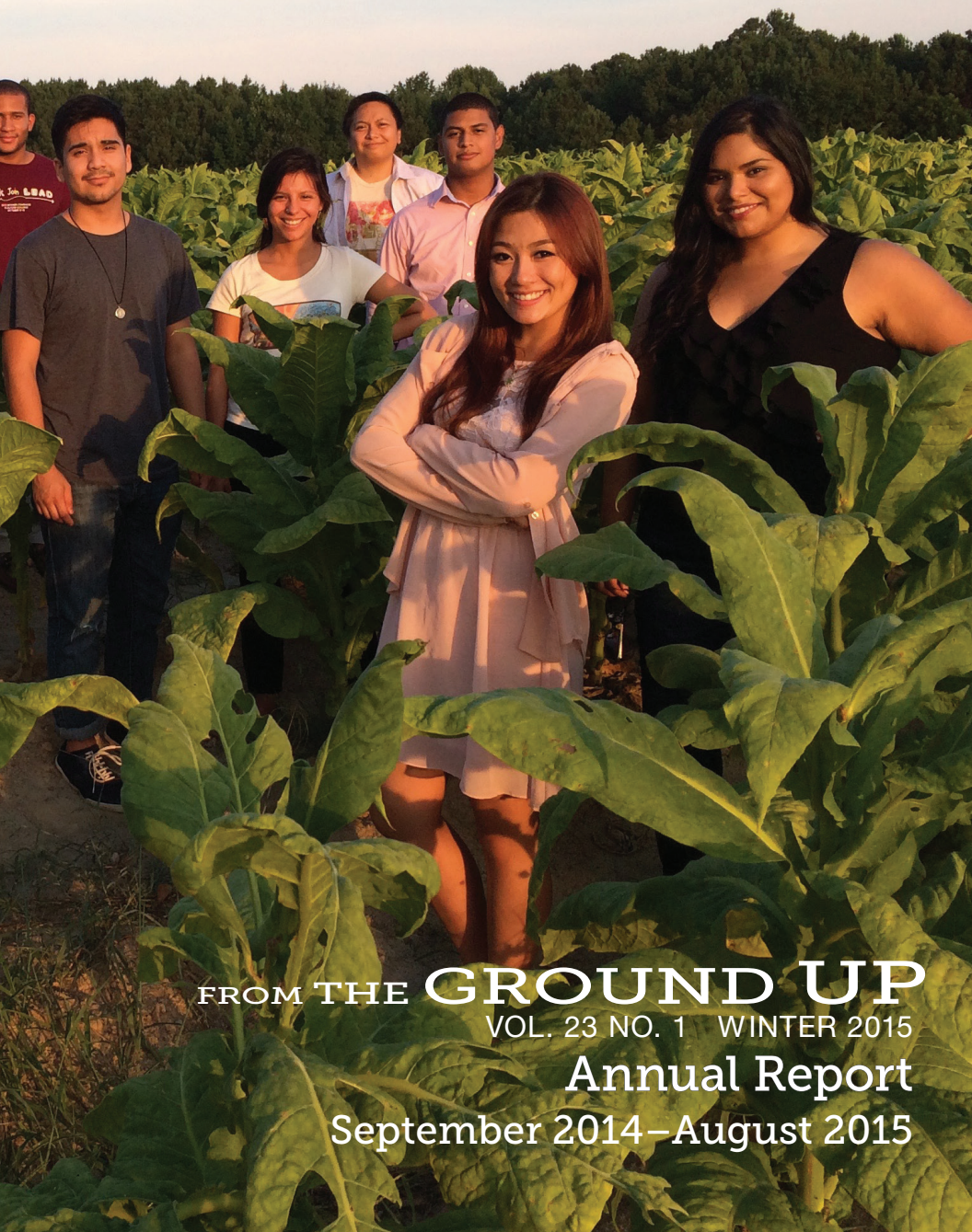




Student Action
with Farmworkers



FROM THE **GROUND UP**
VOL. 23 NO. 1 WINTER 2015

Annual Report
September 2014–August 2015



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SAF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to bring students and farmworkers together to learn about each other's lives, share resources and skills, improve conditions for farmworkers, and build diverse coalitions working for social change.

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THIS YEAR BY THE NUMBERS

By: Claire Smith, Solidaridad Intern 2015-2016



More than 5,000 farmworkers reached through outreach in partnership with 17 agencies in NC & SC



49 high school and college students participated in our internships, fellowships, and youth program



More than \$36,000 awarded in student scholarships



22 students created documentary projects with 13 farmworkers



Led 68 educational presentations for university, religious, and nonprofit groups, reaching more than 1,500 people

#NFAW2015

10,300 people reached through 180 National Farmworker Awareness Week events with 45 community partners



Led 6 theater workshops about mental health with 80 farmworkers



Partnered with 29 groups across the state to work in coalition on farmworker policy issues and access to education



Coordinated 5 lobby days, training 126 allies to advocate for in-state tuition and farmworkers' rights

Timeline 2014-2015



Launched the **Solidaridad** internship to give 5 interns the opportunity to gain non-profit skills and increase SAF's capacity.

Hired 2 new staff and moved 3 current staff into positions that better suit their interests & strengths.



SAF's **Levante Leadership Institute** worked on a music project, writing the song *El Sueño Americano* about their experiences in farm work. Partnering with a class from the Center for Documentary Studies, they performed and recorded a music video to accompany the song.

FALL 2014



Developed an outreach plan & calendar of activism to better raise awareness of farmworker issues and show solidarity with other worker campaigns. *"Being able to converse with those who indirectly give us part of our daily bread was priceless."*

– Jorge Hernandez, Solidaridad Intern, on SAF's visit to meet with UFCW workers

WINTER 2014

Held **alumni focus groups** to evaluate & improve our local and national alumni programs.

Restructured our Student Organizing School to prioritize SAF alumni to organize and educate their campuses after participating in one of our programs.

Deepened partnerships with the Farm Labor Organizing Committee, the NAACP, and the Coalition of Immokalee Workers to better connect our work with a common vision of justice for all.



Coordinated the 16th National Farmworker Awareness Week!

The Farmworker Advocacy Network worked with the NC AFL-CIO to organize Workers' Memorial Day, where workers and advocates admonished NC Commissioner of Labor Cherie Berry for the department's notorious under-reporting of workers' deaths.



Recruited 62 new perennial donors and held donor appreciation socials to sustain our work long-term. *"We donate to SAF to show our support for and gratitude to the people who harvest the food we eat."* – Deborah Sorin, SAF Supporter

Trained and led students & allies to lobby their legislators. *"It felt so good to talk about an issue that's important to me."* – Alejandra Monjaras, Levante Leadership Institute Alumni

SPRING 2015

Helped launch the inaugural SC Farmworker Institute & Networking Event to bring together over 60 advocates and service providers working with farmworkers in SC.



24 interns + 5 fellows partnered with education, health, legal and community organizing groups to conduct outreach to farm labor camps. *"We have very little outreach capacity. Having a SAF intern ensured that we could do outreach twice weekly, which is very important to our work."* – Carol Brooke, NC Justice Center

SUMMER 2015



Worked with Adelante Education Coalition members to host an Encuentro for youth from across the state to learn about lobbying and to advocate for tuition equity.

2014–15 PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS

Levante Leadership Institute

| | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Alejandra Araiza Mendoza | José Ibarra |
| Alicia Enríquez | Juan Araiza Mendoza |
| Blanca Trejo Muñoz | Karina Ibarra |
| Citlali Montoya Martínez | Karla Hernández |
| Cristal Yazmin Del Rio | Luis Ibarra |
| Eden Cabrera | Stephanie Enriquez |
| Erick Rios | |
| Gabriela Garcia | |
| Jackeline Leyva | |

Solidaridad Interns

Catherine Crowe
Farm Labor Advocacy
Diana Arguijo-Mendoza
Communications
Felicia Arriaga
Education Advocacy
Jenna Williams Horgan
Youth Leadership
Jorge Hernandez
Nonprofit Management

Into the Fields / Sowing Seeds for Change

STUDENT/ SCHOOL

Ana Jaramillo, Univ. of Mt. Olive
Araceli Suarez, Central Washington Univ.
Brenda Ramirez, Univ. of New Mexico
Caroline LaFave, NC State University
*Catherine Crowe, UNC-Chapel Hill
Danewrys Tejada, Guilford College
Elena Perez, Univ. of Idaho
Emily Blackshire, Clemson University
Emma Cathell, NC State University
Eric Alvarez, Univ. of Idaho
Fidel Ruiz, Boise State University
Gerardo Silguero, St. Edward's Univ.
Guadalupe Saldana, Univ. of Idaho
*Hector Sanchez, UNC-Wilmington
John Madden, Guilford College
Jorge Hernandez, Durham Tech
Jose Cisneros, UNC-Chapel Hill
Jose Hernandez, CSU-Sacramento
*Karla Mendoza, Johnson C. Smith Univ.
Katia Chavira, Kansas State University
Liliana Altamirano, Boise State Univ.
Marlene Aboytes, Univ. of South Florida
Miranda Russell, University of Georgia
Nadia Moreno, New Mexico State Univ.
Pa Vang, CSU-Fresno
*Paula Espinosa, UNC-Chapel Hill
Rachel Taylor, College of Charleston
*Silvana Marr-Madariaga, Guilford College
**Vianey Lemus Martinez, UNC-Chapel Hill

* Sowing Seeds for Change Fellow

** Program Assistant

HOST ORGANIZATION/ STATE

High Country Community Health, NC
Henderson Co. Migrant Education, NC
RTI International, NC
Lenoir Co. Migrant Education, NC
Piedmont Health Services, NC
NC Justice Center, NC
Bladen Co. Migrant Education, NC
SC Primary Health, SC
Bladen Co. Migrant Education, NC
SC Legal Services, SC
SC Primary Health, SC
Legal Aid NC- Farmworker Unit, NC
Rural Health Group, NC
NC Farmworkers Project, NC
SC Migrant Education Program, SC
Rural Health Group, NC
New Frame LLC, NC
RTI International, NC
Vecinos, Inc. Farmworker Health, NC
Henderson Co. Migrant Education, NC
Piedmont Health Services, NC
Lenoir Co. Migrant Education, NC
SC Legal Services, SC
Episcopal Farmworker Ministry, NC
NC Farmworkers Project, NC
Rural Health Group, NC
SC Migrant Education Program, SC
Good Samaritan Clinic, NC
Student Action with Farmworkers, NC

Take Action



Stay informed

Friend us on Facebook!

Follow us on Twitter!

Visit www.saf-unite.org

to join our email list or update your contact info to make sure you stay connected!



Celebrate National Farmworker Awareness Week, March 24–31, 2016!

Host an event in your community & add your voice to the farmworker movement.

www.farmworkerawareness.org.

Contact: Yazmin Garcia Rico, Youth Director, yazmingr@saf-unite.org



Apply & Recruit for our programs!

Applications for the Into the Fields Internship, Sowing Seeds for Change Fellowship, and Solidaridad Internship are online:

www.saf-unite.org. Applications due Feb. 4 - April 1, 2016.



Support SAF locally

Volunteer to participate on a SAF committee, help out at an event, or attend lobby days and solidarity actions. Contact: Joanna Welborn, Communications & Outreach Director, joanna.welborn@duke.edu.



Help find housing for SAF interns/fellows in NC & SC. SAF is looking for furnished, affordable, short-term housing (June–August or June–November) for responsible college students.

Contact: Ramon Zepeda, Program Director, ramon.zepeda@duke.edu.



Donate money or materials by sending a check in the enclosed envelope or by credit card through our secure website:

www.saf-unite.org or contact us at saf-unite@duke.edu to donate in-kind materials such as a car you're ready to part with, frequent flyer miles, Mac computers, or recreational equipment for farmworkers.



Get Involved in Campaigns with our Partners

Join the Coalition of Immokalee Workers' Campaign for Fair Food. More info at ciw-online.org.

Support the boycott of Driscoll's Berries in solidarity with workers experiencing unjust labor practices. More info at boycottsakumaberries.com

Act with the Farm Labor Organizing Committee campaigning RJ Reynolds to guarantee tobacco workers' right to organize. More info at floc.com

Documentary Arts

SAF interns and fellows conducted oral history interviews and collaborated on making photographs with farmworkers during the summer of 2015, documenting who workers are, and what they see, think, and wonder.



"I wonder... something that I'd like to change... the pay, the pay, for sure. You're like, this is hard and they pay you so little. At 45 cents, you're like, I have to do like 500 buckets of sweet potato to make 100 dollars. And I imagine that to do 500 buckets a day you have to almost go without drinking water... I don't know why farm work, which is harder, pays so much less."

– Yonatan, Farmworker, Documentary Participant



"I think that the labor of farmworkers is very important and very difficult."

– Carolina, Former Farmworker,
Documentary Participant



"I see a future in agriculture, definitely, because people are going to eat... I see a future with less chemicals."

– Steve, Farm owner, Documentary Participant

Popular Theater

The Into the Fields theater group focused their play this year on mental health and substance abuse, performing “A Beer A Year Doesn’t Hurt” and conducting participatory workshops to explore themes of personal struggles & stress reduction.



“Today at our theatre performance I learned to appreciate the power of a single story. To get the workers to open up, I volunteered to share my life experience about one of the themes we focused on today, one that I had never spoken of aloud. After sharing my story, the workers opened up about their experiences and made their skit. They incorporated all of their experiences and created a fluid show. I am glad that I continue to learn more about the farmworkers and their lives every time I see them.” – **Danewrys Tejada, 2015 Into the Fields Intern**

“As soon as we began, they were interacting and laughing and enjoying every moment of the play. We got the workers involved and they played a song and all of the camp sang with us. It was a great afternoon. I love being a part of the theater group and being able to learn with the workers and instead of giving them a lesson or a pamphlet, we enjoy a theater performance and the information sticks with them.”
– **Nadia Moreno, 2015 Into the Fields Intern**

“I learned more about what my co-workers think and I learned how to get along with them.”
– **NC Farmworker, Theater Participant**

“[The most important thing I learned was] how to relax when you are stressed.”
– **NC Farmworker, Theater Participant**

Thank you for your valuable contribution to SAF Sept 2014 - Aug 2015:

Perennial monthly donors in bold italics. † denotes inclusion of in-kind contributions.

We want to recognize all our donors - please contact us if you were inadvertently omitted or if your name should appear in a different way.



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\$10,000+

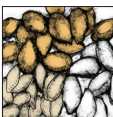
Julia Elsee



ORGANIC COMPOST
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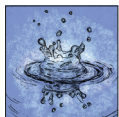
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Katie Burk

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Katie King †

Katie Mgongolwa

Katrina McTigue

Keith Kocher

Kelly Alexander

Kelly Gilmore

Ken & Peggy McIntosh

Kendall Singleton

Kenneth Strauss

Keny Murillo

Kenzie Mann

Kerry Johnson

Kevin & Rusty Sharp/Brach

Kevin Cossio

Kevin Keaney

Kia Race

Kim & Marty Goldstein

Kim Garza

Kimberly Pitts

Kirk Pelland

Kirsten Mullen

Koehler Briceno

Kristal Straub

Kristen Cox

Kristen Herzog

Kristen Hudgins

Kristen Sullivan

Kristin Greer Love

Kristin Wright

Kristina Weyer

Kristine Yager-Rushton

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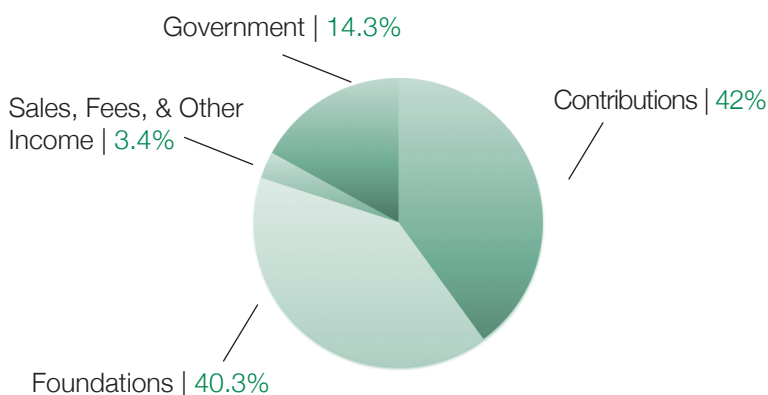
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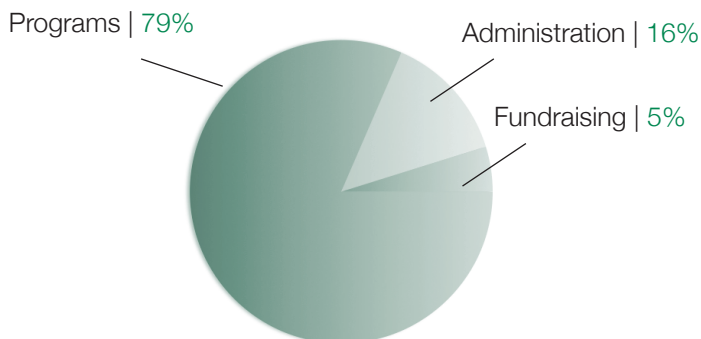
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