

**We're growing nutrient-dense food,
empowering local youth, and building
community in the Colorado river valley.**

Highwater
farm

ON THE SILT RIVER PRESERVE

"It just feels better to eat something you've grown. You know what effort was put into it and kind of realize that you helped make this."

— Sora, Summer Youth Program '22



"The most meaningful part of this experience has been making new friends. It's nice having friends around you and having a good time with people you don't know that well."

— Aileen, SYP '22

Highwater Farm was born out of a community vision to increase the availability of fresh produce in our region and provide meaningful job opportunities for local teens.



**IN GARFIELD COUNTY, WHERE WE ARE LOCATED,
27% OF FAMILIES HAVE REPORTED FOOD INSECURITY.***

We are working to address the intersecting challenges our society faces by cultivating a resilient local ecosystem and an empowered community that knows where their food comes from.

Since breaking ground in 2020 we have increased production each year – **from growing 8,000 lbs of fresh vegetables in our first season to 35,000 in our third.**

** Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services*

HIGHWATER HAS A 25-YEAR LEASE OF 3 ACRES ON THE SILT RIVER PRESERVE,

on land that was previously slated for development and bears the impact of herbicide applications and earth moving.

Our stewardship practices restore health and diversity to the soil and encourage a robust and thriving ecosystem.

In 2023 we are continuing to scale up our production, expand our youth programming, and strengthen our infrastructure in order to sustain long term growth — allowing more members of our community to access nutrient-dense local produce.





We are growing food together

73,000 LBS OF FOOD GROWN
SINCE 2020

220 HOUSEHOLDS FED THROUGH CSA
MEMBERSHIPS SINCE 2021

10 YOUNG ADULT FARMERS TRAINED
IN STAFF POSITIONS

1400+ VOLUNTEER HOURS
CONTRIBUTED BY 213
UNIQUE VOLUNTEERS

7 CSA WORKSHARE MEMBERSHIPS IN 2023





WE ARE COMMITTED TO GROWING FOOD IN A WAY THAT PROTECTS THE HEALTH OF PEOPLE AND THE LAND – without the use of pesticides or chemical fertilizers. Many hands contribute to this process throughout the season.

We provide educational opportunities for community members to learn about farming through our volunteer programs, farm tours, and events. In a divided political environment, we aim to be a place where people can meet their neighbors.

"I can't say enough about how rewarding, educational, and fun volunteering has been! Each task, from weeding to garlic popping, is preceded with great training and I always have a feeling of accomplishment when we finish our tasks for the day."

– Bronwyn Rittner



We are empowering youth

32 YOUTH SERVED SINCE 2021

13 YOUTH JOINING 2023
SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM

6 DIFFERENT LOCAL HIGH SCHOOLS
REPRESENTED

2 ANNUAL YOUTH PROGRAMS
OFFERED: AN 8-WEEK SUMMER
YOUTH PROGRAM AND A 10-WEEK
ACADEMIC YEAR PROGRAM

39,960 \$ IN STIPENDS
PAID DIRECTLY
TO YOUTH



WE PROVIDE TODAY'S YOUNG LEADERS WITH PAID OPPORTUNITIES TO MAKE AN IMPACT IN THEIR COMMUNITY.

Local youth (ages 14-17) have completed our programs with notable improvements in confidence, work ethic, communication and public speaking, the ability to build friendships across differences, and increased knowledge and skills regarding agriculture, food systems, and cooking.



"It's a pretty cool experience being able to provide for your community. And also being able to see how much work you need to put in and what it takes."

– Asher, SYP '21 & '22



We are fueling community

15%+ OF FOOD GROWN HAS BEEN ROUTED TO THE FOOD PANTRY SYSTEM

6 CSA SHARES MADE ACCESSIBLE THROUGH WIC IN 2022

14 CSA SHARES MADE ACCESSIBLE THROUGH SNAP & WIC PROGRAMS IN 2023



By expanding our ability to accept SNAP, WIC, and DUFEB benefits in exchange for produce, as well as working with local hunger relief organizations like Lift Up and SANA, we are actively working to get fresh food to more people in Garfield County that need it.

We're also working with a Latina/o outreach coordinator to help strengthen relationships with Spanish speakers in this community.

SANA: SAFE AND ABUNDANT NUTRITION ALLIANCE
SNAP: SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM
WIC: WOMEN, INFANTS, & CHILDREN
DUFEB: DOUBLE UP FOOD BUCKS