

**Petition to the Town of Damariscotta to raise/appropriate funds for**

We, the undersigned registered voters residing in the Town of Damariscotta, request the following article to be submitted to the voters of Damariscotta at the June 2024 Annual Town Meeting.

BY:  **ALEXIS BRINKLER**

Article: To see if the Town will vote to raise or appropriate the sum of \$ 1,200. for Veggies to Table

Printed Legal Name	Signature	Street & Number	Le
1	13 pp total /		9.00+
2			10.00+
3			10.00+
4			10.00+
5			9.00+
6			10.00+
7			10.00+
8			10.00+
9			10.00+
10			10.00+
			0 1 3
			128.00**+

Veggies to table  
 Petition sub. 12/12/24  
 Verified: 12/17/24  
 Contacted Kamala Grohman  
 Kamala@veggiesatable.org  
 Food Policy on remaining  
 Submission Docs.

**Circulator's Oath**

I hereby make oath that I am the Circulator of this petition, that all the signatures to this petition were made in my presence and belief, each signature is that of the person it purports to be.

Signature of Circulator Kamala M. Grohman Printed Name Kamala M. Grohman

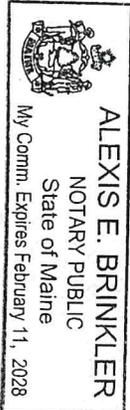
Signature of Notary Alexis Brinkler Printed Name Alexis Brinkler

Subscribed to and sworn before me on this date: December 12, 2024

**Registrar's Certification**

Municipality: Damariscotta Total Valid 128 Total Invalid 1

I hereby certify that the names of all the petitioners listed as valid appear on the voting list as qualified to vote for the Governor of the State of Maine.  
 Signature of Registrar Rebecca J. Bartolotta Printed Name Rebecca J. Bartolotta





# VEGGIES TO TABLE

February 12, 2025

Dear Damariscotta Board of Selectmen,

On behalf of Veggies to Table, I am pleased to submit this request to the town of Damariscotta for \$1,200 to support our mission of growing top-quality organic produce and flowers to donate to local people experiencing hunger and needing joy. We are committed to bringing normalcy and dignity to individuals and families who have lost control over that most basic of choices and decisions—what to eat.

Located in Newcastle and serving mainly Lincoln County, Veggies to Table was founded to bring healthy, nutrient-dense produce to the tables of hungry community members—a deep-rooted need not fully being met by other local initiatives. We grow over 85 different organic fruits, vegetables, herbs, and flowers on 1.3 no-till acres.

In 6 seasons, we have grown and donated 77,000 pounds of organic produce and over 95,000 flowers to 35+ local pantries, schools, hospitals, YMCAs, and summer lunch programs.

In 2024 we supplied 4,878 pounds of fresh produce and 5,067 beautiful flowers to local partners in the Damariscotta/Newcastle area. These include the CLC YMCA, Faith Baptist Church, FARMS at the Y, Head Start, Lincoln Academy Ideal Program, Lincoln Academy Teachers and Administration, Lincoln Health Watson Center, Lincoln Home, Newcastle Food Pantry, Skidompha Library, St. Andrews Church, and Young'uns Sharing Table.

To see a full list of our partners and supporters:

[veggiestotable.org/where-we-donate](http://veggiestotable.org/where-we-donate) and [veggiestotable.org/supporters](http://veggiestotable.org/supporters)

The produce and flowers we grow go directly from harvest to our pantry partners, schools, housing organizations, and groups serving lower-income members of our community—thus right to the tables of those who need it most. The number of food insecure Mainers soared by 47% from 2021 to 2024<sup>1</sup>; here in Lincoln County, over 18% of children are food insecure<sup>2</sup>.

Farms like Veggies to Table play a crucial role in providing healthy food to our neighbors who may not have access to fresh produce. Without farms donating nutrient-dense fruits and vegetables, food pantries must either purchase them, receive seconds, or only provide packaged and canned pantry items. Nonprofit farms like Veggies to Table rely on financial support in order to be able to donate their harvest and fill nutritional gaps in pantry offerings.

You can help us create a healthier, more vibrant community, where more of our friends and neighbors have access to the fresh, nutritious produce they need to grow and thrive. By supporting Veggies to Table you are not funding just a farm, you are investing in the future of our youth and families. We would be honored to have the support of the town of Damariscotta for our Grow-to-Donate Program. Feel free to contact me with any questions or for additional information. Thank you for your consideration.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Erica Berman", is written over a thin horizontal line.

Erica Berman, *Founder & Executive Director*

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<sup>1</sup> Source: Hunger Free America

<sup>2</sup> Source: Feeding America



# VEGGIES TO TABLE

**Amount requested: \$1250**

## **Projected timeline for use of funds**

This funding will be used for the remainder of the 2025 season and then for the 2026 growing season. Based on the 19,875 pounds of produce and 28,000 flowers we grew and donated in 2024, and our yearly growth over our six seasons of operation, in 2025 we intend to grow and donate 22,000 pounds of produce and 31,000 flowers to our 35+ local partners. This funding from the town of Damariscotta will support our expansion of service over the next two growing seasons.

## **People Served**

Precise numbers served are tricky due to the anonymity of some partners, and the lack of exact records of others. Based on the 11.8% of the general population in Lincoln County who experience hunger, we reach most of the approximately 11.8% of food insecure people in Damariscotta as the percentages of those living with hunger likely follow a similar trend in Damariscotta. Of note, 42% of the food insecure households in Lincoln County have an income that falls above the threshold for SNAP, WIC, and other benefits, meaning that they earn too much to receive government assistance but still live with hunger. Our food and flowers fill a gap and reach these individuals and more residents in places such as Maine Health Miles Campus, local schools, businesses and sharing tables where numbers are unknown.

# Veggies To Table

## Statement of Activity

January - December 2024

	TOTAL
<b>Revenue</b>	
4000 Individual Contributions	178,923.75
Monthly Donors	5,312.65
Newsletter	1,000.10
Whitemail	767.21
<b>Total 4000 Individual Contributions</b>	<b>186,003.71</b>
4002 Foundation Grants	17,500.00
4003 Government Grants	
4003.3 Local/Town	4,000.00
<b>Total 4003 Government Grants</b>	<b>4,000.00</b>
4004 Corporate Contributions (Sponsorships)	7,119.30
4005 Events	
4005.3 Auction	171,799.74
Corporate Sponsorships	13,100.00
<b>Total 4005.3 Auction</b>	<b>184,899.74</b>
4005.4 Dancing With the Dentists	10,282.27
<b>Total 4005 Events</b>	<b>195,182.01</b>
4006 Merchandise	25.00
4007 Flower Sales	1,039.44
4008 Educational Workshops/Fee-for-Service	2,700.55
4010 Dahlia Joy	9,780.69
CC Cash Back	1,775.00
To be Categorized Income	11,900.00
Unrestricted Income	
Grants Unrestricted	
<b>Total Unrestricted Income</b>	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>\$437,025.70</b>
<b>GROSS PROFIT</b>	<b>\$437,025.70</b>
<b>Expenditures</b>	
5000 Payroll	
5001 Wages	
5002 Executive Director	41,860.00
5002.1 Fringe Rate	3,217.58
<b>Total 5002 Executive Director</b>	<b>45,077.58</b>
5003 Development Coordinator	32,894.58
5003.2 Fringe Rate	2,859.70
<b>Total 5003 Development Coordinator</b>	<b>35,754.28</b>
5004 Farm Director Full time year round	18,879.48
5004.1 Fringe rate	1,242.54
<b>Total 5004 Farm Director Full time year round</b>	<b>20,122.02</b>
5005 Farmer -	12,258.07
5005.1 Fringe rate	956.83

# Veggies To Table (NEW)

## Statement of Activity

January - December 2024

	TOTAL
<b>Total 5005 Farmer -</b>	<b>13,214.90</b>
5006 Farmer - Hannah	19,245.36
5006.1 Fringe rate	1,472.29
<b>Total 5006 Farmer - Hannah</b>	<b>20,717.65</b>
5007 Volunteer Manager	4,745.30
5007.1 Fringe rate	362.98
<b>Total 5007 Volunteer Manager</b>	<b>5,108.28</b>
5008 Development Assistant	13,405.15
Taxes	752.32
<b>Total 5008 Development Assistant</b>	<b>14,157.47</b>
5010 Consultant farm	5,493.75
5011 Sweepstakes and Event coordinator	14,850.00
Admin Assistant	968.00
Admin Assistant Taxes	74.06
<b>Total Admin Assistant</b>	<b>1,042.06</b>
Farmer	11,062.95
Taxes	846.35
<b>Total Farmer</b>	<b>11,909.30</b>
<b>Total 5001 Wages</b>	<b>187,447.29</b>
Bonus	5,500.00
<b>Total 5000 Payroll</b>	<b>192,947.29</b>
6000 Farm Expenses	645.92
6001 Compost	1,116.00
6003 Straw	684.64
6004 Farm Supplies	12,608.11
6005 Meals	1,380.58
6006 Flower Bulbs	144.61
6008 Seeds	4,103.16
Food for Interns & Volunteers	7,149.98
<b>Total 6000 Farm Expenses</b>	<b>27,833.00</b>
6007 Dahlia Tubers	5,489.60
7000 Administrative	
7001 Website design and development	250.00
7002 Cost of Merchandise	801.85
7003 Office Supplies	1,725.51
7004 Advertising & Marketing	2,425.48
General Advertising	892.24
<b>Total 7004 Advertising &amp; Marketing</b>	<b>3,317.72</b>
7005 Postage	1,240.94
7006 Office Equipment and Software	172.96
7007 Professional	100.00
7008 Dues, Fees, & Professional Memberships, Zoom	2,551.33
7009 Quickbooks	662.21

# Veggies To Table (NEW)

## Statement of Activity

January - December 2024

	TOTAL
7010 CRM	1,903.00
7012 Consultant	4,587.50
7015 Accountant	900.00
7016 Bookkeeping	10,440.50
7017 Insurance	2,023.58
7019 Telephone	759.51
7021 Truck Gas	267.25
7022 Propane Greenhouse	2,564.32
7023 Taxes & Licenses	60.00
7024 Bank Charges & Fees	6,758.60
Stripe Fees	514.24
<b>Total 7024 Bank Charges &amp; Fees</b>	<b>7,272.84</b>
7025 Payroll Services	1,294.50
7027 Event Expenses	316.85
Auction	5,590.55
Photo	1,000.00
Video	5,000.00
<b>Total 7027 Event Expenses</b>	<b>11,907.40</b>
Appeal	2,017.00
<b>Total 7000 Administrative</b>	<b>56,819.92</b>
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$283,089.81</b>
NET OPERATING REVENUE	<b>\$153,935.89</b>
NET REVENUE	<b>\$153,935.89</b>