

Our programs help farmers pursue a path towards economic viability. We believe that small and midsize farmers and food processors are the building blocks of a new food system.

2015 Impact Report

In 2015, we supported

7

business assistance projects and loan clients

1,845

farmers and food processors reached via workshops, webinars and outreach

Total amount loaned:

\$1,071,000

with the generous support of

129

donors

& 37

investors

"Access to business advice has given me a better understanding of financial planning tools."
Bella Farm, Monkton VT

"Writing a business plan yielded so many more benefits than we imagined."
Villageside Farm, Freedom ME

"We couldn't have started the business without it."
Ironwood Farm, Ghent NY

"A lot has come out of that single small loan."
Bug Hill Farm, Ashland MA

Since 2009, we've provided business assistance to **178** farmers and food processors across New England.

The Leahey family has raised cattle in Lee, MA since 1889. With a Carrot Project loan, they invested in dairy bottling equipment to diversify the farm.



The Carrot Project is rooted in sustainable agriculture and sustainable business practices. Success is contagious. We gladly share what we learn.

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P R O J E C T

From the Executive Director

Entering our 10th year, we reflect on our contribution to the new farm and food economy. Take our first project, Lee Straw's certified organic dairy farm in Maine.

Lee needed to re-roof his barn to save it before he could move his farm business in a new direction. With crucial support from donors and an investor, The Carrot Project responded to a situation that no traditional lender would have considered. Today, due to many factors — including our loan — Lee's dairy is thriving.

Now we work with an average of 70 farms and food processors each year. Strengthening business management and increasing access to capital creates a powerful synergy that extends far beyond the life of a loan.

Our clients gain knowledge and skills that help them build enduring enterprises. We see life-changing transformations: start-ups paying their bills and paying themselves; farmers buying land and sharing their knowledge with the next generation; and entrepreneurs giving back to their communities through healthful foods and economic stability.

The Carrot Project brings our accumulated experience and knowledge into our partnerships, training programs, and collaborative research.

Your dedication and support are integral to this story. Together, we are accelerating change and putting the farm and food sector on a positive trajectory. Join us in the thrilling and timely work that lies ahead!

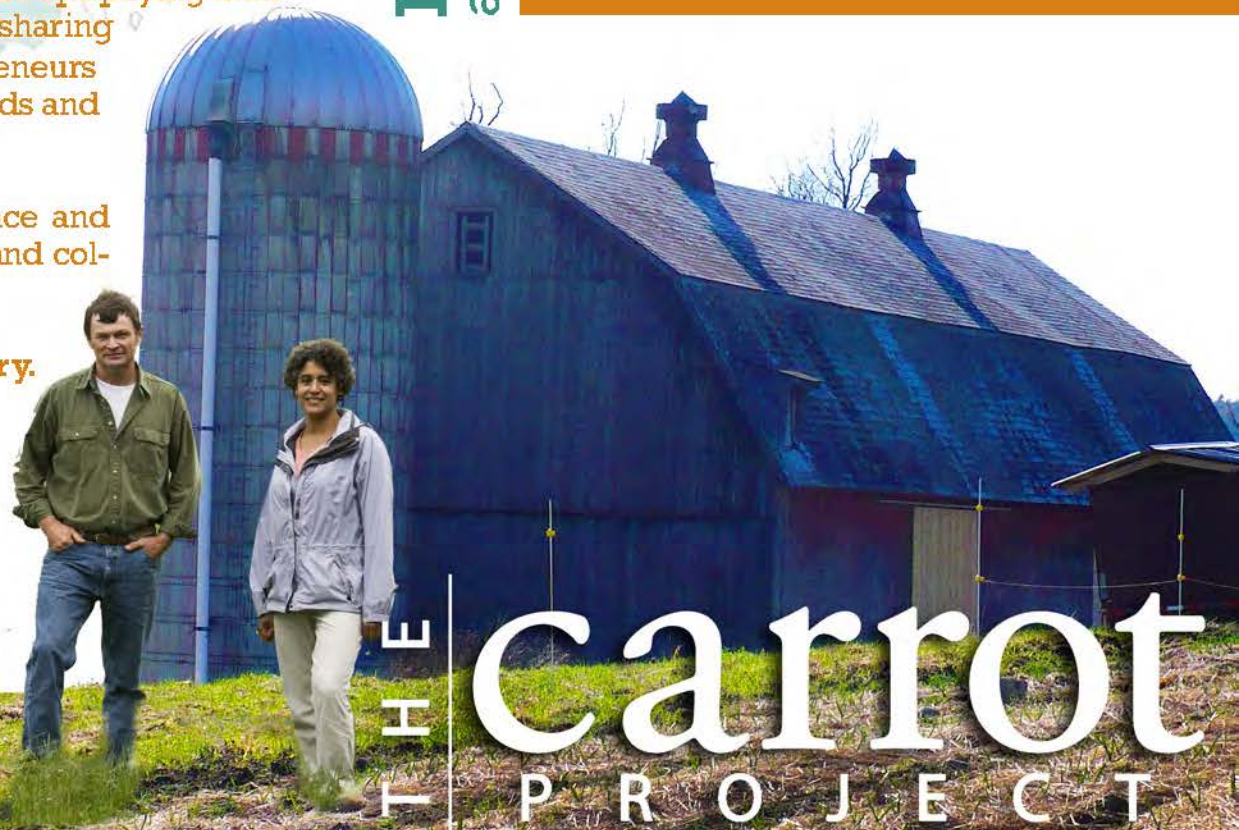
Yours in building a truly sustainable food system,

Dorothy Suput
Executive Director and Founder

**Diverse partnerships
are critical to our success.**



“The Carrot Project is both practical and visionary. Working with extraordinary expertise, it offers transformational learning and access to resources.” Steve Burrington, The Carrot Project Advisory Board member and Executive Director of Groundworks USA



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