-op/Simply Organic, Leo and Gayle Granucci, Nevada County Superintendent of Schools, Sierra Health Foundation, Anonymous

$1,000+
Meghs Adamson and Trista Van Tine, Dan and Joanne Castles, Richard Codding, Edible Sacramento, Elevation 2477', The Food Bank of Nevada County, Forever Flowering Greenhouses,

$500+

Photo: Lenkaland Photography
EDUCATING, INSPIRING AND CONNECTING
FAMILIES TO FRESH, LOCAL, SEASONAL FOOD.

Join us online in the conversation about your local food and farming community.  
sierraharvest.org | (530) 265-2343

Photo: Molly Nakahara