OUR MISSION
Southside Community Land Trust provides access to land, education and other resources so people in Rhode Island can grow food in environmentally sustainable ways and create community food systems where locally produced, affordable and healthy food is available to all.
The events of 2020 focused attention on the inadequate health and food systems that led to the tragic loss of so many Black, Indigenous and people of color to the COVID pandemic. They forced SCLT board, staff and supporters to view our work from a new perspective. We doubled down on our efforts to increase racial equity in the day-to-day work of the organization. These changes included recruiting more staff and board members from the communities where we manage land and implement programs.

They also included a lot of hard work to redesign programs and events to keep people safe and sustain the organization’s vital role in our community. For instance, when job losses skyrocketed, SCLT kept the gardens open and continued to help people grow food for their families. When restaurants closed, we helped farmers sell produce into community-based food programs. We connected other farmers with COVID-relief funds needed to help keep their businesses afloat.

As COVID continues to take its toll on our families and communities, we are more determined than ever to build an equitable food system. We know that when people have control of their own local food system - the farms, the stores, the distribution networks - they make sure their communities get fed. The gardeners and farmers we work with have been making this happen day in and day out for decades. SCLT will continue to make strategic investments that help more people grow fresh food for their families and for sale to their neighbors in the coming years.

We have a lot of work yet to do. Thank you for your continued support.

Rochelle Lee  
PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Margaret DeVos  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SCLT
OUR RANGE

- **SCLT COMMUNITY GARDENS**
  Land we own and/or manage

- **PROVIDENCE COMMUNITY GARDEN NETWORK SITES**
  Gardens we support with agricultural resources and/or services

- **SCLT-OWNED AND/OR MANAGED FARMS**

- **FARMERS MARKETS**

NEW & NOTABLE

- **THE GOOD EARTH**
  leased in 2020 but now owned by SCLT

- **FUTURE HEADQUARTERS OF SCLT**
  Under construction: completion in 2022
In 2020, SCLT launched an urgently needed pilot—VeggieRx—to offer produce prescriptions to low-income individuals experiencing, and at risk of developing diet-related diseases. Clinicians at the Family Care Center in Pawtucket chose 28 patients (and their families) to participate in the pilot, which was funded by Integra Community Care Network, a division of Care New England. SCLT staff bought fresh food directly from farmers in our Produce Aggregation Program and delivered it to the clinic from July through November. VeggieRx is among the few ways Rhode Islanders in poor health can obtain free, nutritious produce from providers who also oversee their care.

The concept aligns particularly well with SCLT’s mission; it helps people on both ends of the transaction—Rhode Islanders who love to farm and their neighbors who can’t afford the high cost of healthy food.
Building to GROW

Three years after the purchase of the 12,000 sf two-story building at 404 Broad Street and the launch of our GROW! capital campaign, construction is underway for SCLT’s new headquarters. Demolition and structural work is being done to shore up the 1850’s building that will house our new offices. The new Farm-to-Market Center is a much-needed food processing facility for small-scale farmers in our network that can better store, prepare and distribute their produce to farmers markets, retailers and restaurants. The Youth Enterprise Center will provide space for our growing staff of young adults being mentored in food systems work. A fully-equipped commercial kitchen along with three leased spaces on the first floor will support local food entrepreneurs to grow their budding businesses. Completion of construction is slated for spring of 2022.
The most important component of this project is connecting people with food, connecting people with jobs, and becoming an integral part of this neighborhood.

• Carol Ventura, Executive Director RI Housing •
on investing in 404 Broad Street
## BY THE NUMBERS

| **15,000+** | PEOPLE ate food grown in 65 COMMUNITY GARDENS & FARMS |
| **36** | URBAN AND RURAL FARMERS grew full or part-time on SCLT land |
| **570** | GARDEN PLOTS in use at SCLT-owned properties |
| **114** | NAMES ON THE WAITING LIST for garden plots or additional farmland |
| **34+** | LANGUAGES spoken in our gardens |
| **85%** | OF SCLT GARDENERS living below the poverty line |
| **5** | FARM Apprentices trained with partner farmers around the state |
| **55** | COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATIONS partnered with SCLT |
| **30+** | YEARS OF PRODUCE SALES at Hope Street Farmers Market, 16 at Parade Street and 12 at Broad Street |
1,200+ HOUSEHOLDS bought more than 14,000 VEGETABLE AND HERB PLANTS through the annual Rare & Unusual Plant Sale (which was reinvented as an online event because of COVID)

3,000 FREE VEGETABLE PLANTS were donated to food pantries and distributed in partnership with Hope’s Harvest

2,500+ MEDICINAL, HERB & VEGETABLE PLANTS were donated to community gardeners, farmers, herbalists and produced for SCLT programs

267% INCREASE IN PRODUCE SALES through the aggregation program

400+ POUNDS of produce donated to the RI Food Bank in 2020
Our programs build a better local food system, FROM THE GROUND UP

FARMER TRAINING
Since 2007, SCLT has offered farmer training, technical assistance and business services. In 2015, we increased the number of on-farm apprentices from one at City Farm to up to six per season at partner farms around the state. In 2020, these included Pat’s Pastured, Wild Harmony, Red Planet Vegetables and Moor Food Farm. The program increases the supply of locally grown food and the viability of farm businesses: 60% of apprentices have gone on to start or manage a farm or work in other agriculture-related jobs.

FARMLAND ACCESS
When COVID broke out in early 2020, staff posted safety precautions at all properties, installed hand-washing stations and distributed free face masks. SCLT continued to offer affordable land to farmers at the 50-acre Urban Edge Farm (UEF) in Cranston. Two new farmers were moved from small urban plots onto larger ones at UEF, where three others expanded existing parcels. Nearby, we partnered with the Good Earth Farm, a 20-acre property, to lease plots to five farmers seeking to grow their businesses.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT
To prioritize safety, we adjusted our afterschool and summer jobs program. In all, 34 young people from Providence, Pawtucket and Central Falls underwent training in urban farming, nutrition and cooking, environmental resilience and health equity. They learned about workplace expectations and practiced leadership skills. They were inspired by guests from politicians to artists who described their careers and career paths. In Pawtucket, eight youth earned ServSafe food handler certification with program partner Harvest Kitchen.
PRODUCE AGGREGATION

When restaurants closed in March and in-person shopping at farmers markets dwindled, farmers in our network faced big challenges. SCLT staff reached out to new and existing wholesale buyers in our network, who sourced large quantities of fresh food for low-income Rhode Islanders in several cities. Customers included Food on the Move, Produce in the Park and VeggieRx. This program not only helped seniors who were afraid to go into stores and people who were food insecure, it threw a lifeline to small-scale farmers in our network—whose earnings almost tripled in 2020.
Thank you to our donors

PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT

Southside Community Land Trust is deeply grateful to hundreds of contributors who generously support our work each year. The following is a list of individuals, businesses, foundations and government agencies that contributed $250 or more to SCLT in 2020.

500,000+
Anonymous

100,000-$499,999
Bank of America
The Champlin Foundation
Rebecca & Barry Preston
USDA Community Food Project
USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture

25,000-$99,999
Anonymous
Care New England/Integra AE
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Cynthia B. Patterson
RI Division of Agriculture Specialty Crop Block Grant
RI Foundation
RI Governor’s Workforce Board
United Natural Foods, Inc.
US Dept. of Health & Human Services Office of Refugee Resettlement
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Suzanne & David Francis
Amanda J. Freitas
Friends of Brown St. Park, Inc.
Jim Gnatek
Amy Greenwald & Justin Boyan
Ned & Polly Handy
Katherine W. Hanley & Scott E. Rodenhizer
SCLT • 2020 ANNUAL REPORT • 13
**FINANCIALS**

**INCOME**

- Contributions: $1,499,489
- Government: $684,203
- Earned Income: $218,128

**Total Income** $2,401,819

**EXPENSE**

- Programs: $956,057
- Administration: $321,558
- Development: $188,016

**Total Expenses** $1,465,631

**NET INCOME** $936,188

**TOTAL ASSETS** $4,447,016

- Current Assets: $1,701,899
- Fixed Assets: $2,158,104
- Investment and Other Assets: $587,013

**LIABILITIES & EQUITY** $4,447,016

- Liabilities: $551,843
- Equity: $3,895,173

*Audited*
Across the nation the pandemic’s tragic effects on low-income people of color generated long-overdue reckonings with the inequities and injustices that permeate every part of our social and economic lives, including our food systems.

In August, SCLT’s Race Equity/Social Justice Committee hosted a public virtual conversation with Rashid Nuri, an international leader in the food justice movement. Rashid shared his vision of a healthier future for Black, Indigenous and people of color – one that includes nutritious food and good jobs – when marginalized people obtain control over their food supply. His Truly Living Well Center in Atlanta is demonstrating how urban agriculture can empower communities from the ground up.

PHOTO CREDIT: THOMAS BURKE