

Board of Directors, 2022-2023

This year, we welcomed new members:
*Gretchen Winklosky, Crystal Skotedis,
and Don Buckman.*

Chair: Chris Hoffman
Vice Chair: Tommy Nagle
Jim Barbour
Brian Kelly
Brian Miller

Get in touch!

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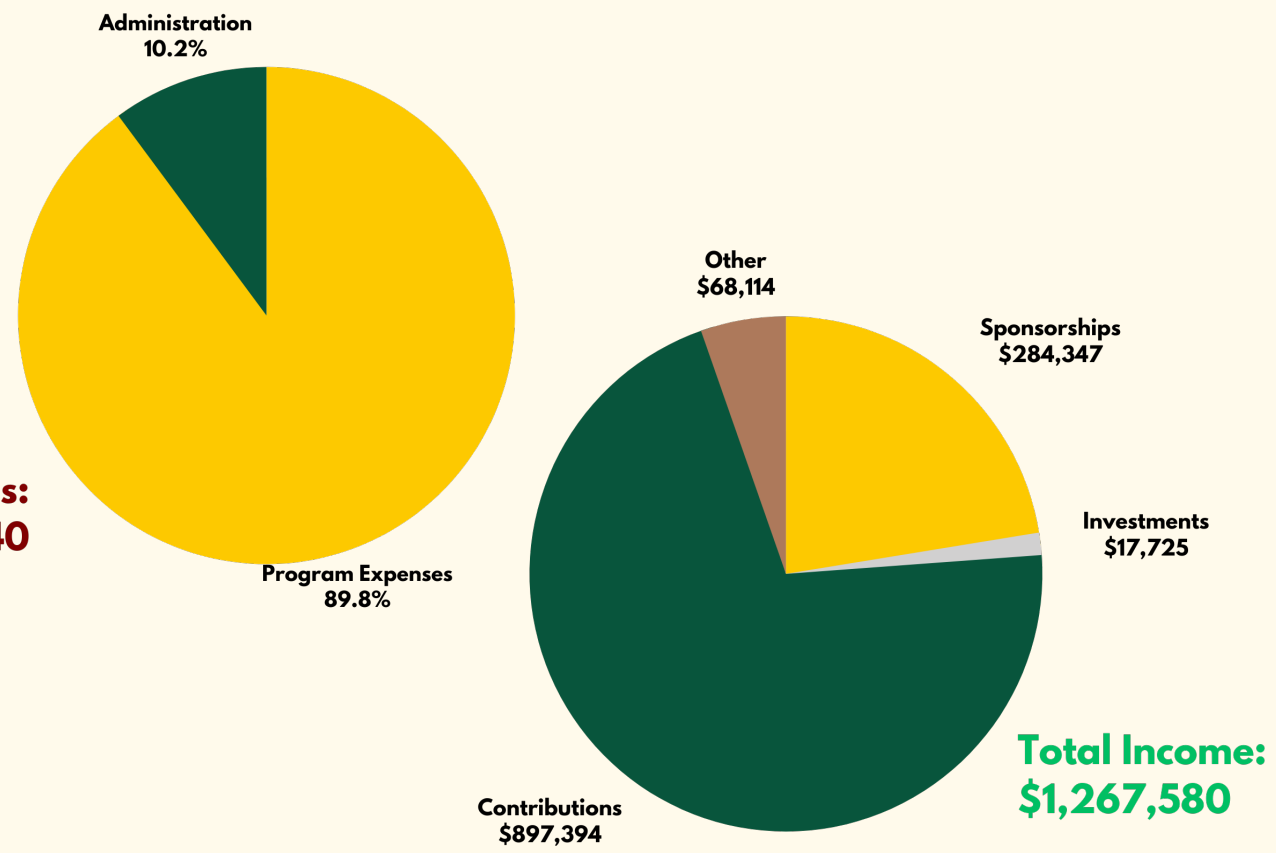
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 **Pennsylvania Friends of Agriculture Foundation**SM
A Charitable Organization Supported by  Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

Foundation Financials




**FRIENDS OF AG
ANNUAL REPORT
2022-2023**



OUR MISSION

Planting seeds.
Cultivating knowledge.
Harvesting an understanding of agriculture.

A Charitable Organization Supported by  Pennsylvania Farm Bureau

When the Lancaster County Farm Bureau caught wind of the Foundation's plan to replace one of the aging labs with a brand-new science trailer, they leaped into action. Kaleb Long, President of the Lancaster Farm Bureau board, detailed their support: "We have always supported the Ag Labs in Lancaster County, and we saw a need for some funding support. We had some funds set aside for a cause such as this one, so the board discussed it, talked to the Foundation, and set up a game plan."

Long recognized that a large donation could supercharge the fundraising campaign. In his own words, "If the campaign had to rely solely on smaller donations, the time that projects sit in the fundraising phase would be significantly longer. Larger gifts often bring more publicity to an organization, helping with future campaigns, too."

Lancaster County's \$20,000 contribution jump started the campaign for the shiny new Ag Lab. But their support isn't just about the cash. The Foundation's mission of planting seeds, cultivating knowledge, and harvesting an understanding of agriculture particularly resonated with the board. They want to spark curiosity in Pennsylvania communities, and see people truly grasp the dedication that farmers pour into every bite of our food. With the Foundation's work educating adults and children alike, the partnership was easily born.

"We wish everyone knew that the Foundation is many people's first interaction with agriculture, and that everyone could see the impact it has on their lives after the fact," said Long. While the Foundation has a lot of options for future growth, they intend to stay on the mark with the newest Ag Lab. Lancaster County dreams of the lab reaching at least 20,000 students who would never have learned about agriculture during their K-12 education. That's 20,000 mindsets changed and 20,000 positive opinions of farming.

Meanwhile, on another side of the state, Woody Lodge Winery is stepping up to the plate in a different way. Walk through the grapevines there and you can get an idea of how a passion for winemaking, agriculture and community created a special vintage that would come to support the Foundation. Tucked in the hills of the Allegheny Mountains in Cambria County, Woody Lodge Winery is owned and operated by Farm Bureau member and disabled veteran John Gailey.

Gailey approached the Foundation in the summer of 2022 with a new idea: Develop and sell a wine that could benefit the Foundation's flagship education program. Starting in November of 2022, Allez Faire was born. The wine is a semi-sweet blend of Pennsylvania-grown Concord and Niagara grapes and cranberries, and a portion of each bottle sold has been donated back to the Foundation's Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab program. "It's the cranberries that make it unique," Gailey said. "That's the key." The bottle also features one Gailey's wife's show horses, completing the bottle's tribute to agriculture.



Students help celebrate the new Ag Lab

Both Woody Lodge and Lancaster County are firecracker supporters who are hyping up the Foundation. Every donation, whether it's a roaring fire or a small spark, powers the Ag Labs forward and builds up all Foundation programming. It's all about creating an educated future where agriculture shines as the superstar it truly is!

Written by Carolina Nicholson, Communications and Events Coordinator at the Foundation

3,291 LESSONS

were taught on Ag Labs this year



More than 1,500 CLASSROOMS
signed up for Ag Literacy Week



Passed ONE MILLION
attendees at events
with the Immersion Lab



John Gailey presents Allez Faire, the wine that supports the Foundation.

The wine has been a success. Gailey said they sold out of their stock at the Pennsylvania Farm Show in January 2023. It has flown off the shelves at local grocery stores and their three locations. He's decided to continue production of this wine, sharing that sales did slow through the summer months as people shift their wine choices to reflect the warmer weather. But as cooler nights settle in, sales are starting to tick back up, and he expects it to be a strong seller through the holiday season once again.

The partnership has earned Woody Lodge a spot on the side of the Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab that serves Western Pennsylvania. Gailey said many people do not realize the impact viticulture, or the cultivation of grapes, as it applies in Pennsylvania agriculture. Pennsylvania is the fourth largest wine industry in the country. He said that's why this partnership made sense, most people do not connect wineries to farming and agriculture. Woody Lodge Winery has about 12 acres with about 2 acres of vines with a mix of grape hybrids that are used to develop his bottled wine, wine teas – called SweetTea – and wine ice cream. His main grape varieties include Chardonnay, Riesling, Pinot Grigio Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Pinot Noir, and Chambourcin, and Concord. They produce about 40,000 gallons of wine annually.



The Mobile Ag Ed Science Lab Program turns 20 this year!