2018 annual report

grace farms foundation
Five Initiatives

The Nature Initiative facilitates the stewardship of our natural world through restoration, exploration, and preservation.

The Arts Initiative develops and presents new, collaborative, and site-responsive works at the intersection of the visual, literary, and performing arts.

The Justice Initiative disrupts contemporary slavery and gender-based violence through effective policy, training, and advocacy.

The Community Initiative welcomes diverse communities and provides opportunities to be in proximity to, and engage with, pressing humanitarian issues.

The Faith Initiative invites us to cultivate habits of reflection and dialogue that equip us to discern the nature of a flourishing life.
Table of Contents

7 President’s Perspective
8 Grace Farms | A New Kind of Public Space
10 Vision
10 Mission
12 Experience Grace Farms
14 Highlights 2015-18
16 2018 Milestones & Outcomes
18 Sustainable Commitment
20 Grace Farms Foundation
22 Our Values
23 Our Unique Approach
24 Collective Impact
26 Leadership
28 Experience Nature
32 Encounter the Arts
36 Pursue Justice
40 Foster Community
46 Explore Faith
50 Featured Presenters
52 Recognition
54 Select Recognition
58 Support
60 Financial Overview
61 Grace Farms Fund
62 Support

Grace Farms Foundation

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Chelsea Thatcher | Director of Communications & Marketing, Grace Farms Foundation
Dr. Miroslav Volf | Founder & Director, The Yale Center for Faith and Culture
President’s Perspective | Hopeful Spaces

I have seen that hopeful spaces matter. Looking back over last year’s milestones, I am reminded how powerful hopeful spaces can be – how they communicate and how they can advance good in the world.

The porous design of Grace Farms and the River building was meant to inspire and break down barriers between people. Natural light flows through more than 200 floor-to-ceiling glass panels in the River building, generating 360-degree views of the landscape in the changing seasons. The undulating pathways under a curvilinear roof follow the flow and elevation of the land. Along this path, technology is often left in your pocket. You might notice a red-tailed hawk fly overhead while you’re going to the Library or the Pavilion for tea.

This open architecture, embedded into an 80-acre expanse, and the pathways that extend out to a faraway Cattail Pond, cue discovery. Meanwhile, nature—the 10 different restored native habitats, meadows, roaming pollinators, 80+ sighted birds—can inspire a sense of awe. This intentional relationship between indoors and outdoors, complemented by our goal of cultivating a peaceful, welcoming environment for all, can stimulate new perspectives.

A restorative, hopeful quality manifests when we interweave our initiatives into this living and breathing space. When we convene human rights advocates, acclaimed artists, interfaith leaders, not-for-profit groups, government agencies, and the general public, the impossible suddenly seems possible. It is our hope that this unique and porous setting encourages those who visit the site to slow down the pace of their daily routines, to reflect and appreciate their surroundings, and to engage in unexpected conversations that enable new ideas and perspectives.

I’m reminded of visual artist Julianne Swartz’s temporary installation Joy, still, which we recently presented at Grace Farms. Our space helped inform her work and gives us multifaceted aspects of joy. “And joy is not always talking about joy, but it is also talking about sorrow and despair, so we will know what joy is,” she says.

We can advance good in the world even when confronted by the most daunting and horrific crimes against humanity. This allows us as an organization to steadily work together in the pursuit of eradicating contemporary slavery and gender-based violence, generating outcomes that could solve some of the world’s most pressing problems. At the same time, we can still experience joy.

While I believe that space can be inspirational and communicate, space alone can’t drive change. It takes people to envision what can be, make a commitment, and then vigorously work to accomplish it.

So, invite you to support our work using your wherewithal and join us here in this hopeful, inclusive space where restorative work flourishes.

Sharon Prince
President and Founder
grace farms: a new kind of public space
Vision

Grace Farms Foundation aspires to advance good in the world, providing a peaceful respite and porous platform to experience nature, encounter the arts, pursue justice, foster community, and explore faith.

Mission

Grace Farms Foundation supports initiatives in the areas of nature, arts, justice, community, and faith, and encourages participation locally and globally. The Foundation carries out its work through the publicly available facilities and integrated programs of Grace Farms, an 80-acre property owned and operated by the Foundation. Grace Farms was established as an essential platform for the Foundation, serving as a welcoming place where individuals, not-for-profit organizations, and government entities come together to collaborate for the common good.
Experience Grace Farms

Grace Farms was established with the idea that space communicates and can inspire people to collaborate for good. To realize this vision, Grace Farms Foundation set out to create a multipurpose building nestled into the existing habitat that would enable visitors to experience nature, encounter the arts, pursue justice, foster community, and explore faith. Grace Farms is open to the public six days a week, year-round, with free admission. More than 70 of the 80 acres are being preserved in perpetuity as open meadows, fields, woods, wetlands, and ponds.

The architect SANAA’s goal was to make the River building become part of the landscape without drawing attention to itself. Under the continuous roof are five transparent glass-enclosed volumes that can host a variety of activities and events, while maintaining a constant sense of the surrounding environment. There are two accompanying barns with meeting rooms and offices. The areas of the River building are:

- Sanctuary - 700-seat amphitheater
- Library - a staffed library with resources related to our initiatives
- Commons - community gathering space with 18-foot long tables
- Pavilion - a welcome reception and conversation space with tea service
- Court - a partially below-grade recreational and performance space

Visitors can see permanent artworks on view by renowned artists, Thomas Demand, Olafur Eliasson, Teresita Fernandez, and Beatriz Milhazes.

People are welcome to relax and converse with one another over a pot of tea in the Pavilion.

Permanent Artworks are featured throughout the River building and respond to our vision and initiatives.
Practicing Silence was a year-long arts exploration, resulting in public programs, including a new ballet with dancers from New York City Ballet, responding to poetry.

A model of Grace Farms was featured in the exhibition, A Japanese Constellation: Toyo Ito, SANAA, and Beyond, at The Museum of Modern Art in New York.

Our Justice Initiative launch set our stake in the ground to combat contemporary slavery.

Our first Earth Day led to an annual celebration, including falconry, community enjoyment of open space, and programs on biodiversity.

Monthly Community Dinners with after-dinner programming are a highlight every month.

A workshop with United Nations University influenced new policy to combat human trafficking in conflict and inspired a media campaign and a new 501(c)3.

Practicing Silence was a year-long arts exploration, resulting in public programs, including a new ballet with dancers from New York City Ballet, responding to poetry.
2018 Milestones & Outcomes

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>National</th>
<th>Global</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Justice</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Human Trafficking Prevention Program with CT hospitality industry, social service providers, and law enforcement</td>
<td>Petitioned Connecticut Attorney General to shut down Backpage.com #MeToo Panel with Dylan Farrow and Jane Doe No More</td>
<td>Creation of Unchain as a public charity Letter of Intent with Prime Minister of Georgia at UBS for ethical supply chains New international training to counter transnational organized crime, focused on illegal wildlife trade in Thailand, Tanzania, and the Republic of Congo</td>
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<td><strong>Arts</strong></td>
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<td>Received Governor’s Patron of the Arts Award Launched a curated play-space for creative families</td>
<td>Meredith Monk 10-day residency and performance of Cellular Songs Debut of new sound installation Joy, still. by Julianne Swartz</td>
<td>Celebrated the culmination of Practicing, a program that established our interdisciplinary approach to inquiry-driven, process-based, and artist-centered research</td>
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<td><strong>Nature</strong></td>
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<td>80+ species of birds confirmed on site 40 free programs to connect with nature 2,000 lbs. of trash collected as stewards of local rivers</td>
<td>Partnered to preserve open space and restore native habitats and wildlife. Partners include: Regional Conservation Partnerships, Trust for Public Land, and The Nature Conservancy</td>
<td>Public debut of new model to combat wildlife trafficking. Acted as advisor to: Tanzanian National Anti-Poaching Task Force, Mozambican Anti-Poaching Law Enforcement, and the Lusaka Agreement Task Force</td>
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<td><strong>Faith</strong></td>
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<td>Restorative and conducive environment for mindfulness courses with Copper Beech Institute</td>
<td>6-week Life Worth Living course with Yale Center for Faith &amp; Culture</td>
<td>Renowned journalists Michelle Boorstein (The Washington Post) and Wajahat Ali (CNN &amp; The New York Times contributor) discussed faith and media</td>
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<td><strong>Community</strong></td>
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<td>Co-hosted Advocacy Day with Fairfield County’s Community Foundation for 190 not-for-profit representatives and community members</td>
<td>Public program with Kevin Young, Director of the New York Public Library’s Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture &amp; Poetry Editor of The New Yorker</td>
<td>Set benchmarks for Space Grant program, benefiting more than 80 not-for-profits</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grace Farms</strong></td>
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<td>Grew 250+ lbs. of fresh produce for families in need in CT Hosted Regional Convening for Sustainable Development</td>
<td>EPA Green Power Plan Partner</td>
<td>Certified purchases as Made in a Free World Welcomed visitors from communities around the world</td>
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Sustainable Commitment

The minimal-impact design of the River building is complemented by Grace Farms’ energy-efficient construction and sustainable practices. The building was LEED certified in 2017 for Building Design and Construction (BD+C), which was provided in recognition of Grace Farms’ minimal impact design and use of green building materials during construction.

Ongoing Operational Sustainability as a Priority

We demonstrate our ongoing commitment to sustainable practices through energy consumption and water use reduction, the preservation of natural habitats, and waste management. Electricity generation makes up 28 percent of the greenhouse gas emissions in the United States and is also one of our largest variable expenses in operating Grace Farms. Since 2015, we have reduced our energy consumption by 30 percent.

We’re pursuing an additional LEED certification for Building Operations + Maintenance, authoring more than 150 documents that detail our operations.

Additional sustainability-related commitments and achievements since 2015:

- Restoring 11 acres of our landscape to native meadows to protect the fragile ecosystem of our site.
- Reducing the heat island effect from the River building’s highly reflective roof, and added landscaped plantings around parking lots.
- Reducing water consumption site-wide.
- Refining procurement and purchasing selections to ensure that post-consumer recycled and FSC-certified materials are selected whenever possible.
- Using rechargeable batteries, reusable plates and cups site-wide, and using EPA Safer Choice chemicals for cleaning.
- Instituting a “full-circle” food waste program on-site to repurpose food scraps into compost that is reused in our gardens and meadows.
- Implementing erosion control measures.

Community Garden

Our Community Garden, managed by our team, features more than 50 types of vegetables and herbs, more than 12 flower varieties, and fruit bearing perennials like blueberries and raspberries.

- 100% Purchasing 100% Green E certified Renewable Energy Certificates
- 6,200+ Pounds of food scraps composted in 2018
- 55 Geothermal wells heat and cool 80% of the River building
- 40 New trees planted on site in 2018
grace farms foundation
Our Values
As we aim to advance good in the world, we believe that our culture and the manner in which we work carries the same significance as the outcomes we are trying to achieve.

Grace
We seek to understand and engage with one another with humility, forgiveness, and respect.

Peace
We pursue a just, diverse society through our initiatives and place, starting with ourselves.

Excellence
Grounded in grace and peace, we continually aspire to elevate our collective work and place through an inner drive to go beyond what has been done before.

Openness
We communicate often and honestly, championing the resolution of issues promptly and directly.

Meaning
We cultivate meaningful community rooted in joy, integrity, and our common sense of purpose.

New Outcomes
We learn and collaborate broadly, generating new perspectives and outcomes to advance human flourishing.

Our Unique Approach
We aim to catalyze change in the world through Grace Farms and five initiatives - nature, arts, justice, community, and faith. What sets our Foundation apart is the intentional and invitational use of space - coupled with our inter-disciplinary approach. We leverage the River building, barns, and 80 acres of open landscape to serve as the nexus of our work, and our platform for scalable impact. In other words, the space both anchors and amplifies the mission of the Foundation.

Our initiatives are distinct in purpose, yet complementary. With an entrepreneurial lens and leadership from best-in-class experts, our approach allows for people from different fields and perspectives to influence each other’s conversations and work in a reflective, yet dynamic manner, often driving new outcomes and breakthroughs that move the needle on some of today’s most pressing humanitarian issues.
Collective Impact

Grace Farms is a place of discovery, inspiration, and intersectionality that actualizes five initiatives - each one informing and supporting the other - to scale resources and outcomes across sectors. Our collective impact model is the action toward identifying critical cross-sector issues, convening expertise, realizing solutions, and enacting change.

- **Shared Vision and Values**: Common agenda and shared understanding of the strategic opportunities.
- **Shared Access**: Shared access to resources (skills, knowledge, expertise) and backbone support.
- **Continuous Communication**: Consistent and open communication.
- **Shared Measurement**: Collectively gather information, data, and measure results with shared accountability.
- **Coordination**: Differentiated yet complementary approaches to a common plan.
2018 Leadership

Sharon Prince, Founder & President
Kenyon Victor Adams, Arts Initiative Director
Nicole Fealey, Director of Human Resources
J. Mark Fowler, Nature Initiative Director
Rod Khattabi, Director of Law Enforcement & Risk Officer
Lisa Lynne Kirkpatrick, Community Initiative Director & Faith Initiative Program Facilitator
Frank Kwei, Director of Hospitality
Kate Maloney, Associate Director of Not-for-Profit Partnerships
Tom Medico, Controller
Krishna Patel, Justice Initiative Director
Pamela Ruggio, Arts Initiative Curator
Sarah Scandiffio, Director of Events
William Stonebridge, Director of Facilities
Adam Thatcher, Director of Operations
Chelsea Thatcher, Director of Communications & Marketing
Bill Tom, Director of Information Technology

48% Percentage of leadership and management that hold advanced degrees
59% Percentage of women in leadership, management, and supervisory roles
6 Additional roles added to the Foundation’s team in 2018. Total full-time: 49, total part-time: 27

As of 12/31/2018

“It is always people, not amorphous entities, that drive change. I believe it takes people who can envision what can be, who make a commitment, and then vigorously work to figure out how to do it.”

– Sharon Prince, Founder and President
Experience Nature

The aim of the Nature Initiative is to draw people into Grace Farms’ beautiful 80-acre preserve, allowing them to experience the awe and wonder of nature. By providing exploratory opportunities, people are encouraged to connect with the outdoors and embrace stewardship of the natural environment.

Through the collaborative efforts of the Nature Initiative with our partners and the community, we are hopeful we can ‘restore wild’, and in the process, connect with nature.

Preserve
Grace Farms was designed to contribute to the public’s quality of life by providing a peaceful respite that inspires the exploration of wilderness and open space. Our educational partnerships, with organizations such as The New Canaan Land Trust and Larry Weaner Associates, explored topics such as biodiversity and restoring meadows. Signature events, including Earth Day and Source to Sound River Clean-Up, encouraged hands-on participation in restoring and preserving our land.

Explore
Grace Farms offers more than 35 weeks of multigenerational programming where the public can explore astronomy or enjoy a birdwatching tour along unstructured meadows, woods, wetlands, and ponds. More than 80 species of birds, including hawks, owls, and falcons, reside at Grace Farms.

Restore
The Nature Initiative is committed to protecting endangered species and wildlife at a local and international level through our interdisciplinary collaboration with the Justice Initiative. We participated in the development of international training programs to combat and successfully prosecute transnational organized crime groups. We conducted wildlife trafficking training in Thailand for officials from eight neighboring countries, resulting in greater multi-agency information sharing, which increased the capacity to identify and disrupt criminal activity.

Public Interaction: We host year-round programs that educate audiences of all ages about wildlife, which break down preconceived notions and create new appreciation.

Birdwatching has become a favorite activity at Grace Farms. More than 90 species have been identified on site, including the once threatened American Kestrel.

The expansive Grace Farms landscape has ten distinct habitats and has been preserved as a Privately Protected Area (PPA). Ongoing work includes the removal of invasive plant species and integration of native plants.

35

Weeks of free nature programming in 2018

2,000

Pounds of trash collected from local rivers with local partners in 2018. Grace Farms is at the headwater of the Five Mile River.
International Wildlife Protection

The Issue
The insatiable demand for animal parts has made wildlife trafficking the fourth largest global criminal enterprise in the world, but many international NGOs are not directly supporting law enforcement to disrupt wildlife trafficking.

Our Role
We are connecting international not-for-profits and law enforcement to break down barriers to successful wildlife trafficking investigations, asset seizures, and prosecutions.

How
We bring a unique combination of experience in conservation and law enforcement through our Nature Initiative Director, Mark Fowler, and our highly credentialed Director of Law Enforcement and Risk Officer Rod Khattabi. We believe in a collective impact model that helps not-for-profits and law enforcement deploy resources and skills at their best-use. To do so, we are training top-level law enforcement in cross-border investigations, while also advocating for the redirecting of outside funds to these investigations, seizures, and prosecutions.

2018 Engagements
Country of Mozambique
Country of Tanzania
Lusaka Agreement Task Force
Freeland Africa
PAMS Foundation

$23 b
Annual profits from illegal sales of animal parts, including rhino horn and elephant tusks range from $7–23 billion.

4
There are only four foundations directly supporting law enforcement in anti-wildlife trafficking.

New International Training in Thailand
Rod Khattabi conducted a new international training program in Thailand for dozens of officials from eight Asian and African countries on how to combat and successfully prosecute transnational organized crime. The curriculum covered seizure, interview techniques, prosecution, and case studies.

Task Force in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo
We led an international task force in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, where officers from Southeast Asia and Central Africa learned about joint investigations, evidence and data gathering, how to link illicit trafficking channels between Africa and Asia, and shared intelligence on wildlife seizures. During the intelligence sharing session, the investigators discovered a criminal syndicate operating between Central Africa and Asia.

Results

3.8 tons pangolin
April 2018 A task force in Brazzaville led to the seizure of 3.8 tons of pangolin body scales (roughly 1000 dead animals) in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. The black-market street value of the pangolin body scales, often used in illegal medicines, was an estimated $2.6 million.

Brazzaville arrests
May 2018 Djan Ousmane, a Guinean national ‘Kingpin’ tied to multiple wildlife trafficking shipments, was one of eight African nationals arrested, along with three government officers responsible for inspecting commercial exports.

3.2 tons hidden ivory
December 2018 Wildlife Alliance, Cambodian Customs, and Mark Fowler partnered for a wildlife trafficking workshop to train and support Cambodian customs. Acting on intel from the Department of Homeland Security based in Cambodia, the customs team seized 3.2 tons of ivory hidden in a storage container in Mozambique. Grace Farms Foundation and Wildlife Alliance then collaborated and facilitated U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service funding for the follow-up investigation between Tanzania and Mozambique. Multiple arrests have been made since then.

About Grace Farms Foundation

Partnerships, collaborations, and our training support equipped the Cambodian customs to seize 3.2 tons of ivory hidden in a storage container.
About Grace Farms Foundation

Encounter the Arts

Our work is fueled by the belief that art has the capacity to provoke curiosity, generate new perspectives, and create the potential for individual and social transformation. Art at Grace Farms demonstrates our integrative vision and a dynamic interplay between people, architecture, and landscape.

We develop and present new, collaborative, and site-responsive works at the intersection of the visual, literary, and performing arts by convening artists and practitioners across disciplines to explore complex subjects through an inquiry-based approach.

Practicing Joy | Workshops

The Practicing Series, the Arts Initiative’s signature program, culminated in 2018 with a year-long exploration of joy, which led to the creation of significant projects shared with the public following extended workshops at Grace Farms. The series brought together artists and other practitioners with a range of perspectives to examine empathy, awe, silence, and joy.

Practicing began in 2016 with Practicing Empathy featuring renowned artistic director Bill T. Jones, followed by Practicing Awe featuring choreographer Andrea Miller of Gallim. In 2017, Practicing Silence featured dancers from New York City Ballet, with choreography by Silas Farley, as well as poet and Guggenheim Fellow, Ilya Kaminsky. Each of these workshops has produced new projects and dozens of program offerings, including a full ballet, two participatory art experiences, three musical scores, and weekly family programs.

In 2018, the Foundation’s curators set out to understand the nature, agency, and proclivity of joy—to discover its adjacent conditions, intricate facets, and surprising applications, with celebrated collaborators including: installation artist Julianne Swartz; poets Ross Gay, Nicole Sealey, and Christian Wiman; composers and performers Molly Joyce and Caroline Shaw; choreographer Camille A. Brown with dancers Maleek Washington and Timothy Edwards and drummer Atiba Morales; essayist Garnette Cadogan; theologian Willie Jennings; and scholars Maria Fee and Adam Stern.

Views from Julianne Swartz Joy, still, a multi-sensory installation in the River building, which synthesized and shared salient discoveries from a year-long study on joy.

(Top) Workshop collaborators participate in a walking tour with essayist Garnette Cadogan; (Bottom) Creative families activate the Imagination Playground.
Practicing Joy | Public Projects

Our many audiences encounter the artistic process through critical seeing, listening, moving, and making. These opportunities take the form of showings; installations; publications; artist talks; facilitated workshops, as well as discovery guides, and play environments for families.

sound installation
Julianne Swartz: Joy, still
— a three-part, multi-sensory, site-responsive installation synthesized a year-long investigation of joy

family playspace
Imagination Playground
from architect David Rockwell invited creative families to explore joy through imagination-driven, child-directed, unstructured play

public installation
Julianne Swartz: Joy, still
— a three-part, multi-sensory, site-responsive installation synthesized a year-long investigation of joy

Public Program

Practicing Joy workshop

public presentation
A meditation on joy in the form of a lecture from essayist Garnette Cadogan and performance from Tony-nominated composer Camille A. Brown

new music
Christian Wiman's poetry inspired a new composition by Pulitzer Prize-winning composer Caroline Shaw

new writing
Contributions about joy in numerous forms, including two new poems from Nicole Sealey

Family Program

Six months of Practicing Joy-inspired educator-led Open Arts Studio for Families programming

Meredith Monk

Meredith Monk developed her significant new work, Cellular Songs, at Grace Farms during a 10-day residency, which was presented to the public in the Court.

Alongside Practicing, we offer distinguished artists opportunities to develop works-in-progress, collaborate across disciplines, and explore creative processes in a distinct environment. In February 2018, we welcomed the critically acclaimed Meredith Monk & Vocal Ensemble (Ellen Fisher, Katie Geissinger, Allison Sniffin, and Jo Stewart) for a 10-day residency—including a public performance and family workshop. During the residency, Monk created projection elements for the then unfinished Cellular Songs, which were inspired in-part by the Grace Farms landscape. Cellular Songs premiered at the Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM) a month later and was celebrated with a review in The New York Times.

“I don’t think there is any other space that exists like Grace Farms. What’s really important is art isn’t isolated. Rather, it’s integrated; art is one layer. I feel that my whole being can be integrated in this situation. I’m not just an artist, but I’m also a thinker, and an inventor, and I’m very concerned about our world.

What’s really distinct about Grace Farms is that it allows a group of people come together and make something. I work alone, then I work with my group, then I work alone again. So, it’s quite a different experience to be able to share this with my group, it’s the next step of the process.”

—Meredith Monk, interview at Grace Farms
Pursue Justice

We believe that each individual has an inherent right to liberty and that it is incumbent upon each of us to use our will and wherewithal to ensure freedom for all. With Grace Farms as our nexus for convening the public, private, and government sectors, we develop comprehensive strategies and partnerships that are designed to disrupt and combat all forms of contemporary slavery and gender-based violence.

Our Justice Initiative combats contemporary slavery by utilizing an interdisciplinary approach to develop and implement effective policy, training, and awareness.

Policy

In 2018, we sought new opportunities to disrupt slavery in supply chains, where 60 percent of human trafficking occurs worldwide. As such, we entered into a collaboration with the country of Georgia to support its commitment to transform its economy into an ethical and transparent regulatory model.

We also continued our commitment to strengthen the rule of law and human rights which began with our international convenings in 2016. In particular, we were honored to participate in the Liechtenstein Accountability Retreat in November 2018, which brought together global experts to identify best practices, lessons learned, and recommendations in the promotion of accountability for violations of international law, and to reflect on the role that victims have and should play in the development and delivery of accountability mechanisms.

Training

Training engagements sought to improve intelligence-led investigations, victim identification, and the prosecution of criminal perpetrators on human trafficking and wildlife trafficking cases. Eight trainings were facilitated at Grace Farms and beyond, resulting in 1,700 trained law enforcement officers. This included a training at the 51st Annual Narcotics Enforcement conference for 250 law enforcement officers in Rhode Island, a task force in Haiti, and a week-long crisis intervention training at Grace Farms. Topics ranged from financial seizures to service provider training and human trafficking victim support.

We also expanded our training to help Connecticut hotel employees identify and report instances of human trafficking. This training was mandated by Connecticut’s Public Act No. 16-71, to which we provided expert input. We have provided ongoing assistance to other states seeking to adopt similar laws.

Advocacy

Our public programming with Senator Chris Murphy and attorney Vincent Nappo, raised awareness about the criminal and civil violations by online platforms that knowingly advertise and facilitate sex trafficking involving minors. We also advocated for the criminal prosecution of Backpage.com, the largest online sex-trafficking platform, and its executives. The programming was part of our advocacy to support the passage of an amendment to the federal Communications Decency Act, that successfully passed on April 11. A federal grand jury in Arizona indicted Backpage.com and its executives on April 9, 2018.

Freedom Fighters Senator Chris Murphy speaks with attorneys, activists, and the public about child sexual exploitation and what we can do to combat it.

Prime Minister of Georgia speaks in the Commons about his commitment to build ethical and modern supply chains in the country of Georgia.

Crisis Intervention Training for more than 40 police officers from 12 different Connecticut police departments.
Systemic Change

Workshop 1
Fighting Human Trafficking in Conflict hosted with United Nations University (UNU), the United Kingdom, and the Permanent Mission of Liechtenstein
June 2016

This chart illustrates two Justice Initiative workshops and the multi-faceted results that have manifested over time.

Workshop 2
Breaking the Financial Chains about disrupting financial flows associated with contemporary slavery with UNU and the Permanent Mission of Liechtenstein
March 2017

Advocacy for UN Security Council Resolution 2313 passed, condemning trafficking, forced marriage, and sexual exploitation as a tool of terrorism and war
December 2016

UNU published report “25 Keys to unlock the financial chains of human trafficking”
July 2017

Unchain starts Technology Council
December 2018

Wildlife Trafficking Case-Building Training in the Republic of Congo | February 2018
A two-week training brought together officials from seven countries, including the Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Cambodia, Laos PDR, Thailand, and Vietnam. The case study-based curriculum covered seizure, interview techniques, supply chain, financial investigation, evidence gathering, affidavits, and prosecution.

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Human Trafficking Prevention Training
April 2018
We partnered with Quinnipiac School of Law to hold an educational training for 35 hospitality workers on the signs of human trafficking.

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Task Force to Combat Human Trafficking in Haiti
April 2018
The task force emphasized and promoted communication and collaboration between Haitian National Police, NGOs, human rights commissions, prosecutors, victim service providers, and students.

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Human Trafficking and Narcotics Training in Newport, Rhode Island | November 2018
Training at the 51st Annual Narcotics Enforcement Conference. The curriculum trained approximately 250 law enforcement officers on the relationship between human trafficking and narcotic trades.

2018 Justice Initiative Trainings

- Law enforcement officers trained to combat human trafficking to date: 2,500
- Different training modules customized for each training: 8

Service Provider Training
April 2018
The training provided best-practice education to 40 counselors and service providers, in partnership with Open Door Shelter, on identifying human trafficking victims and collaborating with law enforcement.

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Human Trafficking Investigative Training
April 2018
Connecticut police officer training for Fairfield County detectives focused on human trafficking investigation strategies.

Assault and Trafficking Victim Trauma Training
June 2018
One-week crisis intervention training for more than 40 police officers from 12 different communities in Connecticut.

Human and Wildlife Trafficking Training in Thailand
June 2018
Training for 40 professionals from eight countries focused on combating Transnational Organized Crime syndicates involved in human and wildlife trafficking covering shared information, financial investigation, data exchange, and interrogation strategies.

Human and Wildlife Trafficking Training in Thailand
June 2018
Training for 40 professionals from eight countries focused on combating Transnational Organized Crime syndicates involved in human and wildlife trafficking covering shared information, financial investigation, data exchange, and interrogation strategies.

About Grace Farms Foundation

Red flag indicators for trafficking added to Suspicious Activity Report (SARS) 2018

Unchain group leads to new media campaign, Unchain, with WPP’s Geometry Global and Grace Farms Foundation
November 2016

Unchain starts Technology Council
December 2018

Unchain becomes its own entity
March 2018


UNU published report “25 Keys to unlock the financial chains of human trafficking” July 2017

Inspires financial disruption body within EU banking system
Ongoing

Different training modules customized for each training: 8

Law enforcement officers trained to combat human trafficking to date: 2,500
Foster Community

We provide a warm, welcoming environment to foster meaningful community among people of all ages, backgrounds, and interests. Grace Farms serves as an essential platform for our work providing programmatic gathering spaces, a diverse range of self-directed recreational and social activities, as well as opportunities for individuals and not-for-profits to forge new ideas, relationships, and partnerships.

The Community Initiative priorities include developing programs and convening leaders to address specific areas of concern for not-for-profit organizations and civically engaged citizens.

Gathering Space
Grace Farms’ reputation as a rare place where a vibrant community and peaceful respite coexist continues to grow.

The Sanctuary, our indoor amphitheater, serves as an active convening space for large-scale trainings and programs, and is also the setting of individual reflection. Time dedicated to improvisational seasonal music performed by local musicians is designed to encourage such moments of contemplation.

Engagement
In 2018, we provided a range of opportunities for the community to learn from experts and community leaders, and give back. Monthly evening programs after our Community Dinners have provided an introductory window into our initiatives, including a book reading with author and poet Kevin Young. We also hosted a talk on American Growth and Global Leadership with United States Army General Wesley Clark, in partnership with the New Canaan Library. Programming from Thanksgiving through the end of the year engaged the public with service opportunities, including hands-on assembling of essentials for Fairfield County families over the holidays.

Support
Our intimate meeting spaces and staff expertise created substantive opportunities for new and returning not-for-profit partners. In addition to supporting 32 organizations through space grants, we hosted a roundtable with nature-focused organizations and a training with our Justice team in the areas of trafficking, domestic violence, sexual assault, and trauma.

40
Service providers, including representatives from Open Door Shelter, received training on approaches to human trafficking cases. This training led to a gathering to support not-for-profits who work in trauma and recovery in partnership with the Justice Initiative.

“Collaboration: The Community and Justice Initiative hosted a powerful discussion about sexual assault.”

40
Cifiting for Good: Essential items were packaged for local families and children in need, delivered through the Walter E. Luckett Foundation.

“We treasure our relationship with Grace Farms. Thank you for supporting our work and our people. We look forward to many more chances to collaborate.”
— Save the Children

The Sanctuary was highlighted as a space for reflection and contemplation with improvisational seasonal arrangements throughout December.
About Grace Farms Foundation

Not-For-Profit Space Grants

The Foundation supports not-for-profits, government agencies, and quasi-governmental agencies on the front lines of service by offering access to space at Grace Farms. The River building and West Barn are available to grantees for professional programs, strategic meetings, trainings, capacity-building programs, and workshops. Grantees become partners in the Foundation’s endeavor to collaborate in new and fruitful ways, including access to Foundation staff, networking events, and convenings.

Space Grants by Region

- New Canaan: 57%
- Fairfield County: 11%
- Connecticut: 21%
- National/Other: 11%

What Support Looks Like at Grace Farms

- Access to space at Grace Farms for strategizing meetings, planning sessions, and trainings
- Introductions to organizations to foster cross-disciplinary partnerships
- Opportunities to collaborate with the Foundation’s Leadership on private and public programs
- Invitations to Foundation-led roundtables and networking events
- Free or low-cost staff and board development programs ranging from topic-expert lectures to mindfulness courses
- Programming in partnership with not-for-profits such as LiveGirl, STAR Lighting the Way, and Save the Children, is a model that both advances the mission of the organization and informs the Community Initiative strategy.

Example of Collaborative Potential

This chart shares the ongoing relationship with Kevin Young, Executive Director of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and Poetry Editor of The New Yorker, and represents the intential integrative nature of our relationships, encouraging leaders to deepen their engagement across disciplines.

days that Grace Farms was activated by space grants in 2018 | 138

not-for-profits were on-site utilizing space grants in 2018 | 32

2016

justice initiative participant

He returned to Grace Farms to recite a poem as a contribution to a justice workshop

2018

community initiative presenter

Kevin presented his book Bunk: The Rise of Hoaxes, Humbug, Plagiarists, Phonies and Fake News as a part of a public community conversation

partner

With an understanding of our many initiatives, we now share ideas and elevate connections. Kevin’s Associate Director brought his team of leaders to Grace Farms.

foundation space grant recipient

He is named Executive Director of The Schomburg Center for Black History & Culture, and brings his leadership team to Grace Farms.

2016

arts initiative participant

Kevin Young participates in arts + mars convening, a workshop that brought together accomplished artists and NASA scientists
"We used our Space Grant to bring guests of our homeless shelter and a few from our mental health supportive housing programs to Grace Farms.

They rarely have the opportunity to experience recreation. They rarely have the opportunity to spend time in beautiful spaces. Outside of our organization, they don’t have the opportunity as a group to spend time where the staff of another organization is ‘pulling for them.’"

St. Vincent DePaul Mission of Waterbury
Explore Faith

We offer opportunities for reflection and dialogue to explore the nature of flourishing life through programming and expansive space. While the vision for Grace Farms was inspired by the Christian faith, the Faith Initiative is oriented around a set of questions, rather than any particular set of answers. People of all faiths or no faith are welcome to engage in faith exploration at Grace Farms.

The Faith Initiative invites us to cultivate habits of reflection and dialogue that equip us to discern the nature of flourishing life.

Flourishing
What does it mean to flourish in our contemporary world? In our welcoming space, individuals and groups are invited to consider what it means to live meaningful, purposeful lives. Related programs, including our Life Worth Living course, adapted from the Yale Center for Faith & Culture, engage the world’s great philosophical and religious traditions to equip participants for the life-long process of discerning the good life.

Reflection
Grace Farms’ architecture and landscape creates an environment for reflection and contemplation, set apart from the pace of our daily lives, but responsive to the realities of the world around us. Whether over tea in the Pavilion or taking time to discover our nature preserve, these reflective spaces allow visitors to consider our interdependence as individuals and communities.

Dialogue
We have developed programming where conversations can occur across important and enduring lines of difference. By openly engaging one another even, or especially, where we disagree on matters of profound importance, we believe we can get closer to the good life. Our Interfaith Seder, co-hosted with the Interfaith Council of Southwestern Connecticut, drew people together to develop greater understanding across religious traditions. A conversation with religion journalists Wajahat Ali, The New York Times contributor, and Michelle Boorstein, reporter for The Washington Post, offered insights on religious discourse and its effect on American culture and faith communities.
"Could Grace Farms produce and model a civil discourse around religion and faith that acknowledges our differences and divisions, but finds a way forward, bringing all along for the journey? Judging from our 90-minute conversation, the answer is yes.

Although we didn’t solve all the world’s problems, we were able to model how individuals from different faiths, politics and backgrounds are able to converse, debate and disagree with respect and open-heartedness."

Wajahat Ali, panelist in Portraying Faith: Religion and the Media
Contributor to CNN and The New York Times
Clockwise: Caroline Shaw, Pulitzer Prize-winning composer, premiering new work with ensemble; Yeonmi Park, North Korean defector, human trafficking survivor, and activist in discussion with MSNBC anchor Richard Lui, and Justice Initiative Director Krishna Patel; Four-star General Wesley Clark; Robert Mande, Chairman of the National Anti-Poaching Task Force and Assistant Director of Anti-Poaching Wildlife Division in Tanzania

2018 Featured Presenters

Wajahat Ali, CNN and The New York Times Contributor
Michelle Boorstein, The Washington Post
Camille A. Brown, Tony-nominated choreographer
Garriette Cadogan, Essayist
General Wesley Clark, United States Army General
Dylan Farrow, Activist
Frances Kunreuther, Building Movement Project
Robert Mande, Tanzanian Anti-Poaching Task Force
Meredith Monk, Renowned multi-disciplinary artist
Senator Chris Murphy, Connecticut
Brandon Nappi, Copper Beech
Neil O’Leary, Mayor of Waterbury, Connecticut
Sean O’Regan, Freeland Africa
Donna Palomba, Jane Doe No More
Yeonmi Park, Trafficking Survivor, Author, Activist
Jeffrey Sachs, United Nations Sustainable Development Solution Network
Caroline Shaw, Pulitzer Prize-winning composer
Julianne Swartz, Multi-media artist
Kanni Wignaraja, United Nations Development Program
Christian Wiman, Poet
Kevin Young, Author, Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, The New Yorker

Number of public programs in 2018

348
recognition
Select Recognition

Grace Farms and its River building have been honored with a number of prestigious design awards from local, national, and international organizations. In addition to excellence in design, many of the citations recognized the unique mission of Grace Farms and the integration of social good into the concept of a publicly available space.

Mies Crown Hall Americas Prize (mchap) 2014-2015
The second annual mchap recognized the best built works of architecture in the Americas realized from January 2014 through December 2015. Kazuyo Sejima and Ryue Nishizawa, founders of the Pritzker-winning architecture firm sanaa, were presented with the mchap Award, the mchap Chair at IIT Architecture Chicago for the following academic year, and $50,000 in funding toward research and publication.

AIA National 2017 Architecture Honor Award
The AIA Award annually honors the best built works in American architecture.

2018 Governor’s Patron of the Arts Award
Grace Farms Foundation was awarded the 2018 Governor’s Patron of the Arts Award in recognition for its contributions to the arts in Connecticut.

AIA Connecticut 2016 Design Honor Award
The Honor Awards from the statewide chapter of the American Institute of Architects celebrate the excellence of Connecticut projects. The jury described Grace Farms as “a graceful project with an ephemeral quality, a quality of apparent simplicity that belies complexity in sectional and structural planning. The project preserved a substantial piece of the Connecticut landscape for public and an unusual institutional use.”

Chicago Athenaeum 2017 International Architecture Award
Grace Farms was honored as a place “with a symbiotic relationship between architecture and nature” that is both “a restorative place and an active community that enables people to address the core issues facing society today.”

The Architect’s Newspaper Best of Design Awards, 2016
Building of the Year (East)

Fast Company, 2016 Innovation by Design Awards, Social Good Finalist
Fast Company acknowledged Grace Farms Foundation and its mission in its design category that includes great architecture in the service of social good.

2017 GreenCircle Awards, Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection
Awarded for displaying leadership in energy efficiency and reducing our impact on the environment.

Grace Farms Foundation’s design partners have also been recognized for individual accomplishments in engineering, construction, acoustic systems, and lighting design. See our full architectural project team at gracefarms.org/project-team.
"[Grace Farms] captures so beautifully the power and potential of art and aesthetics to transform community.

It is incredible how much Grace Farms Foundation has managed to achieve in such a short time since it’s initiation. I believe that Grace Farms is poised to contribute significantly to the well-being and advancement of both individuals and society."

Dr. Vanessa Patrick-Ralhan of Bauer College of Business, University of Houston is part of a team of 11 researchers that published a piece in the Journal of Association for Consumer Research (October 2019) about the potential of aesthetics to transform community. The work profiles Grace Farms and 19 other organizations.
support
Support

Grace Farms Foundation is a private operating foundation 501(c)(3) supported by a dedicated and expanding group of donors. The acclaimed SANAA-designed River building, set within 80 expansive acres, was funded by our founders, along with other supporters, as an enduring place to advance good in the world. Grace Farms was created as a platform to elevate initiatives of nature, arts, justice, community, and faith, with leaders, not-for-profits, and government entities, to benefit individuals and many different communities.

Grace Farms Fund: In 2018, the designation of the Grace Farms Fund resulted from interest by our community to sustain our programming and maintain Grace Farms and our on-site experience. A committed group of individuals have underwritten the foundation’s general administrative costs so that 100% of all gifts to the Grace Farms Fund directly support our initiatives and daily operations.

Income Highlights: Our support is comprised of individual and private foundation gifts, and program revenues. Please see our 2018 990-PF for additional information. Contributions enable us to fund key programs, including:

Justice: Human trafficking trainings and advocacy for the criminal prosecution of Backpage.com, the largest online sex-trafficking platform, and its executives;

Nature: Grace Farms Foundation acting as an advisor to a special investigative group fighting wildlife trafficking in Mozambique and Tanzania;

Community: Community service programs throughout and leadership retreats for not-for-profits.

Faith: A panel discussion discussing faith and the media with journalists Michelle Boorstein and Wajahat Ali;

Arts: The culmination of a year-long arts study, Practicing Joy, with family programs, performances, and a sound installation.

Your donations to Grace Farms Foundation will lead to new outcomes and collective impact. Join us in this endeavor, and we hope to see you at Grace Farms soon.

Roy Medile
Treasurer, Board of Directors

| $7 m | $5.6 m |
| Total 2018 cost to fund Grace Farms’ daily operations ($7m) and our five initiatives ($5m) |

Opening Cash Balance: $1,625,000
Restricted and Unrestricted Income: $10,478,000
Event & Retail Net $267,000
Interest & Other $88,600

Donations associated with the Yale Center for Faith & Culture and expenses associated with Grace Community Church totaled approximately $340,000 (included in G&A expenses and not part of the Grace Farms Fund)
Support

Donate
One hundred percent of charitable donations directly fund the Grace Farms Fund unless directed otherwise.

Join Our Volunteers
Contribute professional skills or provide valuable support during special programs.

Become a Partner
Mission-aligned collaborations offer meaningful opportunities to achieve transformative change.

Attend Our Programming
Experience the beauty of our site and the myriad of educational public programs.

Give
Visit gracefarms.org/support to support our initiatives and publicly available space for all.

Mail a check
Grace Farms Foundation, Inc.
PO Box 1876
New Canaan, CT 06840

Five Initiatives
p. 2-3: Dean Kaufman

President’s Perspective
p. 6: Ryan Slack

Grace Farms | A New Kind of Public Space

Grace Farms Foundation

Recognition
p. 53: James Florio; p. 55: Sahar Coston-Hardy; p. 57: Dean Kaufman

Support
p. 59: Dean Kaufman