

HOPE SPROUTS

Growing Hope fosters an equitable and sustainable local food system where all people are empowered to grow, sell, buy, prepare, and eat nourishing food.



Because of donors like you, Maggie has had a place to sell her products for 13 years.

As a community funded program, the Ypsilanti Farmers Markets have been supporting small businesses and increasing access to affordable healthy food since 2006.

Maggie Minor began to bake when she was only 6 years old. She has since turned baking into a business to support herself and her family. From Mississippi, Maggie infuses her baking with a southern home-cooked taste. You can find Maggie selling her delicious baked goods at the Ypsilanti Farmers Market in Depot Town May through October.



The Ypsilanti Farmers Markets - Supported by Donors Like You

79% of market shoppers say they feel more connected to the community because they shop at the Ypsilanti Farmers Markets

68% of market customers reported increased access to affordable healthy food

28% of market customers experienced food insecurity within the past year

The Ypsilanti Farmers Markets create a space for new and established local food businesses to sell their goods and grow their business.



We keep vendor fees low to encourage new and beginning farmers to sell at our markets



We focus on local and regional products



We provide free workshops about scaling-up their business, marketing, and more



We seek out vendors with a diversity of products

Our markets supported 74 small businesses in 2018. Nine of those vendors were new or beginning farmers.

Your Dollars Support New Local Farmers

Growing Hope raises 100% of the funds to operate and staff the Ypsilanti Farmers Markets, the Growing Hope Mobile Farm Stand, and our free Building Blocks for the Local Food Entrepreneur workshops. Funding comes from four sources: grants, business sponsorships, earned revenue from vendor fees, and gifts from individuals such as you.

Please consider committing to a monthly sustaining gift to support the Ypsilanti Farmers Markets year-round. If you know of a business that would be interested in sponsoring the Farmers Markets, please contact Liz Warren at elizabeth@growinghope.net.

Thanks to you, the Ypsilanti Farmers Markets increase access to local, fresh foods for underserved populations.

The number of farmers markets in Michigan accepting nutrition assistance programs, including SNAP, expanded from 3 in 2006 to 159 in 2016. Growing Hope's Ypsilanti Farmers Markets are proud to have been the third in Michigan to accept SNAP. Our two locations and our Mobile Farm Stand accept up to 6 forms of nutrition assistance: SNAP/EBT/Bridge Card, Double Up Food Bucks, Prescription for Health, Senior Project FRESH, WIC Project Fresh, and Hoop Houses for Health.

Household incomes for about half of our customers are below \$25,000 a year. With your support, one of the main ways we serve our community is offering alternative payment options to purchase healthy food. In 2018, total food assistance sales made up 24% of total sales at our Downtown market.

To further this effort, the Growing Hope Mobile Farm Stand brings the Ypsilanti Farmers Markets to populations experiencing mobility barriers, including our senior community. Produce sold at the Farm Stand is sourced from market vendors and Growing Hope's Urban Farm. From July through September, we set up the Farm Stand at multiple weekly locations throughout Ypsilanti.



Our Food Assistance Intern helps inform market customers about the benefits of the food assistance programs we accept.



Tema from Feral Daughters Farm will be selling meat and eggs at both of the Ypsilanti Farmers Markets all summer long.

Vendor Spotlight

“We chose to vend at the Ypsilanti Farmers Markets for several reasons. We love the diversity and vibrancy of Ypsi! Growing Hope does great work in the community and it’s exciting to be part of that in some small way.”
- Tema Sarick of Feral Daughters Farm

You can meet Tema of Feral Daughters Farm at the Ypsilanti Farmers Markets. Their family farm raises heritage breeds for eggs, meat and fiber, specializing in Jacob sheep, pasture raised chicken, pork and lamb in Manchester, Michigan.

FARMERS MARKET
**Meet Us
at the
Markets!**

DEPOT TOWN
May - Oct
Saturdays 9am-1pm
100 Rice St. Ypsilanti

DOWNTOWN
Year-round
Tuesdays 3pm-7pm
16 S. Washington St. Ypsilanti

What's new at Growing Hope?
Check out some of our latest additions and upcoming events.

Save the Date!



Our Chefs in the Garden fundraiser will be back again on September 22 with Chef Ji Hye Kim, from the popular Zingerman's restaurant, Miss Kim. Stay tuned for more Chefs in the Garden dates!

Our Newsletter is Getting a Refresh

Along with our new logo and branding, our seasonal newsletter will now feature a more comprehensive look at each of Growing Hope's four impact areas: Farm and Gardens, Youth and Schools, Farmers Markets, and Food Entrepreneurship. We know you care about how your dollars impact the personal lives of the wonderful people that we have the privilege to serve.

Join Us for Our Urban Farm Community Open House



On Saturday, June 15th we're welcoming the community to the Growing Hope Urban Farm for tours and activities for adults and kids.



**GROWING
HOPE**

We'd love to hear your feedback! Contact us at getintouch@growinghope.net.

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 15 Urban Farm Community Open House	July 14 Cultivate Coffee Benefit for Growing Hope	July 30 YpsiTasty Grub Crawl	August 5-10 National Farmers Market Week	September 22 Chefs in the Garden with Chef Ji Hye Kim
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For more information about our events or how to get involved, please visit our website at growinghope.net or follow us:  [growinghope](https://www.facebook.com/growinghope)  [growingthehope](https://www.instagram.com/growingthehope)