



THINK REGENERATION

THINK REGENERATION

PROGRAM REPORT



CREATING A PARADIGM
SHIFT IN OUR FOOD SUPPLY

2023



Think Regeneration is 501(c)(3) nonprofit coalition of organizations, farmers, ranchers, scientists, researchers, and philanthropists who want to accelerate on-the-ground regenerative food supply projects. Our programs support projects that repair food-growing ecosystems, reverse trends in chronic disease rates, elevate the voices of regenerative growers, and build more community resilience.

THINK REGENERATION MISSION

MESSAGE FROM OUR BOARD PRESIDENT

I first accepted the position of president on the Think Regeneration Board of Directors to volunteer my time to the regenerative agriculture movement in partnership with my friend and longtime colleague Ryan Slabaugh. I have high trust in Ryan because we've worked together for more than a decade. His head and his heart are in the right place, and we share a lot of values.

Ryan and his team's values are the foundation of Think Regeneration, whose impact and exciting progress are illustrated in this inaugural annual report.

Even as a young organization, Think Regeneration has proven results. It jumped right out of the gate and is getting things done. For example, the regenerative agriculture leadership programs Think Regeneration has organized for the Spokane Conservation District underscore the importance of peer-to-peer learning and social support for transformation. In addition to putting boots on the ground, Think Regeneration highlights stories that help us understand group dynamics and encourage collaboration on the road to restoring regional supply chains.

Think Regeneration has momentum, and its leadership team is building more partnerships daily. They have a strong work ethic, a commitment to long-term relationships, and an underlying base of deep trust with producers and the regenerative community. They're tackling some pretty complex problems and not shying away from them.

As a Board, we want to see Think Regeneration give voice to people who operate small farms and ranches, and those finding success with regenerative systems at a larger scale.

The regenerative movement could lose its way easily, which is why Think Regeneration provides necessary focus on specific activities that will encourage the long-term viability of regenerative food systems.



**Think
Regeneration
is at the crux
of ecological
and social
work.**

Think Regeneration provides the crucial evidence, information, and projects needed to take this movement to the level it must reach to benefit as many people as possible.

In short, Think Regeneration is at the crux of ecological and social work. It's helping to guide the U.S. regenerative agriculture movement in mindset, worldview, social support, and farmer well-being.

We have a lot of work to do.

Think Regeneration is willing and able to do it.

Abbey Smith

*Board President, Think Regeneration
Savory Global Network Coordinator, Savory
Institute. Owner and operator, UVE, a Savory
Network Hub serving the West Coast and the
Intermountain*

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2023 Program Report

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When someone asks us, “What is Think Regeneration?” here is the vision we share: We believe in a future where we can all reap the benefits of living symbiotically with nature. It is a world connected through health, an abundance of food, and a high quality of living. It is a world where farmers are valued and rewarded for growing food that prevents disease.

We are an organization founded on the principle that we must work on the ground, side by side with food growers, to help them achieve their wildly important vision for a paradigm shift in the food supply. We will continue to build communities of support that share education, resources, and action plans to solve problems and achieve these goals. We firmly believe the regenerative farmers and ranchers today are positioned to be leaders in restoring and protecting the little resources we have left on this planet.

We need your help to advance this mission. Your contributions can come in many shapes and sizes, but they are essential to advance the work we started in 2023. The communities working together in Arizona, Washington, Illinois, the South, and the Great Plains are now starting to connect. The local, grassroots hubs of innovation and entrepreneurship are opening large, new markets, creating more opportunities for future generations, and educating each other on changing the world in a way that delivers more resilient communities, and more hope, and joy.

We want to thank all of our supporters in 2023 for believing in us and the mission of Think Regeneration.

To a healthier future —



Ryan Slabaugh
Founder, Think Regeneration



THINK REGENERATION



This transition from dream to reality is what we're focused on. With Think Regeneration, leaders in the local food system and the DRY Cooperative gain confidence. Farmers in our region can know there's a team behind them providing all the support they need and wanting to make sure we create a better outcome as a whole.

DR. YADI WANG | REGENERATE AZ | OATMAN FLATS

DEVELOPING LIVING LABS

CASE STUDY: REGENERATE AZ



**Oatman
Flats** TM RANCH LLC



In summer 2023, Think Regeneration announced a partnership with DRY Cooperative and Ranch House Media to accelerate **Regenerate AZ**, a two-year-old project that aims to create a paradigm shift in the food supply in the arid Southwest.

To kick off the initiative, the partners convened a group of 40 producers and food supply experts at Oatman Flats Ranch, Oct. 6-7, 2023. Owned by Dax Hansen, the operation is the first Regenerative Organic Certified® farm in Arizona. The farm's sister company Oatman Farms has different varieties of flour and a line of products of baking mixes for pancakes, waffles, and sourdough bread.

At the meeting, participants, including restaurants, farmers, ranchers, land owners, and representatives of the nearby tribal associations, shared insights about practices designed to increase soil health and nutrient density. The group spent time sharing and learning from one another, and developed a stronger understanding of how to grow healthy food and build communities in drought conditions.

"Soil regeneration often takes time and patience, which often cannot be achieved under a conventional farming system when farmers are not being incentivized for a long-term land health management," explains Dr. Yadi Wang, who manages Oatman Flats Ranch. "We urgently need to find ways that can accelerate soil biology, help retain more water in soil so that producers can rely less on conventional chemical inputs and fertilizers while healing the land for generations to come."

Planning is underway for the launch of promotional media, the first version of a regional action plan, and a 2024 on-the-farm educational program.

DEVELOPING LIVING LABS

CASE STUDY: REGENERATE AZ

01

Lesson #1: Resilient Systems are the Goal

Earlier this year, winter rainfall runoff and snow melt flooded the Gila River, which sent water through Oatman Flats and split the farm in two. Dr. Yadi Wang and his team spent day-and-night building dams to prevent the water from destroying his farm. The result was positive. They saved the farm. While they did lose some irrigation water because of losing one of their wells in the middle of the running river, they were able to protect their production acres by first flying drones, then by using land-survey software to understand where the river would flow, and finally by building hundreds of yards worth of dams to redirect the river away from the farmland.



02

LESSON #2: Biodiversity is Essential

Oatman's wheat fields grow white Sonora, red fife, bluebeard durum, and skagit 1109 wheats to produce varieties of Oatman Flour. This wheat was planted in December-February. They grow the wheat without purchased fertilizers, using livestock integration and manure to feed their crops. Their system allows weeds to fill in the gaps between plants and keeps a close eye on invasive species. They also collaborate with local sheep ranch to optimize the land management, weed mitigation and soil fertility.

03

Lesson #3: A National Model

The work going on in the Tucson-Phoenix region that is bringing multiple stakeholders together who are underserved in the food supply can be replicated around the country. Think Regeneration is uniquely prepared to help your organization establish an annual event that is focused on education, community building, and real on-the-ground work.

DEVELOPING LIVING LABS

CASE STUDY: REGENERATE AZ

PARTNER INSIGHTS: DR. YADI WANG, REGENERATE AZ

I'm a first-generation farmer in Arizona, although if we trace it back, I'm a seventh-generation farmer by training. I learned everything in Indiana in the Midwest. I am the farm manager of Oatman Flats Ranch, the first regenerative organic certified farm in the Southwest. I oversee all projects, programs, and conversions to regenerative practices, from the irrigation system to agroforestry to holistic management. We incorporate practices such as sheep grazing and grow things not only without chemicals, but also without commercial fertilizers.

I also help manage a food company. We sell baking mixes using the heirloom wheat we grow via food services and retailers. In addition to that, a few local leaders and I co-founded the Development of Regenerative Yields (DRY) Cooperative. It's a multi-stakeholder effort to improve and increase the prosperity of smaller and mid-sized producers—through distribution, processing, logistics management, and even marketing management.

Learning about the vision for Think Regeneration excited me. Together with our combined expertise, adaptability, and organizational skills, we're pushing toward creating a model that can be introduced to various regions, tailored to their specific contexts.

With Think Regeneration's support, we're building out a program that takes a metabolic approach, considering everything from the soil to all forms of life, including humans. In order to have massive regeneration of the food system in the Southwest, we need a lot more dollars, and we need a lot more people who say, 'This is a tough environment. But we're OK working on this, even though it takes a longer time.' Those high-level commitments will result in long-term impact.

Our collaboration with Think Regeneration represents an important partnership and launching pad. This transition from dream to reality is what we're focused on. With Think Regeneration, leaders in the local food system and the DRY Cooperative gain confidence. Farmers in our region can know there's a team behind them providing all the support they need and wanting to make sure we create a better outcome as a whole.



DR. YADI WANG

Farm Manager,
Oatman Flats Ranch
Co-Founder, DRY
Cooperative

DEVELOPING LIVING LABS

CASE STUDY: REGENERATE AZ

WHAT'S NEXT

Our mission in 2024 and beyond is to bring ranchers from across the world to observe the practices building soil health, and nutritious, equitable food supplies, to reinforce a strong understanding of how to grow healthy food in droughts, and to create collective agreement around a regional action plan.

We will release an Action Plan in late 2023 that will provide guidance and case studies about the work going on in the region.

FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$90K | TO OFFSET COSTS FOR THE 3-YEAR PROGRAM; MODELING MATERIALS FOR OTHER REGIONS



WE ARE COMMITTED TO **PROTECTING SOIL HEALTH** AS A PRECIOUS NATURAL RESOURCE. THE PARADIGM SHIFT IN OUR FOOD SUPPLY STARTS WITH UNDERSTANDING HOW SOIL BIOLOGY CAN SUPPORT PLANT LIFE, ECOSYSTEM HEALTH, AND HUMAN HEALTH.

PHOTO BY BEN SHANI



This has been the best year of my life being able to work with Think Regeneration. They've been amazing in supporting me nearly every week and helping to think about what regeneration looks like. Think Regeneration has already successfully acquired grant funds for one of the largest Black farming communities north of the Mason-Dixon Line. What it means to those communities is life-changing.

MARTY TRAVIS | CHICAGO PROJECT | DOWN AT THE FARMS LLC

REGENERATIVE INFRASTRUCTURE

CASE STUDY: CHICAGO MARKET PROJECT



Down at the Farm
Deliveries and Marketing
Supporting small regenerative farm
Fairbury, IL 61799



In early 2023, Think Regeneration joined a new Illinois task force looking at repairing food deserts by connecting underserved growers with new markets. What emerged from those discussions is a way to support the **The Chicago Market**, 360-degree supply chain model working toward \$14.8 million in grant funding to strengthen the local food system while reducing food insecurity.

The reason? In Illinois alone, there are 318 low-income and low-access census tracts where urban residents must travel more than a mile and rural residents travel more than 10 miles to the nearest supermarket. This represents 10.2% of all census tracts and accounts for well over 1.2 million Illinois residents living in food deserts. Fundraising is underway to trigger and administer grants on the ground through the partnership, which includes Run-A-Way Buckers Farm in Pembroke Township, Down at the Farms LLC, Valley Fresh Harvest, 19x1950 Farm, and **The Chicago Market** itself, opening in 2024..

Activities to be supported through the project include:

- Establishing new markets for underserved growers;
- Building out needed infrastructure for those same growers to reach Illinois markets such as Rockford, the Quad Cities, and beyond;
- Creating consumer education prototypes to build trust and customer loyalty around local, regenerative food;
- Supporting distribution centers and developing partnerships with local grocery stores; and
- Fostering community support and political awareness.

As part of our mission at Think Regeneration, we will be working with this group to raise money for key infrastructure, build needed connections, educate growers on marketing and soil management tactics, and reinforce the needs of the program leaders.

REGENERATIVE INFRASTRUCTURE

CASE STUDY: CHICAGO MARKET

01

Lesson #1: Helping Growers to Markets is the Goal

One of the partners on this project is Down at the Farms LLC, a rapidly growing food distribution center that represents about 120 family farms implementing soil improvement practices. They serve restaurants (including some Michelin stars) in the Chicago area with just about every product you can imagine. It's been built with a lot of labor and love. This year, Think Regeneration has been privileged to watch real regenerative systems at work, to meet with growers, and to hear how our organization can support their work on the ground. This involves finding funding for up to \$400,000 in expanded capabilities in the region.



02

LESSON #2: Relationships are Paramount

In 2023, we spent many weekends driving across the state to meet with farmers, market makers, and distribution companies to learn on-the-ground about the realities of creating a regenerative food supply. We identified missing infrastructure pieces like refrigerated spaces, trucking, and storage areas, and were able to secure \$10,000 in grant funding to support. We are also the official grant-writing partners of Run-A-Way Buckers, a summer camp and food production farm that serves 60-70 youth in Pembroke Village, one of the oldest Black farming communities north of the Mason-Dixon line.

03

Lesson #3: Putting Capital into Action

Years of being told to “get big or get out” by the leaders in agriculture have translated into gaps in infrastructure like storage, transportation, and distribution in family farming communities. Being underserved exacerbates the issue. To help underserved farmers—ranging from Black to indigenous to veterans to women—we are successfully pursuing philanthropic funding that keep supply lines open, and small businesses growing.

REGENERATIVE INFRASTRUCTURE

CASE STUDY: CHICAGO MARKET

Marty Travis

Founder, Down at the
Farms LLC & Author, *My
Farmer, My Customer*



PARTNER INSIGHTS: MARTY TRAVIS, DOWN AT THE FARMS LLC

My son and I operate Spence Farm, a 160-acre diversified food farm. In seven more years, it'll be in our family for 200 years. We grow vegetables, beef, fruit, pork, eggs, wild harvested things foraged from our woods, and a whole realm of heritage greens, small grains, and heritage corns.

Twenty years ago, we saw a lot of young people leaving the community, finding other off-farm jobs, and not coming back to participate in a community farm situation. We began marketing our products to chefs, especially in Chicago, and the demand is through the roof. We began to offer opportunities for young people to take an acre or two on a family farm and begin to grow food. We started a marketing and delivery company for other Illinois farmers called Down at the Farm and have been doing it for 20 years. The growth we are expecting in the next two years due to the Chicago Market Project should reach \$5 million in real impact for growers in the region.

This has been the best year of my life being able to work with Think Regeneration. They have taken so much off of my plate. They are helping many of our individual farms with resources, grants, and support. Think Regeneration has already successfully acquired grant funds for one of the largest Black farming communities north of the Mason-Dixon Line. What it means to those communities is life-changing. Ryan and the team have been instrumental in helping us think about longer-term solutions, not just grant money. His experiences and encouragement have helped us understand how to apply this model not just in Illinois but throughout the Midwest and the country.

Think Regeneration is an active partner in providing hope and honest solutions. They help us understand the solution and how to get to that solution. That's what Think Regeneration is helping us actualize.

REGENERATIVE FOOD SUPPLY

CASE STUDY: CHICAGO MARKET

WHAT'S NEXT

We are laser-focused on the opening of The Chicago Market in summer 2024, when the community of growers in Illinois will be able to start selling directly into a 17,000-sq.-ft. store in the Uptown neighborhood. We are actively writing grant applications and fundraising for all facets of the project, including the store itself, educational programs for growers, and infrastructure such as trucks, freezers, and refrigerators.

FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$150K-\$1.5 MILLION | WILL GO TOWARD INFRASTRUCTURE SUPPORTING FAMILY FARMERS REACHING CO-OP GROCERIES IN CHICAGO





WE FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT **FOOD IS MEDICINE**. OUR WORK IS FOCUSED ON HELPING REGENERATIVE FARMERS AND RANCHERS LEAD CHANGES IN OUR FOOD SUPPLY THAT DECREASE CHRONIC DISEASE RATES, INCREASE COMMUNITY RESILIENCE, AND IMPROVES THE FARMER SHARE.

THINK REGENERATION



Our partnership with Think Regeneration has been pivotal, helping us equip producers with clear, actionable steps for a brighter, sustainable future.

TY MEYER | SPOKANE CONSERVATION DISTRICT | EDUCATION

PEER-TO-PEER EDUCATION

CASE STUDY: SPOKANE CONSERVATION DISTRICT



In 2023, Think Regeneration began to engage with the leading sustainable farmers in the Pacific Northwest, who are actively engaged in the **Spokane Conservation District** BioFarming program. These 15 individuals participated in a two-day program that focused on leadership and education about the regenerative movement.

"We had a tremendous experience," said Ty Meyer, Spokane Conservation District program director.

After analyzing the focus group data, program leaders determined the need for an online course and community-tool that would allow other growers to participate in the BioFarming program, and help position the early adopters as leaders in the region. We expect to launch a detailed, six-module course about biological farming in early 2024, along with a community discussion board that will encourage feedback, best practice sharing, and regional-specific information.

We also determined the essential need for community-building in the region. Most of the growers credited the BioFarming group with giving them the human support network to allow them to experiment, fail, and have a safety net. By bringing others into the program, we will be expanding the culturally acceptable practices in the region to include more no-till practices, more cover cropping, more biological fertilization, and less chemical pesticide use.

This leadership group is establishing a model that can be used across the country in other conservation districts, specifically to:

- Add confidence in speaking publicly about why they use regenerative practices on their operations;
- Expand peer-to-peer learning by sharing tactics that allow their farms and ranches directly support the transition to a regenerative food supply; and
- Explore how community-based education can help expand sustainable growing practices, and open new marketplaces.

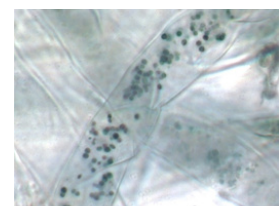
PEER-TO-PEER EDUCATION

CASE STUDY: SPOKANE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

01

Lesson #1: Biology Unlocks Regenerative Systems

As large-scale and small-scale growers transition away from convention, they are seeking the information that helps them understand how to measure, and understand, what is changing in their fields. By showing them images of rhizosphere-bacteria-fungal network relationships, and lessons around how nutrients flow through crop-soil systems, they create a more complete risk management profile around their fertilizer and pesticide inputs.



02

LESSON #2: Education Should Be Region-Specific

A variety of factors create distrust when farmers and ranchers learn in terrain and climates outside their reason. For this reason, we believe the education we provide—while rooted in universal truths—should be taught through a local-regional lens. This means incorporating common crop systems, terrain challenges, soil types, and marketplaces into the educational curriculum. This helps the growers understand how the science and best practices can be applied more accurately to improve efficacy and regenerative impact.

03

Lesson #3: Peers Should Teach Peers

Growers can't learn what they need to with textbooks or laboratory information. For this reason, the virtual coursework, group classroom work, and in-field learning, are complementary in nature. By allowing multiple entry points into the information around biological and regenerative systems we will be serving growers who learn in different ways. We are also building in a community-based bulletin board for the BioFarming group to share information they learn.

PEER-TO-PEER EDUCATION

CASE STUDY: SPOKANE CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Ty Meyer
Production Ag
Manager, Spokane
Conservation District

PARTNER INSIGHTS: TY MEYER, SPOKANE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

For 21 years, I've worked on direct seeding adoption in our region and managed a loan program helping farmers purchase direct seed and no-tillage equipment, with over \$40 million dollars invested. More recently, my focus transitioned to regenerative agriculture, moving away from synthetics and chemicals, especially in our dryland farming region.

I met Ryan from Think Regeneration at a conference and saw a gap in our strategies. We lacked a systematic way to guide farmers through transitions. Ryan's expertise went beyond farming to consider a farmer's personal development and their financial and family situations.

Our first collaboration with Think Regeneration involved a leadership session with Ryan and our farmers that opened their eyes. It involved examining the strengths of our producers, which shed light on their individual approaches and thought processes. This insight proved to be revolutionary. It prompted them to understand themselves and their colleagues better.

Now, we're developing a curriculum for our Bio Farming initiative. Ryan's deep knowledge of the regenerative agriculture movement is invaluable. His guidance is helping us craft educational videos and resources. Our focus is to guide farmers through transitions with a structured approach. I believe new farmers just starting with regenerative practices will benefit immensely from this curriculum.

What sets Think Regeneration apart is his genuine goal to help farmers adopt regenerative practices without pushing products. At Spokane Conservation District, our aim isn't to sell but to help farmers succeed, which results in a more sustainable system.

Transitioning to regenerative agriculture is an investment. The long-term benefits, projected to emerge over the next five to 10 years, underscore the importance of organizations like Think Regeneration. Our partnership with Ryan has been pivotal, helping us equip producers with clear, actionable steps for a brighter, sustainable future.

PEER-TO-PEER EDUCATION

CASE STUDY: SPOKANE CONSERVATION DISTRICT

WHAT'S NEXT

We are working close with growers to create an industry-leading model for regenerative change, including:

- in-person and online educational curricula and tools that will support farmers across the regenerative spectrum of experience and capabilities;
- an annual leadership and fellowship program for advanced growers;
- data-based focus groups for continuous program improvement; and
- a community-building structure that focuses on peer-to-peer support,

FUNDRAISING GOAL: \$75K (MATCHED) | TO EXPAND BIOFARMING CURRICULUM INTO NEW REGIONS AND CONSERVATION DISTRICTS



WE ARE COMMITTED TO COLLABORATING WITH **A DIVERSE SET OF LEADERS IN THE FOOD CHAIN** ON THE FARM, WORKING SIDE-BY-SIDE TO SOLVE PROBLEMS, UNDERSTAND NEW PERSPECTIVES, AND BUILD STRONG RELATIONSHIPS.



THINK REGENERATION



The team at Think Regeneration serves as a bridge, presenting our practices to the community in an unbiased manner, ensuring they understand the benefits and values of what we offer.

TONY STIRLING | VALLEY FRESH PRODUCE | LEADERSHIP

REGENERATIVE LEADERSHIP

CASE STUDY: THINK REGENERATION LEADERSHIP PROGRAM



United States Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
National Organic Program
Transition to Organic Partnership Program



Regenerative producers and the stakeholders who support them are at the forefront of an exciting new future. At the same time, they often lack the one-on-one and group support needed to strategically evaluate all of the opportunities and questions they face. To provide this collaborative structure, we introduced the **Think Regeneration Leadership Program** in 2023. Through programs and workshops, attendees gain new insights so they can engage confidently with investors and other stakeholders key to the movement.

Funding in 2023 came primarily from the U.S.D.A. Transitioning to Organic Partnership Program, where we engaged with partners like Fuller Field School, Health Rx Oklahoma, the Southern Climate Research Center, the Leadership Institute, FARRMs, National Society of Appropriate Technology, and Acres U.S.A.

Our leadership program engagements include:

- **1.5-Day Leadership Group Program:** This program enables organizations to bring Think Regeneration collaborators to existing agriculture events, conservation district meetings, sales team retreats, strategic planning engagements, board of directors gatherings, and more. Together, we embark on a one-of-a-kind journey into the regenerative movement.
- **Farmer Inclusion:** We work with event organizers, filmmakers, media organizations and think tank developers to ensure farmers and ranchers are included as leaders in the regenerative movement. Participants in our programs have been seen on *Kiss the Ground*, on stage at the Healthy Soil Summit, in front of investors in Chicago, Denver, San Francisco, and Washington, D.C., and on presidential candidate advisory panels.
- **Workshops:** We connected participants with experts in regenerative agriculture through our workshops ranging from one to two hours.

REGENERATIVE LEADERSHIP

CASE STUDY: THINK REGENERATION LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

01

Lesson #1: The Why Matters

Understanding why regenerative agriculture is important, what problems it is addressing, and how we can accomplish these wildly ambitious goals, are important before we start talking to farmers and ranchers about what they need to change in their fields. Our leadership programs connect the dots between linear and non-linear thinking, historic policy changes that still challenge family farmers, and the science behind working with



02

LESSON #2: Farmers Must Be the Leaders

In 2023, we helped farmers and ranchers attend key industry events in Denver, Washington D.C. and Chicago that involve large, multi-national brands investing in regenerative agriculture. We helped these farmers secure speaking gigs and have time addressing the issues that are keeping capital tied up in places that aren't really needed to address issues like food inequity, a lack of food nutrition, and a diminishing share of food supply income.

03

Lesson #3: Outcomes, Not Tactics

Our leadership programs use a Clifton Strengths Assessment that gives our participants a clear indication of how best to work without creating unnecessary conflict in the operation. We've learned that generally tensions come from mandating tactics, and not outcomes, so we focus our programs on establishing common values, rubrics, and visions that determine behavior, without micro-managing.

REGENERATIVE LEADERSHIP

CASE STUDY: THINK REGENERATION LEADERSHIP PROGRAM



Tony Stirling
Family Farmer,
Ladd, Illinois

PARTNER INSIGHTS: TONY STIRLING, SILVER CREEK FARMS


My name is Tony Stirling, and I run Silver Creek Farms, a lettuce growing production located in Illinois. In addition to this, I also operate Valley Fresh Harvest, an online farmer's market. Through this endeavor, we collaborate with 60 to 80 different farm families across central and northern Illinois and southern Wisconsin. While few of us are actually organic certified, the majority use organic practices with all adopting regenerative practices.

While regenerative agriculture isn't new, it's a somewhat novel concept for many in our community. We're pushing to help the community understand what we're trying to achieve and how they can support us. With Ryan's vast connections and knack for outreach, he's instrumental in educating community members about our practices, the benefits of regeneratively grown produce, and how choosing local, even if slightly more expensive, can be vastly healthier.

One commendable trait about Ryan is his accessibility. Whenever I have a question or require assistance, he's just a phone call away or gets back within an hour. He consistently introduces fresh ideas and avenues, using his broad network of connections to help us expand our operations. Ryan's experience, having lived in different regions like Colorado, brings a unique perspective to our Midwest operations, offering us insights and methods that might be unconventional in our region but effective nonetheless.

Looking forward, the challenge remains in conveying the concept and importance of regenerative agriculture to the general public.

We aim to help them adopt healthier eating habits, which could, in turn, lead to fewer health issues. As more farms embrace regenerative practices, community support becomes vital for financial sustainability. Ryan and Think Regeneration serve as a bridge, presenting our practices to the community in an unbiased manner, ensuring they understand the benefits and values of what we offer.



WE BELIEVE THAT **A REGENERATIVE FUTURE** MEANS WE BEHAVE AS FULLY CONSCIOUS STEWARDS OF OUR LAND, OUR COMMUNITIES, AND ALL LIFE AROUND US. IT MEANS WE ACKNOWLEDGE WE ARE ALL INDIGENOUS TO THE ENVIRONMENTS IN WHICH WE LIVE AND WORK, AND HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO CHANGE OUR BEHAVIOR TO REPLACE DISEASE WITH HEALTH, POLLUTION WITH CLEAN AIR, SOIL & WATER, AND EXTRACTION WITH REGENERATION.

THINK REGENERATION METRICS

During the first half of our fiscal year from January to October 2023, Think Regeneration achieved 170% of its fundraising commitment goal. As a result, we have adjusted our goal and are on track to generate more than \$250,000 in program funding via grants, corporate sponsorship, and private donations. Individuals and organizations advance the mission via annual underwriting, direct program support, in-kind donations of products and services, and custom win-win partnerships.

Key Indicator	Activity / Project	Data / Outcome
\$500,000 in fundraising by Dec. 2024	We will pursue national and local grants, program sponsorship, and underwriting.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We have reached 40% of our goal at \$204,000 in total fundraising in 2023.
Satisfied Program Partners and Participants	We continuously survey our program participants to continuously improve.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We will expand our programs in 2024 to include health care and land ownership topics.
1,000 monthly web visitors	Continue to regularly publish newsletters and social media messages, and contribute to leading journals.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Media about our program partners reached more than 1 million , including articles in <i>The New York Times</i> & documentaries.

When you donate or sponsor a Think Regeneration program, you are making an immediate impact.

There's never been a greater need for philanthropy in regenerative agriculture and the larger movement. That is why Think Regeneration emphasizes sound governance and wise stewardship of every donation we receive. An independent Board of Directors composed of trusted experts from across the regenerative agriculture community oversees the mission, programs, and finances of the organization, providing accountability for this important work. Our first 990 will be filed in 2024.

80% Impact | 20% Administration

We pledge that 80 percent of all donations, grants, program sponsorships, and underwriting will go directly to Think Regeneration program impact.



10/10



80% of our program participants gave us a 10/10 review

40%



of startup fundraising goals reached as of October 2023.

Our program report impact, by the numbers:

- 100 operations: Our programs reached more than 100 family farms in 2024.
- 10 states: Our programs included organizations and individuals representing 10 states.
- 250,000 acres: The growers we worked with represent more than 250,000 acres of land management.
- 18 partners: We have 18 official program partners, ranging from finance institutions to input companies, supporting Think Regeneration.
- 990: Our organization's first 990 form will be filed with the IRS in early 2024.

100%

Our commitment to addressing the problems in the food supply causing disease, reducing farmer share, and damaging ecosystems.

LOOKING AHEAD

Awareness of the regenerative movement is rapidly increasing. **Yet, how do we move from awareness to adoption?** We are advancing models for regeneration around the country that connect growers, distributors, and consumers who want a paradigm shift in our food supply.

01

Problem Solving with Local Communities

Look for detailed action plans in the Southwest U.S., Pacific Northwest, and Chicago regions that show how on-the-ground, grassroots communities are solving problems.

02

Peers Educating Peers About Soil Biology

Soil biology research is helping farmers and ranchers test systems that optimize the activity of endophytic bacteria behavior, nutrient uptake, and crop protection.

03

Doctors Prescribing Food from Regen Growers

The movement to connect healthy, locally grown food with people who are suffering from chronic disease—and as preventative medicine—is rapidly coming to a reality.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Special thanks to the following organizations for their financial and programmatic support:

- 19x1950 Farm
- Acres U.S.A.
- Center for Agriculture Resilience (CFAR)
- The Chicago Market
- Compeer Financial
- Development of Regenerative Yields (DRY) Cooperative
- Down at the Farms LLC
- Enlightened Soil Corp.
- Farmers Footprint
- Flowers & Bullets
- Foundation for Agricultural and Rural Resources Management and Sustainability (FARRMS)
- Food Finance Institute
- Fresh Rx Oklahoma
- Fuller Field School
- Kiss the Ground
- Interform
- The Leadership Center
- microBIOMETER
- Oatman Flats Ranch / Oatman Farms
- Organic Crop Improvement Association (OCIA)
- Ranch House Media
- Range Ward
- Regenerative Agriculture & Food Systems Summit
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