edible prairie PROJECT

IMPACT REPORT

2025

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ABOUT US

The Edible Prairie Project is bridging the food insecurity gap in Campbell County through sustainable food production, equitable distribution, and cultivating community connections.

Why Grow Food With A Purpose

Low- and moderate-income families in Campbell County face significant barriers to accessing fresh, local food.

Feeding America reports that 13.7% of Campbell County residents were food insecure in 2024, while the EPA's EJScreen identifies 25% of Gillette residents as low-income, and classifies eastern Gillette as a food desert.

With recent cuts to federal nutrition assistance programs, these families, who already struggle with high prices and limited availability when it comes to obtaining fresh, local produce, now face even greater strain.

Your partnership with the Edible Prairie Project (EPP), not only helps us bridge the food insecurity gap in our community but allows us to take meaningful steps towards eliminating it altogether.

SUMMER WEEKEND MEALS FOR KIDS

You provided weekend food bags to 200 children

"EPP supported our community with food for children in low-income families over the summer, and for the SNAP shutdown. The delight these gifts are met with is awesome to see. Parents breathe a sigh of relief, and the children peer into the bags like they've found treasure! EPP shares smiles throughout the community!"

Gail Dunkle, Executive Director
Wright Community Assistance

"The Summer Weekend Meals for Kids program has been a tremendous support for the families we serve at Boys & Girls Club. Currently, across our six locations, we have an active 560 members this year, seeing an average of 220 members each day, and 88 of those families are on scholarship. Knowing their children will have reliable food beyond our program [summer] hours eases a huge burden for caregivers who are working hard to support their families. For some parents, you can see the relief immediately. One mom's shoulders literally drop when she sees the food bags coming out."

Brittney Locken, Executive Director
Boys & Girls Club of Campbell County

When school ends for the summer, many children face uncertainty about their next meal. During the 2025 summer break, you provided **2,570 weekend food bags.** That's 200 children who received a bag of nutritious, kid-friendly food every Friday for ten weeks.

Each weekend food bag contained 2 breakfast items, 2 lunch items, 2 dinner items, 2 snacks, and fresh fruit and vegetables — all the food needed for two full days of nutrition.

Since 2020, you've helped us place 15,814 food bags directly in the hands of kids.

When crisis hit, you responded

When federal programs falter, community partnerships and generous donors like you become lifelines.

During the federal government shutdown, we quickly mobilized our supporters like you to fund and pack **408 emergency weekend food bags** for children participating in our summer program.

Partnering with the Campbell County Boys and Girls Club, Kid Clinic, Children's Developmental Services, Wright Community Assistance, Gillette Abuse Refuge Foundation, and the Visitation and Advocacy Center, we made sure these kids didn't miss a meal.

LOCAL VEGGIE BASKETS

You filled 357 veggie baskets with fresh, local food

From May to December, you helped us distribute **357 free veggie baskets** to local families bursting with fresh tomatoes, lettuce, spinach, squash, pumpkins, potatoes, locally raised meat, farm-fresh eggs, and Wyoming honey.

We provided these baskets free to families receiving SNAP/WIC benefits, plus 4 discounted baskets to families earning just above federal assistance thresholds but still struggling to make ends meet.

That's **$20,770 worth of nutritious, locally sourced food** placed directly in the hands of families who need it most — including $10,490 in produce and $10,280 in protein. Many families participated in multiple seasons, allowing them to access fresh, local food spring through winter.

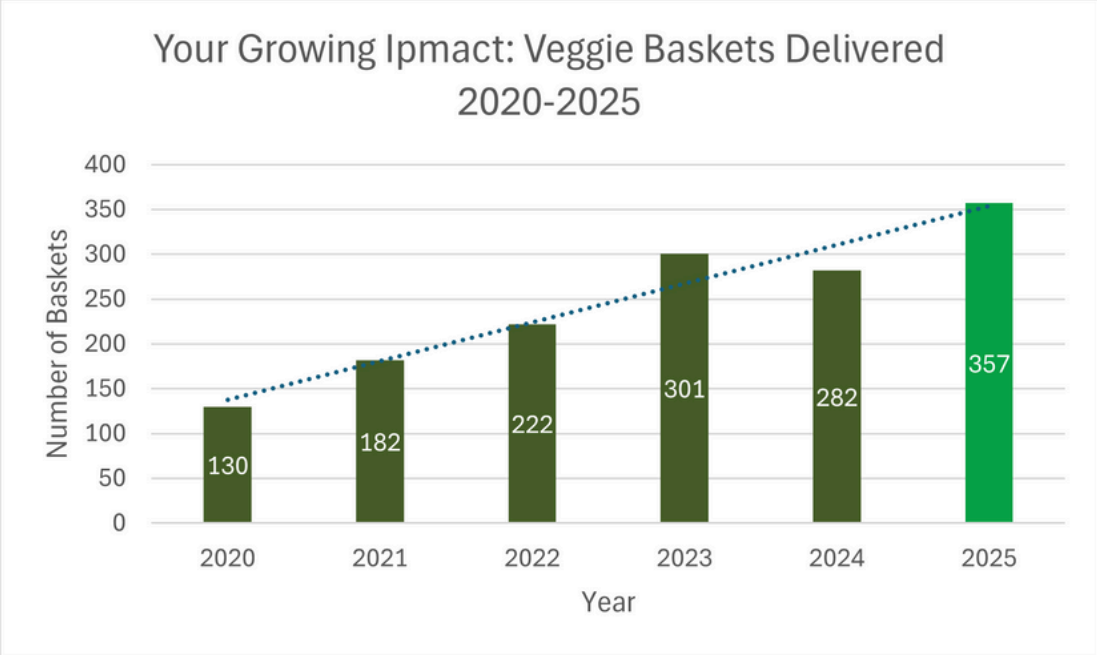
Over 90% of the produce was grown by our team, with the remaining 10% purchased from local growers at fair market value. We also sourced all meat, eggs, and honey from 12 different Wyoming ranchers, beekeepers, and farmers, keeping your dollars local and supporting our agricultural community.

"We're so grateful for all that you do! I've had to stop gardening, and this program has helped us keep fresh vegetables on the table."

"It's amazing. My family eats healthier, and I've even learned new ways to cook vegetables I never knew how to use before."

"The protein program meant my kids had enough to eat."

Testimonials from SNAP/WIC clients, anonymized and *paraphrased to protect their identity.*



Since 2020, your support has allowed us to deliver 1,474 baskets, over $55,000 worth of nutritious, locally grown food to families in Campbell County. As our nonprofit farm becomes operational, year-round distribution will expand significantly, with greenhouses extending Wyoming's short growing season and ensuring no family goes without fresh food in winter.

LITTLE FREE PANTRIES

You kept our Little Free Pantries stocked with food

Our **eight Little Free Pantries** remain open 24/7, offering food, household items, and personal care products with **no applications, no questions asked.**

This year, **more than 5,000 food items** were shared through these pantries, providing immediate help to neighbors facing unexpected hardships.

GARDEN KITS

You helped 20 families grow their own edible gardens

Twenty families using SNAP/WIC benefits received free garden kits. Kits include tools, seeds, and starter plants to grow their own edible gardens at home. Participants also receive a garden plan with planting and harvesting information and tips.

GLEANING

You helped ensure that no produce goes to waste

By the end of the 2025 growing season, we **donated 682 pounds** of tomatoes, cabbage, beets, summer squash, celery, zucchini, winter squash and pie pumpkins to the Council of Community Services, University of Wyoming Extension Office, and the Salvation Army.

YOUR INVESTMENT AT WORK

Building the foundation for growth

2024 was a year of strategic infrastructure investment that prepared us to dramatically expand our reach in 2025. This financial stewardship created the foundation for the growth you see throughout this report.

Platinum Transparency 2025

Candid.

We earned the Platinum Seal of Transparency from Candid in 2025.

View our complete 2024 Form 990 at Edible Prairie Project | Candid.

In 2024, for every dollar we spent:

- 64¢ directly supported our food access programs like summer weekend meals for kids, local veggie baskets, garden kits, gleaning, and little free pantries
- 36¢ funded operations, including the staff, systems, and infrastructure needed to grow food, manage programs, and plan for expansion

Building Northeast Wyoming's First Nonprofit Farm — *With you*

This year, you helped us take our biggest step yet: purchasing 41 acres that will become a working, nonprofit farm dedicated to increasing access to locally grown food for low- to moderate-income families.

Imagine the possibilities:

- Fresh vegetables harvested year-round for families who need them most
- Greenhouses that extend Wyoming's short growing season, so no family goes without fresh food in winter
- Children learning where food comes from in outdoor classrooms
- A commercial kitchen where we can preserve the harvest and put more local vegetables in our summer weekend food bags

This isn't just a farm.
It's a homegrown solution to food insecurity that will serve our community for generations to come.

FIVE WAYS TO GROW WITH US IN 2026

Every dollar invested in our work becomes fresh food, practical tools, and lasting food security for families across our community.

Feed Kids All Summer
$88 provides weekend meals to one child for the entire summer

Support a Family with Veggie Baskets
$600 provides spring, summer, and fall veggie baskets to one family

Sponsor a Little Free Pantry
$2,500 keeps our eight little free pantries stocked for an entire year

Become a Monthly Donor
$25/month provides a summer veggie basket to a family in need
$50/month fills weekend food bags for 7 children during summer break
$100/month supports year-round food access as we grow our programs and build our farm

🚜 Join as a Founding Farm Partner
Make a leadership gift of $5,000+ to help build the infrastructure at Northeast Wyoming's first nonprofit farm. Founding Partners receive permanent recognition and exclusive project updates.

Non-cash donations, larger gifts and multi-year pledges welcome. Contact us to discuss naming opportunities and Leadership Circle benefits.

2026: A Year of Promise, Progress, and Transformational Growth

Every weekend food bag given to a child. Every family that receives a basket of local produce. Every neighbor who can access our little free pantries without judgment. Every seed planted at our new farm.

This is the impact you are cultivating in Campbell County. As we look toward 2026, we are grateful for partners like you who believe that every family should be able to put fresh, local food on their table. Thank you for growing with us.

With gratitude,

Michelle Otten, Board Chair

Erin Galloway, Executive Director
erin@edibleprairieproject.org

Ready to help us grow more local food with a purpose?

GIVE TODAY