



2022

OUR MISSION

Organic Seed Alliance is a nonprofit organization putting the power of seeds into the hands of growers.

OUR ALLIANCE

The *alliance* in Organic Seed Alliance is a network of growers, organizations, and people who collaborate by sharing resources, learning together, and taking collective action. Through participatory methodologies, the alliance builds and strengthens resilient seed systems.

OUR VALUES

EQUITY: We value fair treatment of all individuals and equal rights for all. We value the fair exchange of seed with appropriate acknowledgement and compensation.

COLLABORATION: We value public participation in decision-making — in the field and in policy and advocacy efforts — beginning with the grassroots, resulting in the co-creation of knowledge and shared solutions.

DIVERSITY: We value genetic, biological, cultural, and social diversity in our seed and agroecosystems.

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2025

—WEAVING POWER INTO THE HANDS OF GROWERS TOGETHER!

In 2025, OSA celebrated its 22nd year of putting the power of seed into the hands of growers. Centering our participatory approach, we worked alongside farmers, researchers, educators, and advocates, weaving and strengthening organic seed systems across the U.S.

It was also an Organic Seed Growers Conference year - our first back in person since 2020. OSA staff and our national conference planning committee brought together 690+ participants from 36 states for 35+ sessions designed by 90+ presenters. Weeks later, OSA launched virtual quarterly calls and advocacy hours to build on the momentum of the national gathering and deepen the connections made at the event. Over the year, OSA participated in 34 seed events, reaching nearly 8,000 people.

These aren't just numbers. This is the *alliance*. The humans and relationships co-creating a future with resilient and abundant food and fiber systems grown from high-quality organic seed.

This year, we continued to grow our participatory research network with farmers across the U.S., advancing organic plant breeding, seed production, and economic knowledge systems. Our education program trained thousands of growers in methods for producing high-quality organic seed, building resiliency of their farms and the larger network. Through my service on the National Organic Standards Board and alongside our coalition partners, we developed policy and advocacy strategies that center farmers' rights to seed and reflect continuous improvement in organic seed quality and usage.

As I transitioned to Executive Director in November, I reflected on my 15+ years with OSA and how far we've come. With your help, Organic Seed Alliance continues to grow even deeper taproots and symbiotic root systems. I am truly honored and grateful to be doing this work and invite you to continue carrying this momentum with us through 2026 and beyond.



— Cathleen McCluskey
Executive Director



"I have this renewed faith in how organic seed plays a critical part in our world's environment. Organic seed has such a powerful role to play in bringing people and the planet together. It is much more than a specific geographical area, and every story, experience, and impact is different."

— EDWARD JOHNSON (OREGON TILTH, OSA BOARD MEMBER)



WITH GRATITUDE

In 2025, we focused on weaving stronger networks of growers, researchers, and advocates, weaving resilience into our seed systems, and weaving equity and diversity into the fabric of our movement.

We are deeply grateful for the support and commitment of OSA's longtime stakeholders and collaborators, as well as a growing new generation of organic seed champions. Your support — as farmers, partners, advocates, and donors — makes OSA's work possible. Each connection and each act of generosity strengthens the movement for resilient organic seed systems to thrive.

OUR PROGRAM AREAS & COMMITMENTS



OSA's advocacy program conducts legal and cultural advocacy toward policies that support organic agriculture and farmers' rights to save seed.

OSA's advocacy approach champions organic agriculture and farmers' rights, targeting key policymakers and amplifying seed grower voices to enhance organic seed abundance, diversity, and ensure growers' perpetual rights to seed cultivation, all while fostering equity and community involvement.



OSA's research program conducts collaborative research on crop improvement and seed production for organic systems.

OSA's research program emphasizes collaborative efforts in crop improvement and seed production tailored for organic systems, aiming to bolster organic seed availability, diversify organically-adapted crops, and nurture a vibrant community of seed stewards, all while pioneering participatory research models for a resilient organic future.



OSA's education program offers learning opportunities about the agronomic, economic, and socio-political elements of seed work.

OSA's education program empowers growers with comprehensive knowledge on seed-related agronomy, economics, and socio-politics, emphasizing hands-on learning through publications, webinars, and events, while championing peer-to-peer exchanges to cultivate skilled and diverse seed stewards for a sustainable future.



OSA's outreach program supports relationship building and network development across program areas and partnerships.

OSA's outreach program fosters robust networks and relationships among seed growers, integrating diverse knowledge-sharing platforms like Organic Seed Commons and events, to holistically advance organic seed abundance, diversity, and stewardship, while championing the collective wisdom of diverse seed communities.

Plant Breeding

- Our goal is to promote genetic and cultural diversity in organic food through collaborative research on crop improvement and seed production for organic systems.

Seed Stories

- Our goal is to cultivate interconnected networks of learning and exchange among growers working with seed across cultures, geographies, and scales through relationship building and network development.

Seed Production

- Our goal is to grow the supply of high-quality organic seeds to support growers in meeting their communities' needs for organic food and to equip seed growers and plant breeders to pursue their craft skillfully, sharing their knowledge with other growers through education on the agronomic, economic, and socio-political elements of seed work.

Seed Advocacy

- Our goal is to protect growers' rights to save seed and promote their abilities to earn a sustainable livelihood from seed work through legal and cultural advocacy of policies that support organic agriculture.



2025

Our Impact

699

ORGANIC SEED GROWERS CONFERENCE ATTENDEES*

The Organic Seed Growers Conference (OSGC) is the largest event in North America focused solely on organic seed.

*413 in-person attendees and 286 virtual attendees

20,000+
NEWSLETTER
AUDIENCE

34
EDUCATIONAL SEED
EVENTS & SUMMITS

1,250+
PUBLICATION
DOWNLOADS

345,000+
FOLLOWERS ON
SOCIAL MEDIA

3,300+
MEMBERS OF
ORGANIC SEED
COMMONS

75,000+
ANNUAL WEBSITE
VISITORS

2025

OSA FARMER TRIALS



2025

OSA & PARTNER IN-PERSON EVENTS

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| ALBANY, OR | KINGWOOD, WV |
| ALBURGH, VT | MACHYNLLETH, WALES |
| AMHERST, MA | MADISON, WI |
| ANN ARBOR, MI | MT. VERNON, WA |
| ARCATA, CA | ORLANDO, FL |
| AURORA, OR | PORT TOWNSEND, WA |
| CHIMACUM, WA | PORTLAND, OR |
| COIMBRA, PORTUGAL | SALT LAKE CITY, UT |
| CONCORD, NC | SAN JUAN ISLAND, WA |
| CORVALLIS, OR | SHIVELY, CA |
| EUGENE, OR | WASHINGTON, DC |
| FORT COLLINS, CO | WILLIAMS, OR |
| GLEN ARBOR, MI | |



“OSA makes sure that the future is informed and shaped by the people who steward seeds—the growers, breeders, and communities who carry this knowledge forward—rather than being defined solely by the systems that regulate them.”

— JOHN FOSTER (WOLF & ASSOCIATES, OSA BOARD MEMBER)



HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 2025 ORGANIC SEED GROWERS CONFERENCE

The Organic Seed Growers Conference (OSGC) is the largest event in North America focused solely on organic seed. Hosted biennially by Organic Seed Alliance (OSA), the conference convenes hundreds of seed growers, plant breeders, researchers, students, seed companies, food companies, policy advocates, and others from across the U.S. and around the world.



Top 4 Demographics

- 51.6% Growers Working with Seed
- 8.6% Seed Companies
- 7.7% Plant Breeders
- 7.4% NGOs

This conference helped me build relationships across climate zones, deepen my commitment to organic growing, and connect with others who share that dedication—whether or not they certify.”

— 2025 OSGC CONFERENCE PARTICIPANT

GROWING NEW COLLABORATIONS • REGIONAL PROJECTS TAKING ROOT



OSGC 2025 Seed Swap Attendees

36
STATES
REPRESENTED

90
SPEAKERS

37
PRESENTATIONS

A Full Four-Day Program

- **Keynote Speakers** — featuring Vivien Sansour, Hassan Adeeb, Sefra Alexandra, K Green, Chris Keeve, and Veronica Limeberry
- **Pre-Conference Events** — including the Spanish-only *Preconferencia: Agricultura Orgánica y Producción de Semillas*, an Intellectual Property Rights on Seed Symposium, and a Willamette Valley Farm Tour
- **Seed Expo** — showcasing 17 exhibitors specializing in organic seed, food systems, and related products and services
- **Seed Swap** — facilitating the exchange of unique seeds and stories, featuring 20+ seed providers and hundreds of attendees
- **Mini Variety Showcase** — in partnership with the Culinary Breeding Network, pairing chefs and plant breeders to highlight unique flavor characteristics of specific vegetable varieties

A NETWORK ACROSS BORDERS • LAYING GROUNDWORK FOR THE FUTURE



OSA FINANCIALS

TOTAL RAISED

\$2,166,045

NET ASSETS

2025: **\$843,789**

2025 INCOME

Government Grants (78%): **\$1,688,689**

Foundation Grants (11%): **\$234,500**

Contributions (6%): **\$137,782**

Program Income (5%): **\$105,074**

IN 2025, WE RAISED

\$1,667,819 for Research & Education

\$207,500 for Policy & Advocacy

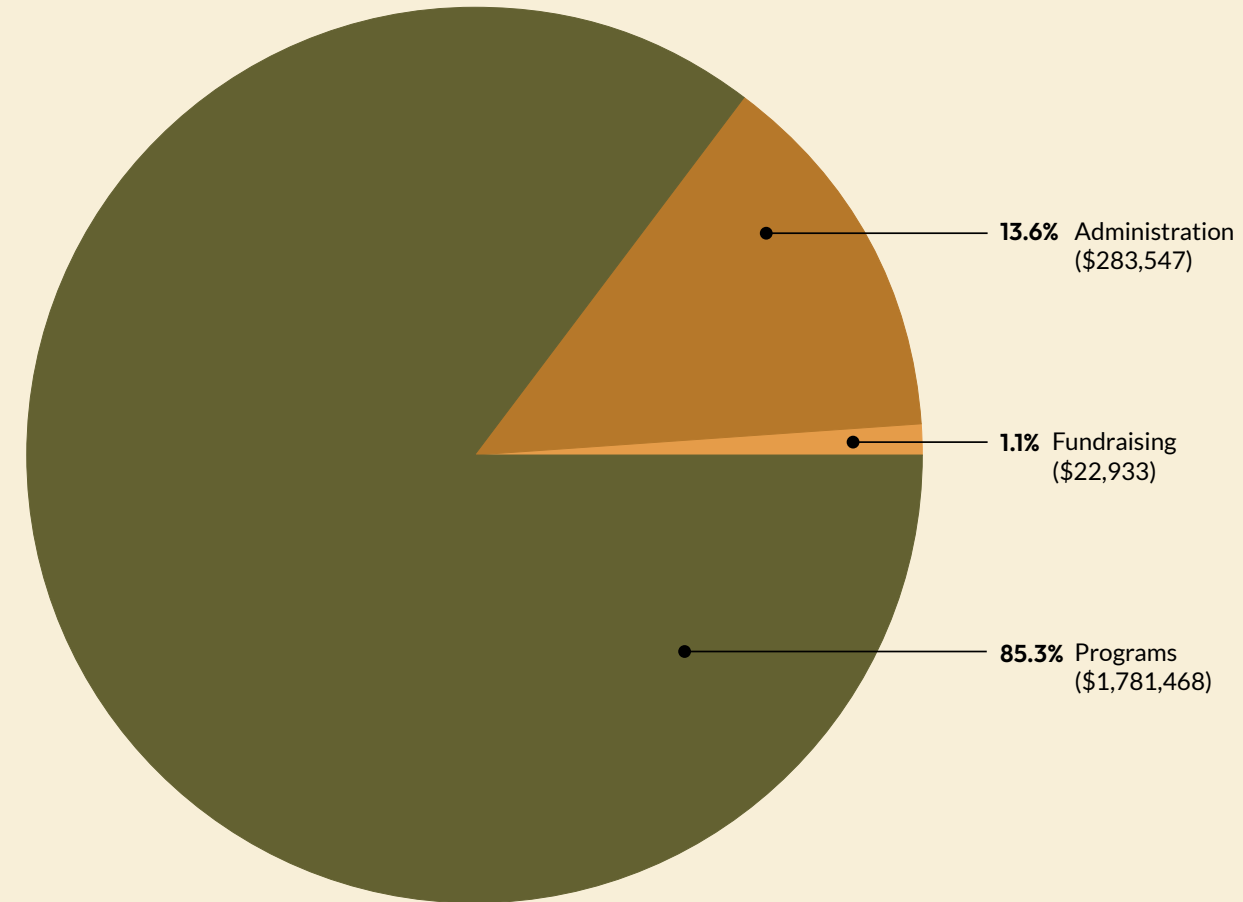
\$180,944 for OSGC

\$109,782 for General Operations

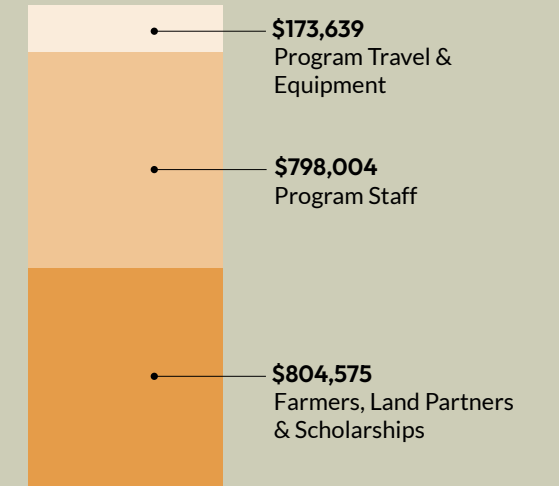


OSA FINANCIALS

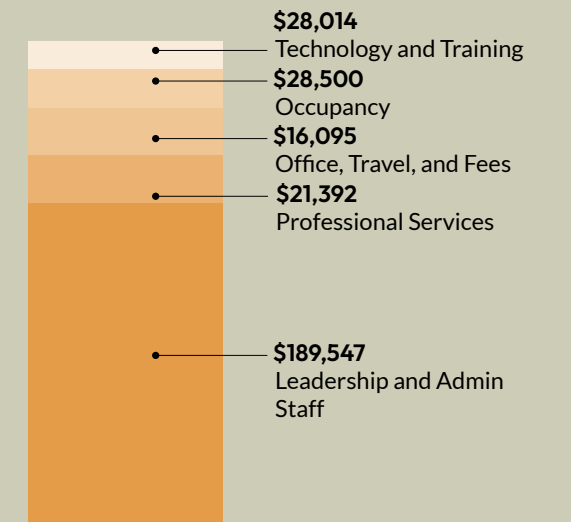
ALLOCATION OF EXPENSES



PROGRAM EXPENSES



EXPENSES IN ADMINISTRATION



Staff & Board



OSGC 2025 Staff and Conference Staff

STAFF

Louie Cabral, Farm Research Field Assistant (California)
Susana Cabrera-Mariz, Assistant Director of Programs
Nancy Castellanos, Pacific Northwest Intern
Taylor Crosby, Events Intern
Kiki Elfendahl, Finance Director
Ana Galvis-Martinez, Assistant Director of Education
Lex Helbling, Farm Research Field Assistant (Washington)
Jess Hughes, Communications Assistant
Kayla Ierlan, Washington Research Farm Manager
Katie Jagger, Farm Research Field Assistant (Washington)
Aba Kiser, Assistant Director of Outreach
Laurajean Lewis, Executive Director
Michael Lordon, Assistant Director of Research
Cathleen McCluskey, Director of Advocacy / Executive Director (as of Nov 1)

Jasmine Sarp, Assistant Director of Outreach
Angelina Sun, Midwest Intern
Molly Travis, California Program Associate
Heather Zornetzer, Development Associate
Jared Zystro, Director of Programs

BOARD

John Foster, Board Treasurer
Amy Grondin, Board Vice President
Edward Johnson, Board Secretary
Joelle Mosso, Board Member
Jim Myers, Board Member
Natalia Pinzón, Board Member
Mary Saunders Bulan, Board Member
Benjamin Uchitelle-Pierce, Board President

2025

THE STORY CONTINUES

Looking ahead, OSA will invest energy and resources in both field and policy research. We will build on our educational resources and share new participatory learning materials for growers and seed communities. We will continue to passionately advocate for organic seed at multiple regulatory levels, and nurture relationships and networks across OSA's foundational program areas.

With great joy, we are excited to work in collaboration at North Carolina State University to plan and organize the 13th biennial Organic Seed Growers Conference, to be held in Asheville, North Carolina (and online), March 24–31, 2027. In addition to our National Planning Committee, we're adding a Regional Planning Committee to ensure this event remains deeply rooted in and additive to Southeastern seed work. More opportunities to get involved are coming soon!

With hope, enthusiasm, and resilience, we meet the challenges of 2026 together, cultivating strength through collaboration.

2025



ORGANIC
seed
ALLIANCE

www.seedalliance.org

@organic_seed_alliance

