Dear Boston Food Forest Coalition,

What a year, 2016! While so much in the world feels like it is pushing in the wrong direction, we continue to plant trees, regenerate soil, reclaim land, and build community. The Boston Food Forest Coalition is all of you.

Even if all you have done was participate in a workshop or like us on Facebook, you are part of this growing community of over a thousand like-minded idealistic neighbors who believe a better world starts here and now, with our work together. Boston Food Forest Coalition is your community land trust.

As of September 15th, the Boston Food Forest Coalition is officially an independent non-profit 501c3 corporation acting as a community land trust and hub for a growing “community of practice” supporting permaculture learning and doing. Congratulations for making this happen!

This journey started in 2013 as a series of conversations, potlucks, and urban foraging walks among neighbors from Jamaica Plain, Roslindale, Roxbury and Dorchester. In 2014, we launched our flagship educational one-acre forest garden in partnership with Mass Audubon’s Boston Nature Center and put the Egleston Community Orchard into permanent community land trust. Now our coalition has grown to 7 forest garden sites in Mattapan, Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, East Boston, and West End neighborhoods; and we have the opportunity to add at least three more sites in 2017.

2016 saw the launch of new partnerships with Franklin Park Zoo, Hawthorne Youth and Community Center, and the Boston Green Academy. We hosted the second ever Boston-based Permaculture Design Course and first-ever Advanced PDC training. We transformed neighbors’ yards with two new garden raisings and we have led over thirty workshops and presentations. At our flagship site alone we planted over 35 new tasty tree varieties, including “restoration Chestnuts” bred and donated by the American Chestnut Foundation—we are so grateful to be part of bringing the American Chestnut back to the ecosystem.

We are helping children and adults connect with nature and share food people have harvested and cooked with their own hands. We are convening potlucks and celebrations, and inspiring people throughout the region.

You might not realize, but we make all of this happen with a steering team of five dedicated volunteers meeting regularly on Tuesday mornings, a small amount of money, and a ton of volunteers and in-kind donations.

I am excited to share our annual report that highlights our many accomplishments. To ensure this work continues, please consider making a donation at:
www.bostonfoodforest.org/donate

Sincerely,

Orion,
Executive Director, Boston Food Forest Coalition
By the numbers

**TREES PLANTED**
- **35** at Mass Audubon’s Boston Nature Center (Plums, Chestnuts, Pawpaw, Shagbark Hickory)
- **4** at Old West Church (Apple, Cherry, Pear)
- **6** at Eastie Farm (Asian Pear, Cherry, Apple)

**36+ WORKSHOPS and EDUCATIONAL EVENTS**

**1,260 ATTENDEES**

**725 YOUTH ENGAGED**
- Medicinal herbs
- Food forest design
- Healing soil
- Mushroom logs
- Sheet mulching
- Biodiversity
- Companion planting
- Hugel-bed building
- Eating a regional diet
- Building hoop houses
- Cover cropping
  ... and so many more!

**7+ SPEAKING EVENTS and PRESENTATIONS**
- MDAR Urban Agriculture Conference
- Annual Gardener’s Gathering
- SNEAPA - Worcester
- Food Solutions New England
- Chelsea City Hall
- Egleston Library
- Trustee’s Master Urban Gardener Class

**947 MEMBERS**

**$10,888 TOTAL MEMBER GIVING**

**80 DONORS** at an average of $104.85 a gift

Plus a larger family foundation gift, not including the in-kind donations of trees, plants, woodchips, compost, design services, office space, and volunteer hours

**318+ VOLUNTEERS**

**825+ VOLUNTEER HOURS**

**4 INTERNs**

www.bostonfoodforest.org
Areas of focus for 2017

We are still laying the groundwork for our budding organization, but we have some plans in the works for the upcoming year, including:

• **Our New Permaculture Designer Fellowship:** We received a $12,000 award from anonymous family foundation to support young professionals in the field of permaculture education and design. In 2017 this award will go to Amirah Mitchell from Hyde Park to support the development of the Zoo New England forest garden and workshops/educational programming at Franklin Park Zoo.

• **Possible collaboration** with Friends of Egleston Square Library

• **Future site development** with support from City of Boston

• **Additional Garden Raisings** with neighbors in Dorchester and Jamaica Plain

• **Building our social media presence**

• **Pursuing more media outreach**
## Fiscal Overview from 2016

### INCOME FISCAL YEAR 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aetna Foundation*</td>
<td>$25,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beacon Hill Garden Club</td>
<td>$3,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New England Grassroots Environment Fund</td>
<td>$2,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Foundations</td>
<td>$2,500.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>$8,388.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mass Audubon’s Boston Nature Center</td>
<td>$12,177.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design/Build Services</td>
<td>$6,450.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Income</strong></td>
<td><strong>$59,515.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* awarded to BNC to support BFFC’s work

### EXPENSES FISCAL YEAR 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Projects Budget (Gardening Materials/Plants)</td>
<td>$37,177.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consultants and Professional Development</td>
<td>$13,260.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Events</td>
<td>$3,817.83</td>
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<tr>
<td>Insurance</td>
<td>$851.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nonprofit Fees</td>
<td>$803.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Website/media</td>
<td>$448.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Office &amp; Print Materials</td>
<td>$419.13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Operating Expenses</strong></td>
<td><strong>$56,776.86</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus, on reserve for 2017 Fellowship</td>
<td>$2,738.14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### IN-KIND DONATIONS

- Tripple Brook Farm
- Allandale Farm
- Agricultural Hall
- City Soil
- Russ Cohen
- American Chestnut Foundation
- Portland Resilience Hub
- Trustees of Reservation (2015)
- Marion Institute (2015)
- Institute for Policy Studies (IPS)
- Arborway Tree Care
- Core Volunteer Hours

### OUR THANKS TO THESE WORTHY ORGANIZATIONS

- Mass Audubon’s Boston Nature Center
- City Soil - Ecovation Center
- AETNA Foundation
- New England Grassroots Environment Fund (NEGEF)
- Beacon Hill Garden Club
- Old West Church
- Russ Cohen
- American Chestnut Foundation
- Tripple Brook Farm
- Allandale Farm
- New England Wildflower Society
- Bill Perkins, Agricultural Hall
- Studio D Architects

- Su Cousineau, Taproot Healing
- Lauren Almquist and Mary Hansen, Gaia School of Natural Healing
- Portland Resilience Hub
- Karen Spiller, Food Solutions New England (FSNE)
- Bonnie Rovics, Onsite Organics
- Greg Gullickson
- Anthology
- John K. Graham of Sullivan & Worcester LLP, for assistance in the incorporation of BFFC
- Arborway Tree Care
- Institute for Policy Studies (IPS)
- Jamaica Plain New Economy Transition (JPNET)

www.bostonfoodforest.org
Youth Engagement

With added capacity, we were able to take on a high school intern from the Boston Green Academy. Notified his initial internship was not going to happen, Frank (name changed to protect identity) reached out to us and we put together a plan in the span of a week.

Located less than a mile from his front door, Frank was able to walk to our tailor-made internship at the Boston Nature Center that focused on his areas of interest within garden design, construction, horticulture, and workshop curriculum writing.

As a person with learning disabilities experiencing frustrations with the limitations of today’s classroom settings, Frank found the one-on-one hands-on lessons and physical garden projects fitting his own learning style and supported our site goals for the spring. It was an honor to spend so much time with Frank as he figured out just how he would be balancing his graduation requirements with his post-graduation plans and still show up full of curiosity and new experiments to test out during his days with us. His contributions greatly assisted the establishment of the food forest and will provide years of good growing soil for future seasons, gardeners, and learners.

Another collaboration that popped up this summer was a weekly gardening group that we were able to work with for 8 weeks from the Franklin Park Tennis Association Summer Camp. Tuesdays in June, July, and August brought groups of 5-12 teens to spend 2.5 hours working to harvest and plant crops, in addition to building a woodchip path and pre-digging holes for our fall tree planting projects. This is just a taste of the youth engagement made possible through our ongoing collaboration with Boston Nature Center.