



# COMMUNITY MARKETS INC.

Locally grown. Locally connected.

# 2024 IMPACT REPORT



[www.communitymarketsinc.org](http://www.communitymarketsinc.org)

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# LETTER FROM THE OPERATIONS MANAGER

“NOT ALL OF US CAN DO GREAT THINGS, BUT WE ALL CAN DO SMALL THINGS WITH GREAT LOVE.”

- ST. MOTHER TERESA OF CALCUTTA



**MARK PEIFFER**

CMI Operations Manager

FROM THE HOME GARDENER WHO VOLUNTARILY DROPPED OFF EXCESS PRODUCE, TO THE VOLUNTEER DRIVER WHO DELIVERED FOOD, OR THE MOM WHO ORDERED WEEKLY FROM THE ST. ISIDORE MARKET, OR THE GROWING NUMBER OF PEOPLE DONATING A LITTLE EACH MONTH AS MONTHLY DONORS. NO ACTION TAKEN TO NOURISH OUR NEIGHBORS IS TOO SMALL. NO EFFORT IS INSIGNIFICANT.

I LOOK TOWARDS 2025 WITH ANTICIPATION AND HOPE FOR A MULTIPLICATION OF SMALL ACTIONS WHICH WILL LEAD TO GREATER IMPACT IN OUR COMMUNITIES. PLEASE JOIN COMMUNITY MARKETS INC. AS WE CONTINUE TO GROW WEALTH AND WELLNESS IN WEST VIRGINIA THROUGH HEALTHY, WV-GROWN FOOD. JUST START WITH ONE SMALL ACTION.

-MARK

**DEAR FRIENDS OF CMI,**

NOT ALL OF US CAN WRITE BIG CHECKS. NOT ALL OF US CAN GROW FIELDS OF FRESH PRODUCE. NOT ALL OF US CAN DEVOTE LARGE PORTIONS OF OUR WEEK TO FEEDING THE HUNGRY. BUT WE ALL CAN DO SOMETHING TO GROW THE LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM IN OUR COMMUNITIES.

AS I LOOK BACK AT ANOTHER YEAR OF IMPACT FOR CMI, I RECALL MANY SMALL YET SIGNIFICANT ACTIONS THAT CONTRIBUTED TOWARDS THOUSANDS OF FOOD INSECURE WEST VIRGINIANS BEING FED AND OVER A QUARTER MILLION DOLLARS INVESTED BACK INTO LOCAL PRODUCERS.

**\$263,000**

Money Paid to Local Producers

**>10,000**

Food Insecure People Fed

**>120,000**

lbs. Healthy Local Food Distributed



# NONPROFIT OVERVIEW

## MISSION

Community Markets Inc. ("CMI") is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization located in Charles Town, WV whose mission is to connect locally grown food to families in need

## VISION

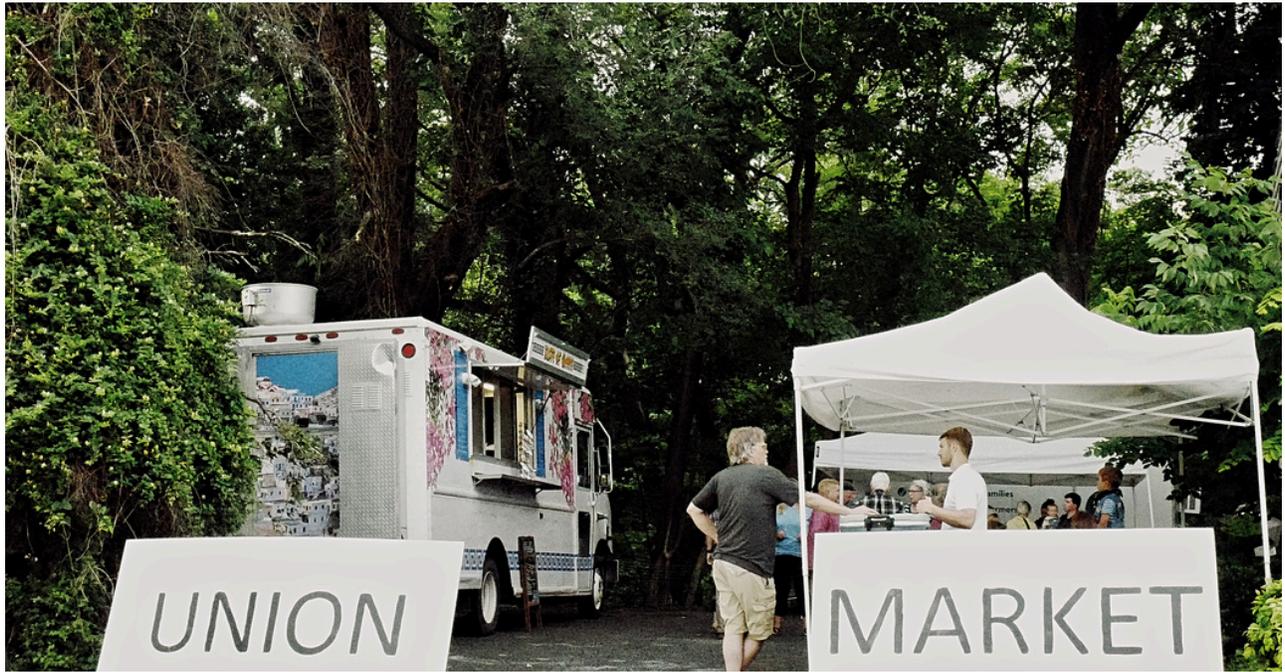
West Virginian grown food is on every West Virginian's plate.

## WHY CMI?

- Feeding Underserved Appalachian Families
- Supporting WV & Local Farmers
- Increasing Access to Healthy WV-Grown Food
- Building Wealth & Wellness in WV







# LOCAL FOOD ACCESS PROGRAM

The Local Food Access Program makes healthy & affordable groceries sourced from local producers available to communities in WV, especially food deserts & low-income communities. Two key infrastructure components that help link farm fresh food to families are: 1) CMI's mobile cold storage trailers & 2) eCommerce websites which allows customers to place pre orders for convenient pick up at the next mobile farmers market. Currently two markets serving Jefferson County are part of the Program.

## ST. ISIDORE MARKET

Open Year Round  
49 Crosswinds Dr.  
Charles Town, WV 25414  
[www.saintisidoremarket.com](http://www.saintisidoremarket.com)



ORDER  
HERE

NOW  
ACCEPTING  
SNAP!



## UNION MARKET

Open Seasonally  
970 Washington St.  
Harpers Ferry, WV 25425

\$100,000

Money Paid to  
Farmers & Businesses



35+

Vendors



>450

Volunteer Hours



# FROM THE FARMERS



## Cedar Ridge Hydroponics

We very much appreciate the opportunity to provide CMI with fresh produce and eggs from our farm. Your purchases have helped support our family of 8! We look forward to doing business in 2025!

**-Jason Weber**

## COUNTRY CREAMERY

“We’ve had a great relationship with CMI. Communication is great. We really appreciate what CMI is doing. It’s a fantastic service with great customers.”

**-Derrick Miller**



## CRESTVIEW MEAT MARKET

“Community Markets Inc. is a great service. We really appreciate what you guys do for the community.”

**- Tim Martin**



# CMI TEAM SPOTLIGHT



**ELLIE GEORGE**

Program Manager

CMI welcomed Ellie George as the team's second full-time employee serving as Program Manager. Ellie just completed a year-long term of service with CMI as an AmeriCorps VISTA Member. Welcome Ellie!



Ellie recently became a Registered Scrum Master through Scrum, Inc. Congrats Ellie!

## AMERICORPS VISTA MEMBERS



CMI welcomed four AmeriCorps VISTA Members through WV's Promise Youth Alliance. These individuals will serve for a year in our community and increase CMI's capacity to serve food-insecure families and local farmers. Welcome Maria, Chris, Allen, and Nick!

# 2024 HIGHLIGHTS



## 2024 WAS A TREMENDOUS YEAR FOR COMMUNITY MARKETS INC.!

- Began accepting SNAP EBT benefits at the St. Isidore Market, allowing for SNAP users to buy local & affordable groceries every week in Charles Town.
- Piloted the Senior Voucher Program with JCCOA with funding from the Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation which fed hundreds of underserved seniors in Jefferson County with local food.
- Partnered with Jefferson County Schools & Kilmer's Farm Market and piloted the Local Food Backpack Program to feed 536 food insecure K-12 students with weekend take-home backpacks of locally-sourced groceries.
- Fed hundreds of families in Paw Paw, WV with Morgan County Starting Points FSC three times, reaching a rural community without access to a full-service grocery store within an hour's drive.
- Formed new partnerships and was awarded hundreds of thousands of dollars in grant funding from partners like United Way of the Eastern Panhandle, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Milan Puskar Foundation, and the Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation
- Purchased an energy-efficient 6'x16' mobile cold storage trailer with funding from many private, corporate, municipal, and community foundation sources.
- Launched an additional eCommerce website for Union Market which served the Harpers Ferry and Bolivar communities for half of 2024.

# CMI'S PARTNERS



**CMI IS GRATEFUL TO OUR PARTNERS WHO MAKE WHAT WE DO POSSIBLE.**

**WE ARE TRULY INDEBTED TO THEM AND WOULDN'T EXIST WITHOUT THEIR SUPPORT!**



# WHAT'S AHEAD IN 2025?

## FUTURE PLANS

- Expanding the Food Box Giveaway program to twice monthly
- Starting two additional Mobile Farmers Markets with eCommerce websites

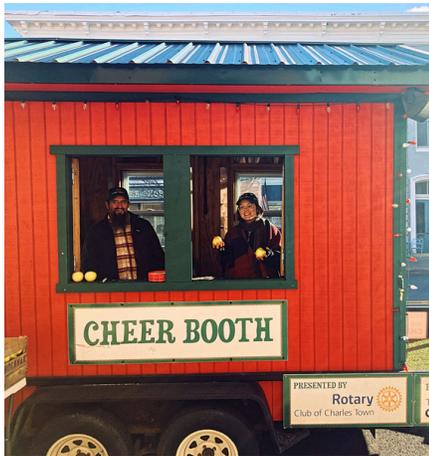


- Acquiring an additional pickup truck and refrigerated van
- Serving additional SNAP users through the mobile farmers markets
- Forming new community and regional partnerships
- Feeding thousands more food-insecure families in West Virginia



# Get Involved

There are tons of ways YOU can help increase food security & local food access!



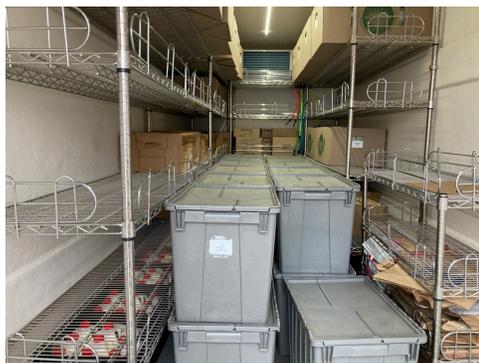
-Make a one-time donation.

-Shop our markets!

-Volunteer Your Time!

-Donate non-perishables, supplies, or excess harvest.

-Like and follow CMI on Facebook and Instagram!



Become a monthly donor at [communitymarketsinc.org/donate](https://communitymarketsinc.org/donate).

CMI is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit.

Don't Underestimate what \$50, \$25, or even \$10 a month can do!

All donations are fully tax deductible.

[communitymarketsinc.org](https://communitymarketsinc.org)

# CONTACT US TODAY!



## COMMUNITY MARKETS INC.

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**Websites/**



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[Instagram.com/communitymarketsinc](https://www.instagram.com/communitymarketsinc)

**Address/**  
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Charles Town, WV 25414

**Community Markets Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization located in Charles Town, West Virginia whose mission is to connect locally grown food to families in need.**



**Connecting locally grown food to families in need since 2021**

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