

Harmony Homestead &  
Wholeness Center, Inc.  
Berkshires/Columbia County, NY

Fall/Winter 2023

Dear Earth Family,

Blessed Sacred Season to You!

What a year! We raised significant funds for and awareness of our community via the publishing and distribution of the new book "**Great. Black. Whole. Close Encounters with Mother Earth on Her Terms, to Transform Lyme, Race Trauma, and Unveil Wholeness,**" by Elizabeth (Laaeyiilaa) Blackshine, one of our cofounders. Get a copy now via [ElizabethBlackshine.com](http://ElizabethBlackshine.com). Until January 4, 2024, all book proceeds go to Harmony Homestead and Wholeness Ctr.! This is the perfect holiday gift for anyone wanting support and inspiration to renew and deepen their relationships to their body and the Earth.

We have just celebrated our 6th anniversary as well as our annual Thank-Giving to the Earth. What a rich time of rest, reflection, and communion.

This summer and fall we erected, not one but two, geodesic domes as agricultural learning and processing spaces. They are both otherworldly and ultra-earthly in their profound round shape that harnesses the natural power, strength, and regeneration found in the innate dynamics of feminine form. Please schedule a visit and feel the unique high vibrations and acoustics in these new spaces. What a gift for us all!

Please help us furnish our new dome spaces to make them cozy particularly for our new community educational venture at Harmony, Tallulah's Wild PLAYce! It's our intergenerational, Afrocentric, Indigenous centric, agroforestry, agricultural, homeschool nature laboratory! Ya heard!

As is the purpose of our existence as an organization, Harmony Homestead and Wholeness Center welcomes the newness of collective regenerative thought and ways of being together that put the vibrance of the Earth, black elders and children at the center of service and celebration.

We hold space for black lives mending from the spiritual, mental, and physical abuses we, as Black staff and volunteers here, know all too well. As before, we will organically grow, culturally celebratory foods for BIPOC and hold sacred space for our sacred lives.

Highlights from our 2023 growing season: We grew at least 1000 lbs of organically grown food and fed Black elders, families, and churches in Berkshire, Albany, Rensselaer, and Schenectady

Counties for free (by donation). We grew hundreds of seedlings/starter plants distributed to the explosion of community self-empowerment bursting all around in BIPOC communities. We held weekly meditation, prayer, and gospel singing to help us thrive through challenging times. What a both excruciating and exhilarating time to be alive, be inspired, and be committed to self-love and communal restoration!

Additionally, we continued the deep honor of growing a food and medicinal Ancestral Arboretum! With this arboretum we feed the people, honor the ancestors and trees, and heal the land.

We'll also continue to repair and strengthen our infrastructure with more rainwater catchment, irrigation, and creating sacred sanctuaries for the community.

We welcome your resources and hands to come dig holes for trees, weed, seed, feed the Earth and her peoples.

We are blessed to marinate in and share the bounty of gifts with the community.

Please join in the good news! We ask for your support in ways that flow deeply from the heart. Please consider underwriting an expense or offering an in-kind donation for the following **(priorities highlighted)**:

- Tallulah's Wild Playce gift
  - **Fire tools** (poker, shovel, etc), 2 sets for children's and elders dome
  - Mini battery operated vacuum
  - Large round braided colorful rug for elders dome
  - **Cubby holes for toys and outdoor gear**
  - Wooden play kitchen
  - **Handmade dolls, blocks, learning tools made of wood, wool, and other natural materials**
  - **Canes & walkers for the elders**
  - **Life-Alert buttons for elders**
  - **Walkie talkies**
  - **Cedar benches along nature paths**
  - Waldorf/nature inspired children's furniture
- A homestead/farm gift
  - **Farm Carry-All**: \$2500 or some portion \_\_\_\_\_
  - Permanent water cistern construction: \$5000 or some portion \_\_\_\_\_
  - **3-Point tractor and implements**: \$22,500 or some portion \_\_\_\_\_
  - **Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle for transportation to programs**: \$13,000 or some portion \_\_\_\_\_
  - **Wheelchair ramp to greenhouse**: \$1500 or some portion \_\_\_\_\_

- A structural expense
  - **Bathroom handicap accessibility:** \$22,000 or some portion \_\_\_\_\_
  - Basement wood stove #2 flute conversion: \$300 or some portion \_\_\_\_\_
  - **Grounds Maintenance (annual):** \$32,000 or some portion \_\_\_\_\_
- An administrative and programs (annual) expense
  - **Paid Staff and youth interns:** \$120,000 or some portion \_\_\_\_\_
  - **Guest teachers/consultants:** \$8000 or some portion \_\_\_\_\_
  - **Community Disaster/Crisis Relief Support:** \$30,000 or some portion \_\_\_\_\_
- Other in-kind donations
  - **Carpentry services (all levels)**
  - Afro-centric and Earth-centric artwork
  - **Ceremonial items: incense, drums, flutes, other instruments**
- A retreat for one underserved community member:
  - 1 daylong retreat: \$80
  - 1 overnight retreat: \$120
  - 1 weekend retreat: \$250

Arrange for in-kind donation delivery or pick-up via email [HarmonyWholeness@gmail.com](mailto:HarmonyWholeness@gmail.com) .

Easily send a contribution to our PayPal account on the website

<https://unveilwholeness.com/wish-list> .

Thank you for supporting harmony, wholeness, and reparations to Black lives, between humans and Earth, between races, between body, heart, and soul. This work on one patch of the planet ripples out and synergizes with all the other healing communities and prayers around the world. You are in our hearts. Please keep us in yours.

In Solidarity, Strength, and Sovereignty,  
Harmony Homestead & Wholeness Center, Inc.

[www.unveilwholeness.com](http://www.unveilwholeness.com)