

U J A M A A

COOPERATIVE FARMING ALLIANCE

2022 ANNUAL REPORT



UJAMAA Cooperative Economics



From the Kiswahili language of the Swahili people of East Africa, Ujamaa means "extended family". As a trading language, "ujamaa" has also come to mean "cooperative economics".

Formed in 2021, the Ujamaa Cooperative Farming Alliance (UCFA), a program under the non-profit STEAM ONWARD, is a BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) led collective. At UCFA we recognize the need for increased diversity in farming

in general, and diversity in the \$15 billion dollar U.S. seed industry in particular.

We are committed to providing increased opportunities and support for growers from equity-seeking communities.

To this end, the Ujamaa Cooperative Farming Alliance is working to bridge the gap between prospective growers and seed companies.



“More and more as we come closer and closer in touch with nature and its teachings are we able to see the Divine and are therefore fitted to interpret correctly the various languages spoken by all forms of nature about us.”

— George Washington Carver

SEED FARMING

“Seeds are not just seeds. They’re like ancestors. They have a history. Seeds have stories.”

Winona LaDuke
eco-activist

At UCFA we view seeds as more than a commodity, but also as vessels of cultural heritage. As a commodity, seed farming can be a lucrative business opportunity for farmers, gardeners, and growers as demand far outstrips supply. On just a small plot of land, growers can make a profit from seed farming as a side business.

"...The elders were wise. They knew that man's heart, away from nature, becomes hard; they knew that lack of respect for growing, living things, soon led to lack of respect for humans, too."

Chief Luther Standing Bear
Sicangu and Oglala Lakota Chief

UCFA GOALS

Organizing and supporting underrepresented growers for sustainability.

Reclaiming our relationship with the land, waters, soil, our heritage, and our seed ancestors.

Educating youth about their proud resilient roots in agriculture and demonstrating future opportunities in agriculture.

Educating our community about our healing and nutritional food heritage, and the protection of our environmental resources.

FARMERS & GROWERS LEARNING SEED FARMING 83



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2.6K Instagram Followers

1.4K Facebook Followers

661,515 Persons Reached from
238 Facebook Posts

Media Mentions

New York Times - January 16, 2022

Washington Gardner - March 2022

Hobby Farm Podcast - June 18, 2022

The Guardian - June 23, 2022

Better Homes & Gardens - September 2022

Edible Asheville - Fall 2022

AG MAG - Berea Urban Agriculture Fall 2022

Ujamaa Online

[HTTPS://UJAMAAFARMS.COM](https://ujamaafarms.com)

[HTTPS://UJAMAASEEDS.COM](https://ujamaaseeds.com)

[FACEBOOK.COM/UJAMAAFARMS](https://facebook.com/ujamaafarms)

[INSTAGRAM.COM/UJAMAAFARMS](https://instagram.com/ujamaafarms)





At Ujamaa Cooperative Farming Alliance (UCFA) we utilize working groups composed of individuals and persons representing organizations and institutions. Our working group teams hold bi-weekly virtual meetings to accomplish their specific tasks. The methodology of working group teams not only results in improving UCFA operations, but teams also benefit the members who participate in the working groups. Through our teams we analyze, discuss and explore our own ideas and questions, and we gain feedback from our peers. As a working group member, we pool our ideas enabling us to become cognizant of problems from different perspectives. In a group situation, combining a variety of skills and expertise, we can tackle tasks that might not be accomplished by an individual.

13 UCFA WORKING GROUPS

ADMINISTRATION

FINANCE

GOVERNANCE

FUNDRAISING

CHAMPIONS

SEED AND FARMING OPERATIONS

LARGE GROWERS

ANIMAL GROWERS

VALUE ADDED PRODUCTS

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

HISTORY, CULTURE & RESEARCH

AFRICAN AND CARIBBEAN

INDIGENOUS & ENVIRONMENTAL



BY THE NUMBERS

(Jan 2022 - Feb 2023)

In January of 2023 we introduced our new catalog. We doubled our seed varieties and we increased our sales by 42% in two months. The numbers below illustrate 14 months of Ujamaa Seeds activity.

242 SEED VARIETIES IN CATALOG

1640 ORDERS (Online & Direct POS)

\$49,107 IN SALES (Jan 2022 - Feb 2023)

11,550+ SEED PACKETS SOLD

\$31.42 AVERAGE ORDER

16 Panels and Presentations

American Community Gardening Association	Hampton VA	September 2021
Small Farm Annual Conference	Roanoke VA	November 2021
Collard Visioning at Utopian Seed Project	Asheville NC	November 2021
Virginia Association of Biological Farming	Roanoke VA	January 2022
Organic Seed Growers Organic Seed Alliance	Virtual	February 2022
APHIS-USDA Black History Month Program	Washington DC	February 2022
ARS USDA Sowing Seeds of Equity	Virtual	April 2022
Earth Optimism at Smithsonian Folklife Festival	Washington DC	June 2022
Juneteenth Black Farmers Market	Trenton NJ	June 2022
Student Organic Seed Symposium	Morgantown WV	July 2022
Federation of Southern Cooperatives	Birmingham AL	August 2022
Center for Environmental Justice	College Park MD	August 2022
2022 Terra Madre Slow Foods Conference	Turin Italy	September 2022
Black Farmers & Urban Gardeners Conference	Atlanta GA	October 2022
Bowie State University Smart Agriculture Symposium	Bowie MD	October 2022
UCFA Fall 2022 Workshops and Convening	Accokeek, MD	October 2022
CFSA Sustainable Agriculture Conference	Durham NC	November 2022



Student Organic Seed Symposium
Morgantown, WV July 2022



Collard Visioning Project
Asheville, NC November 2021

37 Farm & Garden Visitations

Oak'stead Farm	Camp Springs MD
Hope And A Pra'Yer Farm	Hughesville MD
Honey Hemp Farm	Upper Marlboro MD
Acorn Community Farm	Mineral VA
Carter Farms	Unionville VA
Serenity Farm	Benedict, MD
Franny's Farm	Asheville NC
Judy Greene Baker Farm	Richmond, KY
Locust Trace AgriScience Center	Lexington KY
Welcome Hall Farm	Versailles KY
Good Foods Co-op	Lexington KY
Seedleaf Urban Farm	Lexington KY
Centre College Gardens	Danville KY
Forestry Outreach Center	Berea KY
Glades Community Garden	Berea KY
Berea Urban Farm	Berea KY
Sustainable Mountain Agriculture	Berea KY
National Colonial Farm	Accokeek MD
Washington Youth Garden	Washington DC

Salamander Springs Farm	Berea KY
WVU Organic Research Farm	Morgantown WV
NC State Univ Mountain Horticultural	Mills River NC
Living Web Farms	Asheville NC
Project Sweetie Pie	Minneapolis MN
World Farmers CSA	Lancaster MA
Princeton University's Seed Farm	Princeton NJ
Restora – New Communities	Albany GA
Metro Atlanta Urban Farms	Atlanta GA
Spelman College's Victory Garden	Atlanta GA
Truly Living Well Center	Atlanta GA
Heru Urban Farming	St. Louis MO
Forested	Bowie MD
Well Sweep Herb Farm	Port Murray NJ
Wildflower Homestead Farm	Pennington NJ
Sankofa Community Farm	Philadelphia PA
Firefly Homestead	Hopewell NJ
One Art Community Center	Philadelphia PA



World Farmers CSA
Lancaster, MA June 2022



Victory Garden at Spelman College
Atlanta, GA August 2022

Tayman Field in Upper Marlboro, Maryland



In June of 2022 St. Thomas Episcopal Parish in Upper Marlboro Maryland offered four acres of church property to Ujamaa Cooperative Farming Alliance. Formerly a terraced organic vegetable farm called Tayman's Field, UCFA is converting the farm into a Seed Farming Learning site. In return UCFA will support the establishment of a Children's Garden for the church and contribute fresh vegetables to the church's food pantry.

Currently Tayman's Field includes a barn. But the site lacks water and electricity. With adult and youth volunteers, UCFA has started dividing the four acre site into sixteen plots to local BIPOC growers interested in learning seed farming and growing culturally meaningful crops. To aid in reducing run off from the adjacent road, the site will include a food forest growing native fruit, nuts and berries. The church also has provided an additional site to UCFA for training in beekeeping.



UJAMAA COOPERATIVE FARMING ALLIANCE

FALL 2022 CONVENING

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
OCTOBER 29 & 30, 2022

LOCATION:
ACCOKEEK FOUNDATION
3400 BRYAN POINT RD
ACCOKEEK, MD 20607

SATURDAY WORKSHOPS

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM
Open to General Public &
UCFA Participant/Members

- Sorghum Pressing
- Seed Cleaning
- Seed Stories
- Starting Up a Farm
- Gardening 101
- Using Medicinal Herbs
- Heirloom Collard Project
- Agrobiodiversity
- Seed Presevation

SUNDAY UCFA ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

8:45 AM - 4:00 PM **By Invitation**
Attend In Person or Virtual via Zoom

- UCFA Partners, Donors, & Collaborators
- UCFA Working Group Presentations
- UCFA Governance & Membership Report
- NESARE/UVM Grant Presentation
- UCFA Working Groups "Seed Dating"
- UCFA Visioning 5, 10, & 20 Year Goals

The UCFA Fall 2022 Convening is made possible through the generous support of Steam Onward, Accokeek Foundation, Northeast SARE, Organic Seed Alliance, and the participant/ members of Ujamaa Cooperative Farming Alliance.



UJAMAA COOPERATIVE FARMING ALLIANCE

AQUISITIONAL GOALS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR

- Administrative Assistant for Admin Team
- Salaries for UCFA Directors
- Bookkeeper and Accounting Services-
- Demonstration Seed Farm in Maryland
- Seed Fulfillment Staff Person
- Seed Cleaning Equipment
- Cold Seed Storage Facility
- Stipends for Ujamaa Growers
- Sorghum Processing Equipment
- Printing of the 2023 Seed Catalog
- Bulk Seed Purchases
- Solar Water Pump
- Trailer for Tractor
- Mower & Bush Hog
- Weed Whackers
- Machetes - Shears
- Row Covers
- High Tunnels
- Trellis Materials
- Post Drivers
- Social Media Marketing
- Workshops to Support Seed Growers
- Terrace Farming Workshop
- Travel Expenses to Workshops & Conferences

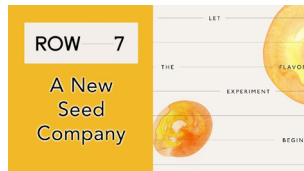
A photograph of two people shaking hands in a field. The person on the left is wearing a plaid shirt, and the person on the right is wearing a light-colored long-sleeved shirt and jeans. The background is a blurred field with a path leading into the distance under a bright sky.

THANK YOU

Donors, Sponsors, and Partners

\$55,761 DONATIONS RECEIVED in 2021-2022

\$81,861 GRANTS AWARDED in 2022

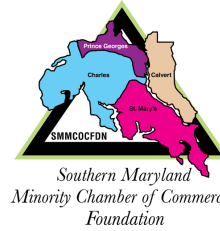




Sustainable Agriculture
Research & Education



EFFRON CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF AMERICA



Research and action toward a more just and sustainable world.

To the numerous individuals who helped to make UCFA and Ujamaa Seeds realities. *THANK YOU*

Aayushma Singh	Candis McKelvy	Ebony Marshman	Joseph Haamid	Marian 'Mars' Mwenja	Patryk Battle	Tambra Stevenson
Adilah Wutoh-Baylor	Cara Loriz	Ellen Flowers-Fields	Jovan Sage	Mary K Johnson	Paul Lovelace	Tasneen Osman
Adina Robinson Theresa	Carol Clatterbuck	Ergibe Boyd	Judy Greene Baker	Mary Watson Proctor	Peggy Eppig	Terri Bell Harris
Adrien Lipscolme	Cathleen McCluskey	Esther Mitchell	Kamal Bell	Matthew Ogburn	Pernevllyn Coggins	Tessa Lowinske-Desmond
Aerolyn Consaul	Chanda Banks	Fatimah Hasan	Karen Bowlding	Matthew Raiford	Petra Page-Mann	Theresa Robinson
Alecia McGregor	Chantica Wheeler	Franklin Robinson	Kathy Anderson	Maxwell Ellis	Phil Kauth	Thomasina Coates
Alexis Yamashita	Charles Onwulata	Gabrielle Etienne	Kenya Crumel	Melissa Giles	Pierre Brunache, Jr	Thomasina Rogers
Alland Leandre	Charles Rice	Gail Livingston	Keylan Ensley	Melony Edwards	Pierre Tchomobe	Tiffany LaShae
Ama Peyman (Hannan)	Charles Rosen	Gail Myers	Kibibi Ajanku	Micaela Colley	Rachel Cezar Martinez	Tomia McQueen
Amadou Diop	Charlotte Douglass	Gail Taylor	Kierson Morris	Michael Carter	Rejoice (Reji) Blackwood	Tony Andre Jones
Amirah Mitchell	Charlotte Forte-Parnell	Garrett Graddy-Lovelace	Kim Rush Lynch	Michael Chaney	Robert Harding	Tori Boyer
Amyrose Foll	Chris Bolden-Newsome	Gaylord Hogue	Kitt Healy	Michael McCaskill	Roger Mbianke	Turner Coggins
Ana Martina	Chris Smith	Geraldson Chua Gino	Kokowasi Kpomblekou	Michael Twitty	Rosa Hann	Turquoise Connelly
Angela Comeaux	Christian Keeve	Gil Ingles	Konda Mason	Michelle E Cable	Roxanne Masters	Tyler Massias
Angela D Anderson	Claudia and Hank	Gordon Reed	Kritchanan Yampai	Michelle Shaw	Rueben Collins	Tyrean Lewis
Angela Killebrew	Clif Slade	Hariyah dan-Fodio	Kyla Lang	Michelle Sullivan	Sacoby Wilson	Vaneesha Ali
Anita Roberson	Colin Dunphy	Hassan Adeeb	Lafiya Tunstall	Mike Tintner	Samaria King	Vaughn Wallace
Ann Codrington	Curtis Robertson Jr	Henriette den Ouden	Lalanii Sangode	Mimi Ghebetholancy Kun	Sarah Kleeger	Vince Leggett
Ann Osano	Cynthia Greenlee	Henriette Isaboke	Larry Schaefer	Monica Esparza	Sarah Leggasse	Vivian Saunders
Anthony Gaskins	Dan Trott	Heron Breen	Laura Collard	Nadine Burton	Sarah Sohn	Vivien Sansour
Antonia Bookbinder	Daniel Denton	Ira Wallace	Laura Ford	Nadisha Clayton	Sarel Cousins	Wanda Stewart
Arthur Ellis	Daniel Tobin	Iriel Edward	Laurel James	Nafisa Adeeb	Sehar Peerzada	Wanda Woodland
Ashok Sookdeo	Darren Beachem	Isaiah Lucas	Leah Penniman	Nagisa Manabe	Semba Fall	Wayne Gilchrest
Atiba Nicholas	David Barron	James Ross	Leah Smith	Naima Penniman	Sheba Everett	Whitney Barr
Ben Burkett	David Walker	Janet Meyers	Leigh Lafosse	Naomi K. Fukagawa	Shelby Johnson	Willie Miller Farms
Bettina Helm	Debo Folorunsho	Jason Lindsay	Leslie Watson	Natalia Zukerman	Sheldon Smith	Yana Reid
Bettina Helm	Debra M Davis	Jay Webb	Lina Bird	Nate Kleinman	Shirley Beachem	Yasir Khalid
Bilal Yasin El-Amin	Denise Ware	Jeanine Scheffert	Linda L.Jones	Neftali Duran	Simone Johnson	Yvette Albert
Bill Braun	Dexter Ingram	Jen Thompson	Luc Hebou	Nikos Kavanya	SJ Seldin	Yvette Odell banks
Blain Snipstal	Diane Fisher	Jennifer Williams	Lynda Muhammad	Olga Bolden-Tiller	Sonya Harris	Zachari Curtis
Bobby Wilson	Diane Ndiaye	Jeremy Peaches	Maggie Cahalan	Olga Bolden-Tiller	Susan Keitusmet	Zainab Muhammad
Bonnetta Adeeb	Dionne Mccaskill-alston	Jim Campbell	Maggie Ericksen	Olivia Gamber	Susie Proctor	Zakia Shabazz
Brennan Washington	Donald Belle	Jim Embry	Malik Yakini	Owen Taylor	Sydney Harrison	Zoe Adjonyoh
Brett Grohal	Douglas Muller	John Spearmon	Malikah Akil	Pamala Barasso	Tahz Walker	
Camisha Barnes	Ebony Malone	Jon Jackson	Manuel da Silva	Pat Wilson	Tamara Dickerson	



UJAMAA
COOPERATIVE
FARMING ALLIANCE

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