



# JOVIAL CONCEPTS

Annual Report  
2021



“ The program has been a tremendous help to our family for almost a year. With kids being remote we have relied on Co-op for nutritional & delicious food. The convenience of picking up once a week is awesome too since I am working from home and I cannot leave every day and we don't live close to a DPS school where we can go every day to pick up lunch. Thank you! Your organization has been a true blessing since the beginning of the pandemic. ”

- Desiree Flores

“ The best part of this demand-to-market model is that we know it works. The Co-op at 1st now offers produce at wholesale prices to program participants, selling 40 boxes of fresh, high-quality fruits and vegetables for as low as \$20 dollars per box every week, creating a sustainable, local answer to families who were not able to enjoy produce as part of their diets before this program. ”

- Partnership With a Healthier American: Colorado Sun Nov. 2021



# Vision

Jovial Concepts addresses the problems of food scarcity in low-income neighborhoods by converting lawns and other public spaces into garden classrooms. We use gardens to provide classes and job training that support overall community growth. We use the produce we grow to feed local families in need.

## Mission Statement

**To empower under-served communities to thrive, by offering sustainable solutions and educating future leaders.**



# Financials

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

As of December 31, 2021

### Assets

#### Current Assests

Bank Accounts	\$79,484.84
Due from Co-Op	\$64,747.22
Grants Receivable	\$0.00
Prepaid Expenses	\$0.00

**Total Current Assets** **\$144,232.06**

#### Fixed Assets

Equipment	\$17,656.00
Furniture/Fixtures	\$17,738.56
Co-Op Building	\$546,231.00
Land	\$60,500.00
Building Improvements	\$333,611.22
Truck	\$8,000.00
Accumulated Depreciation	-\$99,996.54

**Total Fixed Assets** **\$883,740.24**

Other Assets	\$25,337.20
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**Total Assets** **\$1,053,309.50**

### Liabilities & Equity

#### Liabilities

##### Current Liabilities

Credit Cards	\$85.14
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**Total Current Liabilities** **\$85.14**

##### Long-Term Liabilities

Notes Payable	\$678,201.59
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**Total Long-Term Liabilities** **\$678,201.59**

**Total Liabilities** **\$678,286.73**

#### Equity

Net Assets	\$285,384.43
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Net Revenue	\$89,638.34
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**Total Equity** **\$375,022.77**

**Total Liabilities & Equity** **\$1,053,309.50**

In early 2021, Jovial Concepts voluntarily embarked on our first financial audit which included fiscal years 2019 and 2020.

## STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the twelve months ended December 31, 2021

### Revenue and Expenses

#### Revenue

Contributions - Individual	\$5,554.63
Contributions - Foundation	\$231,314.39
Contributions - Corporate	\$527.53
Government Grant Revenues	\$405,178.26
Program Income	\$4,368.35
Emergency Food program	\$9,270.00
In Kind Revenues	\$32,325.00
Lease Income	\$7,036.25

**Total Revenue** **\$695,574.41**

#### Program Expenses

Advertising	\$4,228.16
Contract Services	\$27,087.49
Education	\$1,000.00
Subscription, Software	\$582.15
Meeting	\$890.94
Support Services	\$113,953.11
Supplies	\$47,590.49
Equipment Repairs/Maintenance	\$690.00
Trailer Registration	\$329.84
Truck Fuel	\$1,959.58
Insurance	\$4,356.00
Telephone	\$170.65
Program Utilities	\$4,372.27
Emergency Meals Program	\$332,426.44

**Total Program Expenses** **\$539,637.12**

#### General and Administraion Expenses

Bank/CC Charges	\$118.93
Professional Fees	\$11,500.00
Office Supplies	\$63.50
Support Services	\$6,180.00
Insurance	\$558.00
Interest Expense	\$18,624.54
Telephone/Telecommunications	\$1,260.00
Depreciation	\$92,901.85
Amortization	\$541.70

**Total General and Administraion Expenses** **\$68,748.52**

Fundraising \$7,500.00

**Total Expenses** **\$615,885.64**

**Net Operating Revenue** **\$79,688.77**

Other Income \$9,949.57

**Total Net Revenue** **\$89,638.34**

# 2021 Impact Overview

## Volunteer

762

2021

638

2020

## Volunteer Hours from Adults and Students with Disabilities

1080

740

## Volunteer Hours

4,125

2,970

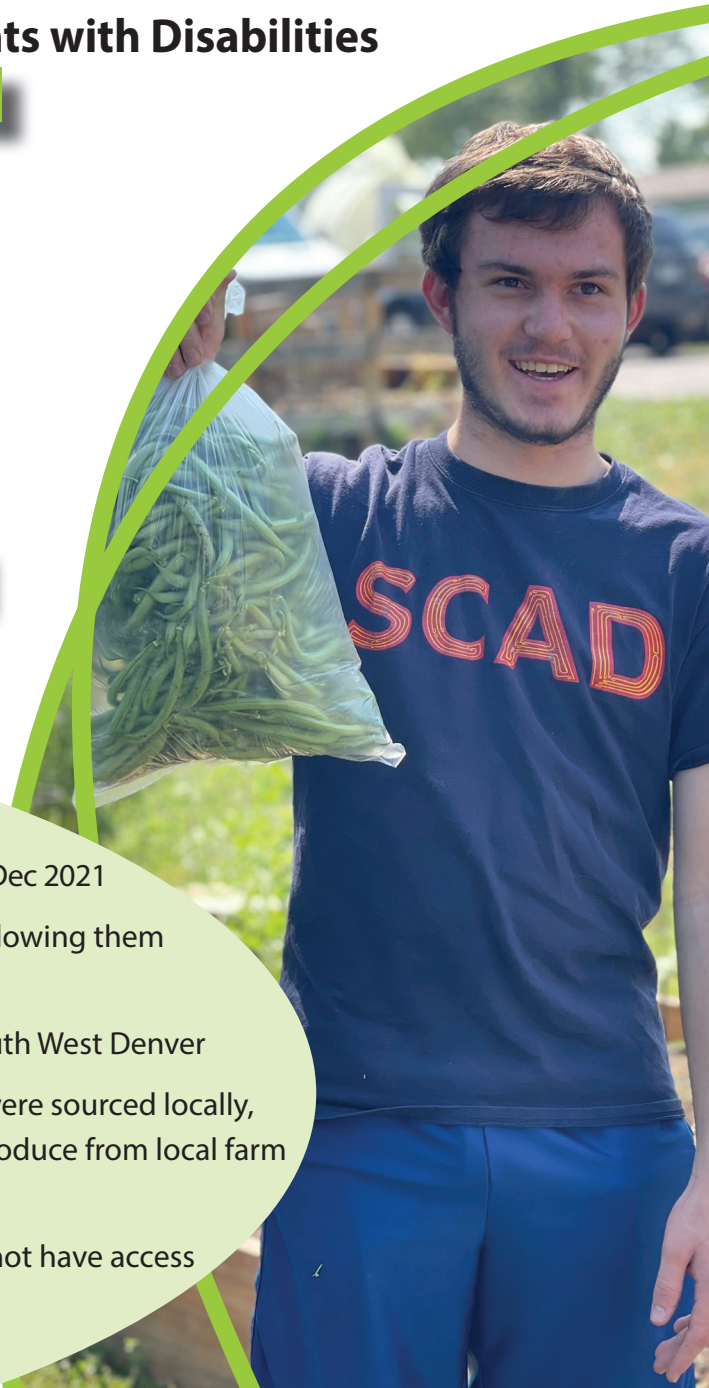
## Pounds of Food Donated

4,881

4,794

## Pandemic Stats

- Over 1.5 million lbs of healthy and nutritious food was donated by Jovial Concepts to aid in pandemic relief From March 2020-Dec 2021
- We allocated \$50,000 to pay Energy Bills for our neighbors, allowing them to focus on paying for food and rent
- Hosted a Vaccine Clinic that immunized 351 Seniors from South West Denver
- Holiday Meals- 1,120 families 72,800 lbs Our Holiday Boxes were sourced locally, and included local free-range, organic meat, fresh organic produce from local farm partners, and sustainably and locally sourced fixin's
- Provided 58,967 USDA approved Meals to students who do not have access outside of school hours





# Jovial Gardens

Jovial Gardens continues to maintain over 60 gardens across the Denver metro area and supply much needed access and education around healthy food. During Covid, we provided just under 5k pounds of food despite having very few volunteers and limited staff. Our residential gardens continue to spread and we now have over 20 Gardens in Denver proper. Jovial completed the Native Pollinator Beds at Edgewater Elementary and is working on bilingual signage for the school garden in 2022. Many of our school programs continued to be paused due to the pandemic and we hope to return to some degree of normal in 2022.

In addition to our Residential and School programs, Jovial was able to create robust programming for individuals with disabilities, living in Denver, to work outside in the gardens. In 2021 we increased the number of days we hosted groups from one day per week to two days that focused on teaching life skills, job skills, healthy eating and sustainable environmental practices. This work is very much in demand and we hope to expand to 4 groups in 2022.

**Thank you Project Helping, Laradon, and Revel  
for bringing volunteers out all season long!**

**Staff:**

Garden Managers Di Collingwood and John Stolzle

**Team Leaders:**

Paige Burns  
Andrew Gillette  
Linda Shapiro  
Jeanette Uhler  
Zach Wieland  
Katy Casper  
Gavin Willow

# Co-op at 1st

As the Co-op continues to be self-sustaining model to promote food, health access, social enterprise, education, and community, we decided that it has grown into a project that is of better service to the community as its own official entity. As of May 2021, The Co-op at 1st has become an official Cooperative and is seeking members! We continue to offer programs that are designed to offer a greater diversity of food in the supply chain including access to local healthy foods by increasing SNAP enrollment and the use of Double-Up Food Bucks. In addition, the co-op program provides invaluable support to the community with healthy food education, affordable office and kitchen space, digital courses and community-building relationship opportunities.

- Empowering over 90 Nonprofits and Entrepreneurs
- Hosting 12 free community events annually
- Over 100 free and donation-based classes



# Board of Directors and Key Support

## Board of Directors

Kristina Welch

Jessica Andersen

Jeffery Lawhead

Lila Veronica

Yvonne Welch

Quency Moye

## Key Support

Alyssa Angel

Jesse Navarro

Danny Johnson

Cailyn Eveland

Corey Hixson

Domenick Signorino

Ruben Valentin

Carolina Orozco

Kristina Welch

Coby Wikselaar

Elly Vos



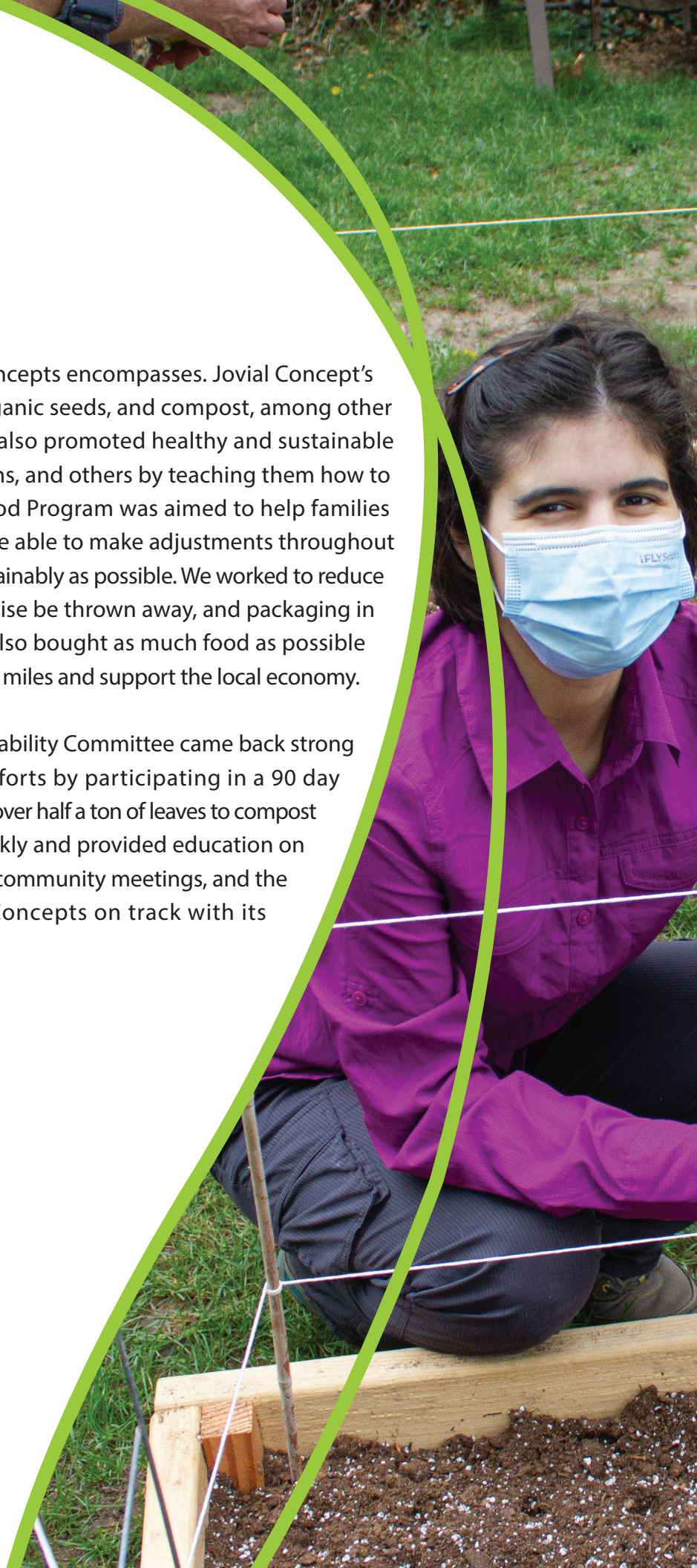
# Sustainability

Sustainability is a big part of what Jovial Concepts encompasses. Jovial Concept's Gardens are set up to use drip irrigation, organic seeds, and compost, among other sustainable practices. Our garden program also promoted healthy and sustainable living to our Garden Hosts, volunteers, interns, and others by teaching them how to create easy access to fresh produce. Our Food Program was aimed to help families struggling with the effects of COVID. We were able to make adjustments throughout the year to make sure this program run as sustainably as possible. We worked to reduce food waste by using food that would otherwise be thrown away, and packaging in compostable, and reusable containers. We also bought as much food as possible from local farmers and vendors to reduce food miles and support the local economy.

After a brief hiatus due to COVID, our Sustainability Committee came back strong in September of 2021. We launched our efforts by participating in a 90 day Climate Action Challenge in which we diverted over half a ton of leaves to compost instead of landfills! The Committee met weekly and provided education on sustainability through our programs, events, community meetings, and the neighborhood. They helped keep Jovial Concepts on track with its sustainability goals through the year.

## **Environmental Programs we were part of:**

- Certified Green Business
- Environmental Leadership Program
- Food Waste Recovery Challenge
- Climate Action Challenge





### **Reduced waste by:**

- Donating leftover food to Denver Indian Center and Jeffco Action Center
- Used leftover ingredients/food expiring soon in meals
- Handed out donated milk that was going to expire soon from Royal Crest to local families
- Used yard waste for mulch/organic matter in garden beds
- Upcycled and recycled building materials

### **Reduced Water by:**

- Using drip irrigation in gardens
- Maximizing dry cleaning methods

### **Education:**

- Had 3 Americorp Vistas support with translation, fliers, and education
- For the events we were able to hold, we helped attendees learn which bin their trash belonged in and educated them on reducing waste.
- Our garden program teaches garden hosts and volunteers how to successfully garden without pesticides or other harmful conventional gardening practices. Our gardens are as organic and sustainable as possible.

# Partners and Donors

Thank you, sincerely, to all the amazing organizations, partners, foundations, government agencies, volunteers, donors, staff, Americorp Vistas, community members and board members that have supported Jovial Concepts and The Co-op at 1st in becoming outstanding organizations in our SW Denver and Jefferson County communities. We could not be who we are without you!

***THANK YOU!***



In Memory of Quency Moye and his 4+ years of service on the Jovial Concepts Board. It is not everyday we meet face to face with a man who asks us to serve our purpose. Quency, for so many in his life, was that man. He expected us, as his neighborhood community center, to work hard, to speak up, and to compassionately serve his neighbors. He watched over our space, now The Co-op at 1st, for over 22 years. It has been a joy and an honor to serve our community with a man of such integrity and passion. We will miss hearing his stories as he wandered our market and as we handed him boxes of food to take to neighbors and friends. We thank his wife Linda Moye and her family for their ongoing encouragement.

Rest in Peace, Quency.  
July 12, 1954 - October 19, 2021

# Looking Forward

1. Increase our harvest to 7,000 lbs donated to families in need.
2. Create a Rooftop Garden in partnership with Spirit of the Sun and local Indigenous families at The Co-op at 1st.
3. Continue to help the under-served community around the Co-op during these unprecedented pandemic times.
4. Continue to help supply healthy food options for families in need.
5. Double our work with individuals living with disabilities to include more youth within the City of Denver and incorporate life skill development, such as shopping and healthy meal creation.
6. Create many different online classes where participants can engage and learn different skills pertaining to healthy eating and living.



**info@jovialconcepts.org**  
**5045 West 1st Ave.**  
**Denver, CO 80219**  
**Phone: 303-578-2569**  
**Fax: 720-386-0300**

**Thank you, Rocky Mountain Human Services for funding  
our work with individuals with developmental disabilities!**

**Thank you, City and County of Denver's Healthy Food for  
Denver's Kids for funding to help feed Denver's children and  
provide education about food and nutrition!**

**Thank you, Partnership for a Healthier America  
for the donation of the fresh produce boxes!**

**Thank you, Denver Foundation for supporting  
our Green Roof Project!**

**Thank you Creative Impact Fund for supporting Management  
skills for employees with Disabilities!**

