

Friends of Holly Hill Farm

A Farm for Teaching & Learning

ANNUAL REPORT 2025

We're a Certified Organic and sustainable farm with an educational mission.

Dear Friends of the Farm,

I am pleased to present Friends of Holly Hill Farm's 2025 Annual Report–a time capsule showcasing how your support allowed us to honor our mission, grow as an organization, support the community, care for the land, and meet the challenges of the day.

While we always look to the future, the small moments that happen here every day, and in the community, are what continue to inspire and motivate us. Moments like: children exploring nature trails surrounding the farm while looking for creatures and fairy houses; staff delivering our harvests to local pantries as customers shop to feed their family; teens learning how to harvest vegetables and flowers; students enjoying a salad party in their cafeteria with fresh greens harvested from their school garden; community members and staff shoveling soil to fill community garden beds so that residents can grow and harvest their own food; local colleagues taking a day from the office to volunteer on the growing fields; farmers trellising tomato plants for a bountiful summer harvest; shoppers gathering in the Main Barn on a busy Saturday morning; and the list goes on.

In 2025, we built upon our solid financial and operating foundations and focused on the completion of the third year of our three-year strategic plan. Last year, we made tremendous headway in the quiet phase of our *Keep Our Farm a Farm* capital campaign to purchase the farm and invest in its long-term future. We secured a $1 million Community Preservation Committee (CPC) grant from the Town of Cohasset to place a Conservation Restriction on the land–protecting it from development. This grant, along with community donations, put us on the path to save the farm.

In 2025, we:

- Welcomed a new Education Director, two full-time Educators, and new Board Members
- Donated the most fresh food in our farm's history to address rising food insecurity and provided cash benefits to SNAP customers during the government shutdown
- Created community gardens and educational programming as part of our three-year Climate Resiliency grant from Liberty Mutual and a grant from Boston Scientific
- Received *Best of the South Shore* for our summer programs for the third consecutive year
- Took measures in our growing fields to mitigate against climate change
- Continued to make educational programs more accessible to everyone through reduced pricing
- Provided open and free access to nature in a time when natural places and "third spaces" are becoming harder to find.

Thank you for helping us continue to share this precious farm and grow a sustainable future!

Meredith Laban

Meredith Laban, Executive Director

Growing with resilience and a commitment to organic, sustainable, and regenerative practices that protect the soil, land, and climate.



2025 was the third warmest year on record globally, with June 2025 setting multiple heat records around the Northeast. *

Our farmers navigated the usual opportunities and challenges posed by the changing seasons, along with more extreme periods of **drought and heavy rain**. To prepare for these shifting conditions, in 2025 our farmers **proactively built more raised garden beds than in past years,** protecting the soil from erosion and helping it stay hydrated during extreme dry conditions. Our growing fields are especially sensitive to times of excessive rain, due to our coastal location, the rising water table, and run-off generated from the ledge hillside above our fields. To mitigate against potential loss of crops, our farmers and volunteers **created extensive drainage ditches throughout the main growing fields**.

**World Meteorological Association: January 14, 2026 press release*
*** NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information: Monthly National Climate Report for Annual 2025*

FEEDING OUR NEIGHBORS

SNAP or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, provides monthly funds to help families buy groceries. Our farm stand accepts these payments year-round and at the seasonal Cohasset Farmers Market. In October 2025, the federal government shutdown meant that SNAP benefits were suspended. Our nonprofit launched a program that **provided $40 discounts to all participating SNAP customers** every time they shopped at our farm stand. This special discount extended through early December when benefits returned to normal. The passage of the One Big Beautiful Bill in November 2025 indicates further changes, including cuts to funding and participant eligibility are on the horizon in the future.



MAKING HEALTHY FOOD AFFORDABLE

Our **Holly Hill Farm SHARES** program provides gift cards to participating individuals and families to purchase healthy food from our farm stand. **In 2025 we served 15 local families**.

FARM TO FOOD PANTRY PROGRAM

60% MORE FOOD DONATED

8 FOOD PANTRIES SERVED

7604 POUNDS TO LOCAL PANTRIES

EXPANDING FOOD RESCUE

In 2025, in addition to growing, harvesting, preparing and delivering fresh produce from our fields, we also coordinated food rescue efforts that redirected surplus food from community partners to local food pantries. Some of this rescued food was transformed into prepared items like soups and sauces, while the rest was distributed through our weekly food pantry deliveries. Together, these efforts reduced food waste, increased access to fresh and healthy food, and strengthened our local food system.

Growing and donating healthy food to feed our neighbors



In 2025, we donated over 60% more food than the previous year to meet the rising need, so struggling families could put nourishing food on their plates.

According to the Greater Boston Food Bank, the number of people in our state experiencing food insecurity increased substantially, rising from 19% in 2019 to 40% in 2025. *

**Greater Boston Food Bank: 2026 Massachusetts Food Access Report*

Mitigating against climate change and creating efficiencies in our growing fields

Our main growing field, known as Pecks Meadow, is home to four caterpillar growing tunnels. In 2025, farmers and volunteers were able to reinforce, repair or replace framework structures and install new protective outer layers, called “skins.” These proactive measures helped ensure our growing beds were protected from extreme cold and wind, and they could serve as growing spaces for our crops.





As a farm that practices sustainable and regenerative practices, it is important that we protect the soil and take measures that minimally disturb it. This helps keep beneficial microbes and delicate ecosystems protected and allows the soil to retain the carbon it has removed from the environment. Our farmers were delighted to modernize our small-scale farm in a sustainable way in 2025 through the use of a paper-pot transplanter. This hand-operated tool helped our farmers directly plant seedlings like beets, scallions, and salad mix in about a quarter of the time, while ensuring the soil was not disturbed.



FUN FACTS

1 In 2025 we introduced pasture and humanely raised **local chicken and pork** to our farm stand from Azuluna Farm in Woodstock, CT.

2 We grow **Certified Organic flowers** on our farm too. In 2025, we introduced new bouquet options and new paper wrapping for sustainable grab-and-go shopping.

3 We offered a **zero-packaging mobile refill station at our farm stand** by partnering with local entrepreneur Charissa Wade, of Zero Refills Mobile Refillery. During these monthly pop-ups customers could enter her mobile shop, fill-up their reusable containers with everything from shampoos and soap, to household cleaners and laundry detergents.

4 Our farmers and volunteers seeded and cared for over **160,000 seedlings** for our growing fields and our **annual spring plant sale**! This year, we offered our second annual fall plant sale too!

We are passionate about educating the next generation and instilling a love for the natural world.

Our newly constructed **solar-insulated greenhouse** in our Education Garden provided new learning and growing opportunities for children and schools in 2025. For instance, our Education team created new programs, like Winter Farming and Future Farmers, where children learned about **extending the growing season**, weather and solar heat, and how to sow, care for, and start crops in a greenhouse. The new greenhouse also provided the space to **start new seedlings** to grow for the many school and community gardens that we support.





FUN FACTS

1. In 2025 we **taught over 750 lessons** in school gardens and classrooms around the South Shore and Boston.

2. Our farm hosted **123 school field trips** to provide immersive lessons to support in classroom learning. For some children this was their first visit to a working farm.

3. We **built 39 garden beds at two Quincy Housing Authority locations** and launched new community garden programs.

Students & Sustainability

2025 marked our second consecutive year we hosted a full-time **AmeriCorps** service member. In March 2025, they created and led a brand new educational community event, ***Students & Sustainability 2025.*** During the event, students and local organizations shared measures they are taking to address sustainability today.



BEST OF THE SOUTH SHORE SUMMER PROGRAMS 2025

We were honored and humbled by the community for voting us ***Best of the South Shore*** for our Summer Programs for the third year in a row!





HOMESCHOOL PROGRAMS

In 2025 we launched our **first three-season program** for homeschool children ages 5-12. These weekly sessions, offered in the fall, winter, and spring, provided opportunities for children to **build friendships and community** while learning to explore the farm, the environment, nutrition, cooking, and STEAM concepts (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics).

Bringing immersive learning to local schools.

In 2025, we built new garden beds at Scituate's Lester J. Gates Middle School. In the spring and fall we provided hands-on experiences for approximately 400 seventh and eighth grade students, including planting, caring for, and harvesting crops. The harvests supported class lessons and were used to prepare healthy recipes. These lessons will continue in the 2026/2027 school year.



Cohasset Middle School



School garden and nutrition curriculm

In 2024, we received funding from the **Cohasset Educational Foundation** to support a school garden and nutrition program in partnership with Cohasset Middle School for the 2024-2025 school year. We installed over 24 garden boxes, students received hands-on lessons about garden planning, seasonality, beneficial and non-beneficial insects and plants, soil, garden care, planting, and harvesting. The gardens also provided healthy foods to the Middle and High School cafeterias and kitchens.

CLIMATE RESILIENCY IN QUINCY

In 2025, we continued our work in the city of Quincy to increase access to locally grown food, create a sustainable local food system, and provide educational programming to children and adults. These initiatives were possible thanks to a 2025 - 2027 $150,000 Climate Resiliency grant from **Liberty Mutual.**

At **Quincy Community Action Programs** (QCAP) we developed a curriculum and launched a youth education program connected to the organization's new garden beds that were constructed as part of this grant in 2024.

At two **Quincy Housing Authority** locations, we built **39 garden beds** and launched new community garden programs–producing growing materials and hosting on-site events for participants throughout the growing season.



Quincy Community Action Program



Quincy Housing Authority



TEACHING IN QUINCY SCHOOLS

Thanks to a generous grant from **Boston Scientific**, we provided STEM and Nutrition curriculum at **three Quincy public elementary schools** (Parker, Lincoln Hancock, and Clifford Marshall). We provided support like: creating a framework to fix and make upgrades to better use their gardens as space for learning; teaching summer garden lessons to students in grades K-4 and nutrition classes for students in grade 4. We look forward to completing this work and finding new ways to educate children in Quincy in 2026.

Clifford Marshall School, Quincy

Holly Hill Hustle 5K Race



Providing a place for people to enjoy nature, learn, volunteer, nourish their family, and build community.



In October 2025, we hosted our second annual *Holly Hill Hustle 5K and Kids 1-Mile Loop*. Running enthusiasts and people of all levels and ages laced up for this beautiful family-friendly race, starting and ending at Holly Hill Farm. The race brought many smiles and helped raise funds to support our day-to-day operations, like our treasured children's programming.



HOSTING TWO SOLD-OUT EVENTS

The farm offers an authentic way for the community to gather, learn and celebrate our farm. Our 2025 **Farm Fest** and **Farm to Table Dinner** were sold-out events! The enthusiasm and love for the farm meant so much, and helped provide critical funds to support our day-to-day operations from heating our greenhouses and watering our growing fields, to providing our hardworking farmers and educators with health insurance and helping our farm keep the lights on. This support allows us to keep growing, teaching, caring for the land and our beloved animals, and sharing this special place with everyone.



Thank you to our school partners

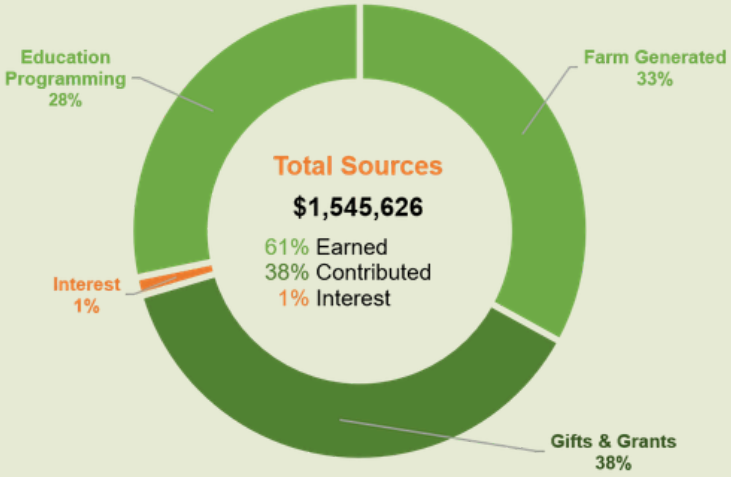


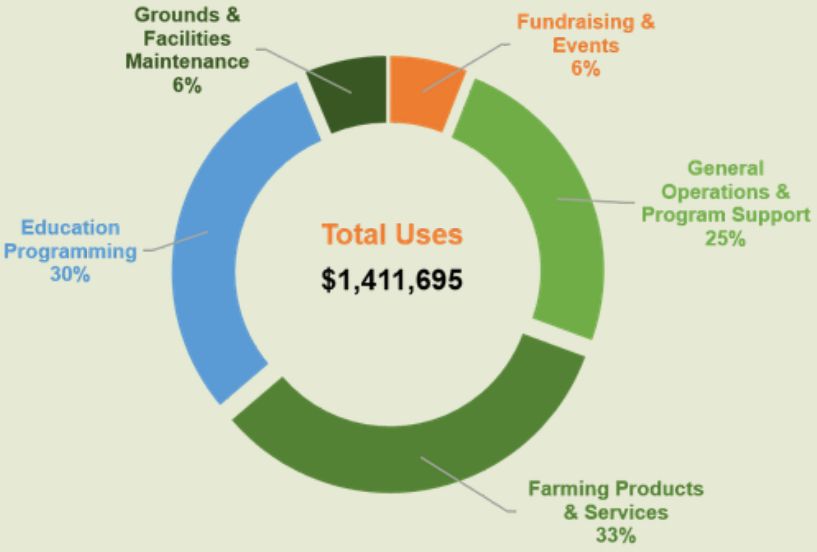
Atherton Hough Elementary
Beachwood Knoll Elementary School
Bernazzani Elementary School
Center Elementary School
Chard Street School
Clifford Marshall Elementary School
Codman Academy
Cohasset High School
Cohasset Middle School
Cushing Elementary School
Deer Hill Elementary School
Derby Academy
East Elementary School
Foster Elementary School
Frederick C. Murphy Primary School
Gates Middle School
Grace Farrar Cole Elementary School
Hatherly Elementary School
Hobomock Elementary School
Joseph Osgood Elementary School
Jenkins Elementary School
Lillian M. Jacobs Elementary School
Lincoln-Hancock Elementary School
Merrymount Elementary School
Montclair Elementary School
New England Academy
Old Colony Montessori
Parker Elementary School
Plymouth River Elementary School
Quincy High School
R. Steward Esten School
Saint Paul School
Scituate High School
Snug Harbor Elementary School
South Shore Charter Public School
Squantum Elementary School
The Accord School
Wampatuck Elementary School
Weymouth High School
Wollaston Elementary School

FINANCIALS

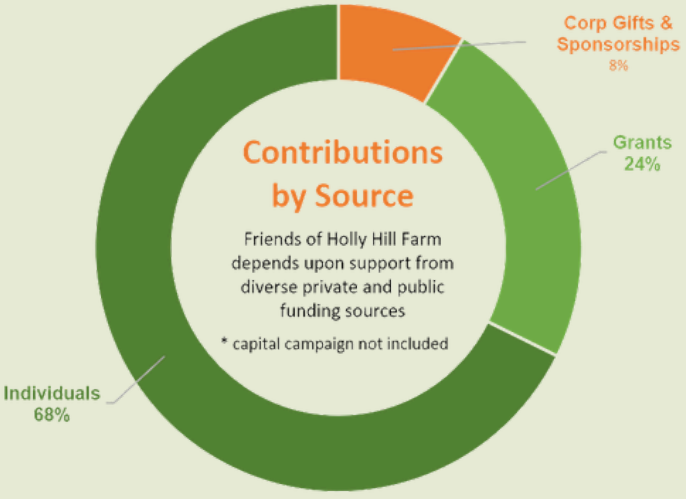
Year Ending December 31, 2025

Consolidated Annual Operating Revenue & Expenditures





Annual Operating Support



Operating Revenue



CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Holly Hill Farm

KEEP OUR FARM A FARM!

BUILDING SUPPORT

For over 20 years, the White family has been generously leasing the 5.23 acres of land that makeup Holly Hill Farm to our nonprofit. In 2026, they plan to sell the land and want us to purchase it. *Keep Our Farm a Farm* is a capital campaign and two-step plan to purchase the farm and ensure a robust and thriving future for generations to come.

In 2025, we spent the year bringing the vision of the *Keep Our Farm a Farm* capital campaign to key constituents and prospective supporters whose involvement will help build momentum for our campaign and bring our two-step plan to life.

Throughout the year, during our quiet phase of our fundraising efforts, we prioritized building the relationships, awareness, and community support needed to advance our campaign. We built a dedicated campaign committee of supporters and advocates, hosted intimate educational gatherings to introduce targeted audiences to the campaign's vision and deepen an understanding of our farm's long-term needs, and fostered important donor relationships.

These intentional outreach efforts helped identify prospective donors, strengthened our fundraising pipeline, and grew our community of supporters invested in our future. Through the end of 2025, we raised $3.3 million from about 100 donors.

BUILDING OUR COMMITTEE

Co-Chairs

Chris and Nancy Oddleifson
Rick and Gitte Shea

Committee Members

Lydia Adelfio
Carolyn Coffey
Lindsay Deane-Mayer
Mark DeGiacomo
Allison Waters Doherty
Corey Evans
Jane Goedecke
Diane Kennedy
Mike Larson
Celia McLane
Mary McGoldrick
Ronnie McMorris
Edith Millard
Lansing Palmer
Tiffany Popoli
Deirdre Prescott
Tanya Stevens

Holly Hill Farm
KEEP OUR FARM A FARM!

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DONORS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2025

$1,000,000 +
Town of Cohasset - Community Preservation Committee

$500,000 - $999,999
US Charitable Gift Trust
Directors' Philanthropy Fund
Emilson Philanthropy
Fidelity Foundation
(available after $5.5M is pledged)

$250,000 - $499,999
Jane Goedecke
In Memory of Ben Lacy
Kathleen and Ross Sherbrooke

$100,000 - $249,999
Anonymous
Helen and Ethan Arnold
The Baranay Family
Beth and Andy Corry
Motoko and Gordon Deane
Peter Goedecke and Pamela Ireland
Nancy and Chris Oddleifson
Astrid and Christopher Peisch
Two Mothers Memorial Fund

$50,000 - $99,999
Lydia and Marco Adelfio
Nancy and James Buckman
Carolyn and John Coffey
Cohasset Conservation Land Trust
The Comeau Family
Lisa and Mark Dunne
Lena and Ron Goldberg
Ronnie and Dave McMorris
The Prescott Family
Gitte and Rick Shea

$25,000 - $49,999
Anonymous
The Antico Family
Kristen and Andrew Astley
Bafflin Foundation
Susie and Tim Davis
Lindsay and Zach Deane-Mayer

$25,000 - $49,999 (cont)
Jackie and Ralph Dormitzer
Martha and Michael Gangemi
Jacki Maynard and Mike Larson
Celia and Doug McLane
Jennifer and Lansing Palmer
Linda and Glenn Pratt
Anne and Gary Vanderweil
Margaret R. White

$10,000 - $24,999
Anonymous
Emily and John Brown
Kristen and Douglas Campbell
Lynn and Peter Cotter
Christine and Sean Cunning
The Demma Family
Suzy and Sean Doherty
Eastern Bank Foundation
Fields Pond Foundation
Donna and Derek Hayden
Shari and Tom Hense
Andrea and Craig Hillier
Ann Howington
Mary and George McGoldrick
Jack McNamara
Edith and Stuart Millard
Susan Hobson and Michael Putziger
Cindy Matheison and Paul Schubert
Tanya and Jeff Stevens
Beth and Josh Struzziery
Judy and Phil Tedeschi
Patience and Rick Towle
Lucinda and Alex Vanderweil
Kiersten and Nick Warendorf
Barbara and Gregory Wipf
Hallie and Matt Yohe
Diane and Vadim Zlotnikov

$5,000 - $9,999
Lynne and Mark DeGiacomo
Susan and Digger Donahue

$5,000 - $9,999 (cont)
Diane Griswold Johnston
Pam and Hugh Kelly
Scott McCoy and Michael Riordan
Jane Roy and Luciano Lauretti
Barbara and Don O'Neill
Julia and Tom Powers
Dr. Bobbie O'Pray and Donald Staszko
Erin and Jamie Sunday
Laurie and Bruce Wimberly

$2,500 - $4,999
Sam and Chris Barry
Carrie and Eric Eisenhauer
Jennifer and Corey Evans
Lauren and Ken Grogan
Lauren and Craig MacLellan
Susan and Dean Morris
Jane and John Steinmetz
Mari and Charlie White

$1,000 - $2,499
Susan Acton
Molly and Paul Adams
Anonymous
Sally and Dick Avery
Jen and Zach Bowyer
Marjorie and Stephen Brown
Rob and Judy Kassameyer
Diane and Patrick Kennedy
Camila and Tom Lovett
Patty and Lance McInerney
The Parks Family
Alison and Scott Rabschnuk
Katherine and Patrick Sherbrooke
Cindy and Alex Swartwood

Up to $1,000
Emily and Chris Cotter
John Englander
Lisa and Matt Moravek
Jennifer Schultz and Andrew Reed
Nancy and Chris Whelan

2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Mark DeGiacomo
Chair, Friends of Holly Hill Farm

Lydia Adelfio
Vice Chair, Friends of Holly Hill Farm

Helen Arnold
Co-Chair, Finance Committee

Kristen Astley
Board Secretary

Dick Avery

Carolyn Coffey

Allison Waters Doherty

Eric Eisenhauer

Martha Gangemi

Derrick Goodwin

Melanie Herald

Tom Lovett

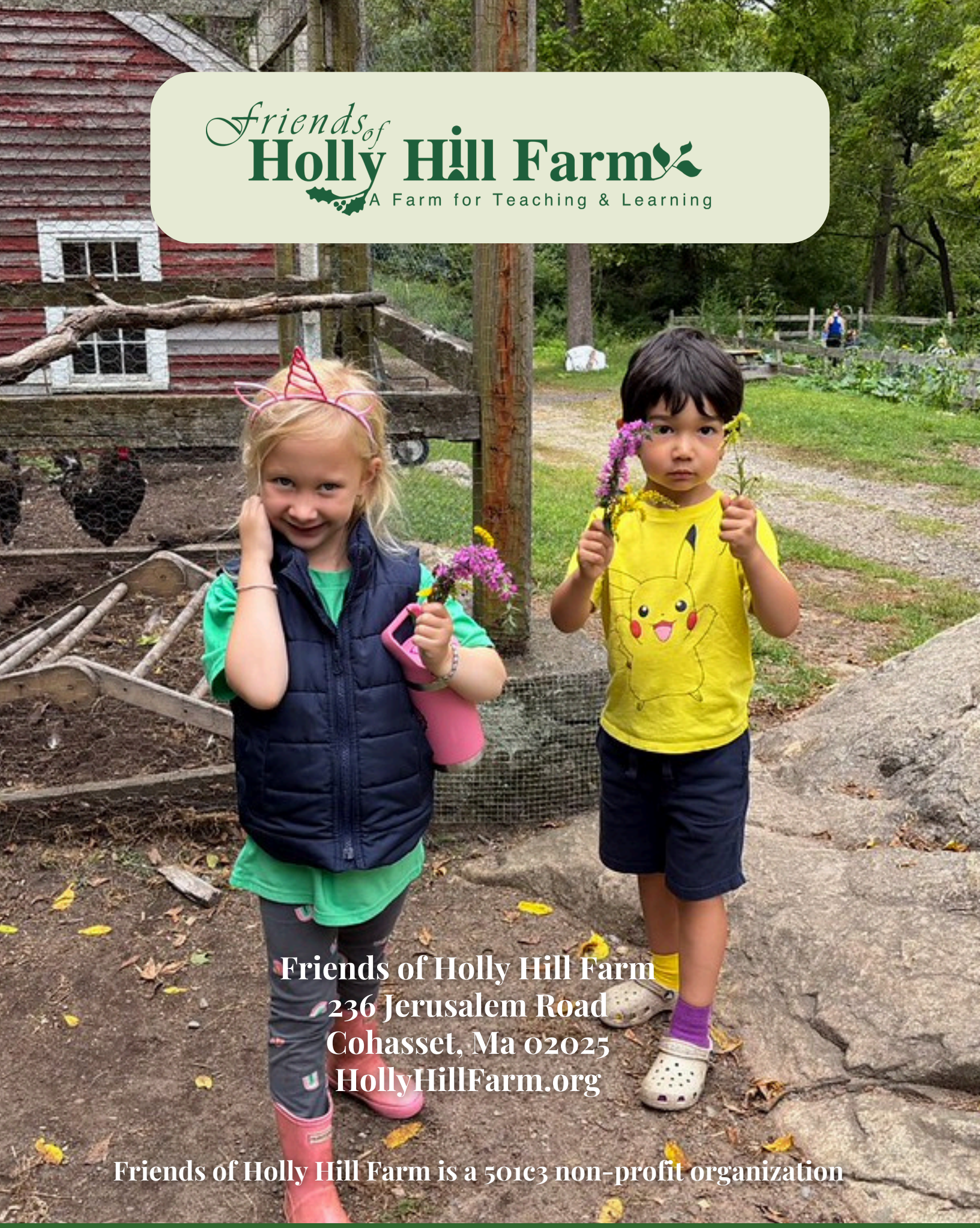
Lauren MacLellan

Astrid Peisch

Deirdre Prescott

Alison Rabschnuck

Charlie White



Friends of Holly Hill Farm

A Farm for Teaching & Learning

Friends of Holly Hill Farm
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Cohasset, Ma 02025
HollyHillFarm.org

Friends of Holly Hill Farm is a 501c3 non-profit organization