

ISSUE 43

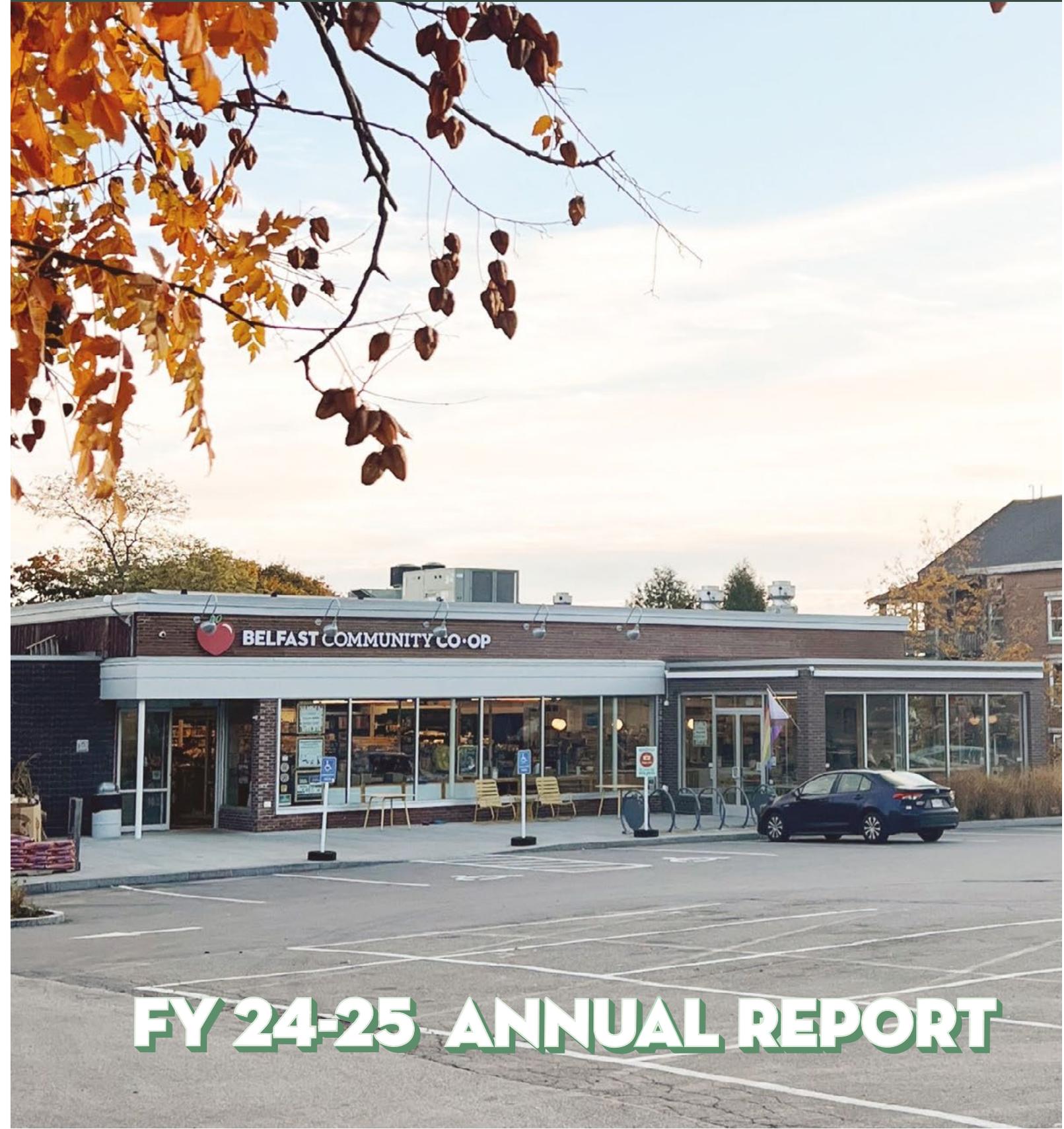
SPRING 2026

2024-2025 ANNUAL REPORT



ROOTSTOCK

BELFAST COMMUNITY CO-OP | OWNED BY YOU. FOOD FOR ALL.



FY 24-25 ANNUAL REPORT

When I stopped by the Co-op one chilly afternoon this winter, it was more than just the warmth of the café that greeted me. The space was alive — people enjoying a snack or a hot drink, catching up with friends or working on their devices. Many of us had missed the Co-op café through the pandemic and our major renovation, and it's so good to be back together in this community space again.

The 2024-2025 fiscal year began in fall with some uncertainty. Our renovation had given us a beautiful, functional, and sustainable space to serve our community better — but it also meant we started the winter season in a challenging financial position. Yet, as so often happens here in Maine, the community showed up. Our Co-op owners, shoppers, workers, vendors, board of directors, finance committee, and general manager all did their part to make sure we navigated the course safely and successfully.

Spring arrived. Snowbirds and visitors returned. Sales surged beyond expectations and Common Cents round-up donations grew to record highs— a true reflection of the generosity and compassion of our community. It became clear that the Co-op's newly renovated store was going to draw even more business than anticipated.

With the renovation behind us, the Board turned to the long view. We launched quarterly “B-Meetings” to deepen our understanding of the grocery business, cooperative governance, and strategic planning. We reaffirmed our commitment to operate in a socially and environmentally responsible manner, formally incorporating environment into our policies — something that has been part of our Co-op's identity for decades. And we were proud to co-sponsor the Waldo County Climate Action Coalition's Resilience Fair, standing with other local businesses that are also incorporating climate awareness into what they do.

Despite the divisiveness so prevalent in our world today, our Co-op remains welcoming to all. Many businesses in our country are pressured to abandon diversity, equity and inclusion, but our Co-op still puts inclusivity front and center. When the government shutdown and administration policies posed risks to many facing food insecurity, our Co-op stepped up with effective measures to support those in need.

We are a cooperative based on a set of shared values, and I believe that this helps us to transcend adversity. Kofi Annan said, “the co-operative movement can help pave the way to a more just and inclusive economic order.” As a Co-op, together, we are working towards our shared goal: a thriving, just and sustainable local food economy.



Susan Cutting
Board President of
Belfast Community Co-op
board@belfast.coop



The Co-operative movement can help pave the way to a more just and inclusive economic order.

Kofi Annan, Former Secretary-General of the United Nations



The Belfast Community Co-op exists so that our member-owners & our community will have:

- ① A thriving, just, & sustainable local food economy.
- ② A source of healthy, nutritious, affordable food, & water.
- ③ An environmentally responsible, efficiently managed, financially sound, democratically governed, inclusive cooperative enterprise.
- ④ A greater understanding of health, food systems, cooperatives, and economic & environmental sustainability.
- ⑤ An invested, engaged, & empowered staff that thrive in a safe, respectful, inclusive, & equitable workplace.



Owned by you. Food for all.

6 words and a big mission.

It is our mission and our pleasure to bring locally-sourced, reasonably priced, organic, and natural products to all. At the Belfast Community Co-op, we pride ourselves on being your downtown grocery store, offering a diverse selection of local, organic, natural, and affordable foods, wellness items, and more. Whether you are seeking healthy food options or looking to support a local market, our co-op welcomes everyone to shop! No matter what you're looking for when you come through our doors, we're happy to help you find it. Never been inside a cooperative grocery store before? We'd love to show you around! We're passionate about what we do. *Join our mission, learn more online at belfast.coop or instore.*

FY 2024-25 was the year Belfast Community Co-op proved that a renovated, values-driven, community-owned grocery can be financially strong, dramatically expand food access, and deepen local impact — all at the same time.



BELFAST COMMUNITY CO-OP BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Susan Cutting *President* | Jim Miller *Vice President* | Kim Relick *Secretary*
 | John Krueger *Treasurer* | Mary Bigelow | Todd Bluhm | Ernie Cooper |
 Rio Greeley | Valerie Tate

Located in the heart of downtown, the Belfast Community Co-op has been serving our area since 1976. Inquiries: info@belfast.coop

BCC SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

Doug Johnson *General Manager* | Gina Ferendo *Store Operation Manager* |
 Heather Q Hay *IT Manager* | Jamie Cermak *Marketing Manager*

Rootstock Jamie Cermak | **Photos** Co-op Team or Chip Dillon Photography

Open everyday to everyone | 123 High St. Belfast, ME 04915 |
 (207) 338-2532 | www.belfast.coop | © Belfast Community Co-op 2026

Printed by Collective Copies, a fellow cooperative.

Cooperatives are based on the values of

- +
- +
- SELF-HELP**
- SELF-RESPONSIBILITY**
- DEMOCRACY**
- EQUALITY**
- +
- EQUITY**
- SOLIDARITY**
- +
- +

In the tradition of their founders, cooperative members believe in the ethical values of honesty, openness, social responsibility, and caring for others.

BCC BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Susan Cutting President | Jim Miller VP | Kim Relick Secretary
| John Krueger Treasurer | Mary Bigelow | Todd Bluhm |
Ernie Cooper | Rio Greeley | Valerie Tate

A basic principle of Co-operatives is that they are owned by a community, and this rings true at the Belfast Community Co-op. In 2025, Co-op owners elected two new Board members (Kevin Cope and Kim Relick) and they re-elected Ernie Cooper and Jim Miller to serve additional terms. Kevin Cope stepped down from the Board in early fall, and the Board appointed Mary Bigelow to join the Board for the remaining five months of the Board year, maintaining the total number of Board members at nine.

VOTE
VOTE
VOTE

There are seven available Board seats for the 2026 election: three Board members are running for re-election (Susan Cutting, Rio Greeley and John Krueger), and four new candidates are running for the first time: Mary Bigelow, Richard Dines, Steven Gold and James Shimko. The election starts at the close of the

Co-op's Annual Meeting on March 8th, and will continue until we reach at least 10% of owners vote. So, keep your eyes peeled for your opportunity to vote on-line! *Check your email for the e-ballot from SimplyVoting, sometimes in spam. Election Questions? info@belfast.coop*

As always, we love to hear from you. Drop us a line at Board@belfast.coop or come to a Board of Directors meeting at 6pm on the 4th Wednesday of the month in the Abbott room of the Belfast Free Library (you can also find the link on the Co-op's website to zoom in).

Join us at the Annual Meeting on March 8th at the Waldo County Shrine Club. This year, we're having a dinner meeting benefiting Waldo County Bount. We'll hear about our past year, meet the candidates and celebrate the kick-off of the Co-op's 50th year! belfast.coop/annual-meeting-2026/

BCC INCOME STATEMENT

	FY 2025	FY 2024	FY 2023
Gross Sales	14,724,729	10,947,499	11,903,177
Less Discounts	484,983	400,335	371,191
Cost of Goods Sold	8,931,902	6,852,556	7,452,943
Gross Profit	5,307,854	3,694,657	4,079,043
Total Operating Expenses	5,144,592	4,447,867	4,059,615
Total other Income/expense	-231,606	75,176	-110,414
Net Income	-68,344	-678,034	-110,311

BCC Finance Committee Report

This year marked a milestone for your BCC as we began full operations following a multimillion-dollar renovation project. While the project took longer than anticipated—reducing our most profitable summer income and sales revenue—the Finance Committee played an important role in ensuring fiscal oversight and fiduciary responsibility for the BCC Board. *The Finance Committee's work is collaborative and includes: Ernie Cooper, Gina Ferendo, John Krueger (Board Treasurer), Matt McConnell, Jim Miller, & Kim Relick.*

Committee Responsibilities

- **Financial Reviews:** Meet regularly with the General Manager to review balance sheets, income statements, cash flow reports, and key indicators. Provide recommendations on quarterly financial condition, annual planning and budgeting, and long-term business plans.
- **Annual Report:** Review the annual financial report prepared by an independent accounting firm.
- **Credit and Investment Oversight:** Monitor the Co-op's credit card portfolio, patronage dividends, and matters related to future investment and maintenance.

Highlights from FY 2024-2025

This year demanded sustained effort, marked by numerous meetings and detailed follow-up. Despite lower-than-expected cash reserves at the end of 2024—reflecting the seasonal financial stress we often face in winter—the Co-op successfully secured loans to bridge the shortfall.

In response, and to strengthen transparency while ensuring the committee fulfills its fiduciary responsibilities to owners and staff, several innovations were introduced.

- **Policy Governance Enhancements:** Updates to our policy governance now allow the Treasurer to ask clarifying financial questions between meetings and also for the board to gain deeper understanding of substantial expenses or contracts before they arise unexpectedly. Our ENDS were amended to reinforce financial health.
- **New Financial Services/Tools:** This year, financial management transitioned from local oversight to Columinate Financial Services at the national level. With new software and alignment to national co-op standards, the committee expects stronger profitability and improved tracking of balance sheets, cash statements, and profit/loss reports. The Finance Committee championed a financial “dashboard” of key indicators that delivers clear, accessible reports for enhanced oversight.

Together, these changes enhance accountability, strengthen collaboration, and support the committee's fiduciary role, all without encroaching on the General Manager's operational authority.

John Krueger, Board Treasurer
boardfinance@belfast.coop





BCC Board Development Committee

The Board Development Committee (or BDC, for short) helps make sure our board works well, keeps learning, and stays open and accountable to our members. This year, Todd Bluhm, Valerie Tate, and Susan Cutting made up our team. *Here's what we were up to in 2025:*

- We kept the board on track by regularly checking in on our policies—every month we took a close look at different topics and made some important updates.
- We tweaked some of our procedures and even started a new meeting style in January to keep things fresh.

Some highlights from the year:

- Added steps for the Board to respond to members (C2)
- Kicked off an A/B meeting structure – business meetings alternating with topic-based deep discussion meetings
- Updated how we handle business plan reviews (B2), plus a reasonable notice and discussion provision for changes to the plan
- Introduced a policy on environmental sustainability (B10)
- Clarified (D3) the General Manager's authority to establish operational policies, practices and plans for the cooperative.
- Laid out a clear way for board members to bring new ideas forward

We also spent time reaching out to people who might want to join our Board—we contacted over 50 folks and hosted two orientation sessions to help them learn about what being a Board director involves.

Looking ahead, after some good conversations at our Board retreat, we're planning a full review of all our policies to clear up any confusion, fill in missing pieces, and make the whole process smoother for everyone. If you are an owner and interested in joining any of our Board committees, email bdcomm@belfast.coop.

*Todd Bluhm
BCC Development Committee*

BCC Board in action

More than meetings and committee work, the Board is a group glad to pitch in, including helping bag groceries during holidays or providing treats for our worker breakroom. Our friends at Revision Energy helped celebrate our new solar panels at our 49th birthday and were great neighbors at the Climate Resilience Fair.

OEC Annual Report 2025

The Co-op's Owner Engagement Committee (OEC) consists of Board members and member-owners who work together to create positive interactions between the Board and the member-owners, attract new members, encourage and educate member owners in understanding the importance of co-op membership and how they can support the cooperative effort. The OEC also aids the Marketing department by offering Board ideas and co-ordinating board involvement in outreach and events with the greater community.

In 2025 we focused mostly on strengthening the connection between the OEC and the Co-op's Marketing department, with focus on more delineation between board actions and operation actions. We hosted several Tea and Talks early in the year, aided with outdoor tabling, as well as attended the Waldo County Climate Resilience Fair, some of which led to prospective Board members running in this year's election. We have also begun long term planning for the Co-op's 50th anniversary party to be held on August 22 of 2026.

Although the OEC has handled Annual Elections in the past, we have moved the Annual Elections to be under the purview of the Board Development Committee, as we feel that it falls more under their purpose of Board perpetuation. OEC meetings are typically held on a Wednesday, usually the first or second of the month. To find out more, please email Ownercomm@belfast.coop

*Rio Greeley
Owner Engagement Committee*





I love our store.

I love our store. I love walking the aisles when I first get to work in the morning, seeing all of the amazing products that we offer and the smiling faces of shoppers and workers. I love shopping for my dinner ingredients when my work day is done, interacting with friends and neighbors as we search for that perfectly ripe avocado. I love driving by at night, seeing the store lit up like a Christmas tree. It's beautiful. Looking back on this past year, our sophomore year in the renovated space, I am still struck by what an accomplishment we achieved together and what an inspiring investment in our community we made.

By all accounts, we were successful operators this year, increasing sales by 34.5%, increasing our ownership by 13.3%, and increasing our cash by over \$500,000 by the end of the fiscal year. It was abundantly clear that our community has embraced this renewed Belfast Community Co-op, showing up as owners, shoppers, vendors, and workers.

For the past 49 years, the BCC has been the hub of our local food system, and this past year we showed our community what that looks like in our new store. We sold 3,383 individual local products from 307+ local vendors, some of which we have been buying from for over 25 years. These long-standing partnerships with our local vendors are built on mutual respect, fair treatment, mutual accountability, and shared commitment to developing a thriving local food economy. This past year, we were able to grow our local sales by 39.5% over the previous year, with nearly \$5 million in sales coming from local farmers and producers. Additionally, we paid out nearly \$3.5 million in wages and benefits to our dedicated Belfast Community Co-op workers. Our co-op distributed \$21,115 in charitable donations and sponsorships over the past year, and you, kind and generous BCC shoppers, contributed \$79,994 in Common Cents donations to local nonprofits. The generosity of this community is staggering!

Food access was on everyone's mind this past year. We saw a marked increase in participation in our programs designed to assist with food insecurity, including CORE (Cooperative Ownership Reaching Everyone), Farm Fresh Rewards (FFR), EBT/SNAP, and WIC. Our CORE program continues to provide access to the benefits of cooperative ownership to individuals and families who would otherwise be unable to participate. CORE discounts increased by 54% this past year, and participation in the program has reached nearly 100 families. The FFR program, funded and supported by the Good Shepherd Food Bank, offers 50% off all local fruits and vegetables at the time of purchase, including frozen and dried options, for those who qualify. Our co-op averaged around \$7,800 worth of FFR redemptions per month, approximately \$1,500 more per month than last year. EBT/SNAP sales grew to nearly \$400,000 this past year, highlighting the need within our community for affordable food. In 2023, we became the



Great buildings that move the spirit have always been rare. In every case they are unique, poetic, products of the heart.

Arthur Erickson



The best way to predict your future is to create it.

Peter Drucker



first food co-op in the state of Maine to be authorized as a WIC Nutrition Program store. This program is designed to provide complete nutrition services for birthing parents and young children based on income guidelines established by the state. Offering WIC has been part of our long-range business planning for many years, and we are proud to offer this essential service to our community. This past year, we more than doubled participation in the WIC program in both sales and the number of participants.

As food assistance programs continue to come under fire and more members of our community face hunger, our commitment to our underserved neighbors remains unwavering. Food access and food justice are at the core of why we exist as a cooperative. As we wrapped up our fiscal year, we learned that a government shutdown would threaten food access for EBT/SNAP and WIC users in Maine, with those programs potentially losing funding in November. At that time, approximately 245 co-op owners relied on SNAP and would have lost access to those funds until the shutdown ended. As a first line of support, we voluntarily enrolled all Belfast Community Co-op owners who had used EBT/SNAP at our store in the previous three months into our CORE program. CORE provides participants with 10% off their entire purchase every time they shop. We also offered CORE participants a once-weekly discount on local fruits and vegetables, similar to what the Farm Fresh Rewards program provides, a program that also lost its funding during the shutdown. To offset the expense of this initiative, we asked co-op owners to donate their outstanding Owner Rewards loyalty points and took direct donations at the register, and together, you donated more than \$2,000 to the initiative. (We will report on more that we are doing for food access support in the year ahead.) Thank you all!

This past year has shown what's possible when a community comes together. We've built a cooperative that can compete with corporate giants while staying true to the values and principles that have shaped us from the beginning. We've created a beautiful, efficient space that serves workers and shoppers alike. We've strengthened relationships with local producers that will sustain our food system for years to come. Most importantly, we've proven that the cooperative model works, that businesses can be governed democratically, managed equitably, environmentally responsible, and financially successful all at once. Thank you to everyone who made this year possible: our dedicated workers, our loyal owners and shoppers, our local vendors and producers, and our broader community that continues to believe in what we are building. As always, see you in the aisles,

-D



Doug Johnson
General Manager
Belfast Community Co-op
doug@belfast.coop



OUR CO-OP'S MISSION

① A thriving, just, & sustainable local food economy.

When looking at what the impact of the Belfast Community Co-op is in our community, why we exist and for the benefit of whom, the most direct result of our efforts is in the strength of the local food economy. For more than forty-nine years we have served as an anchor for the downtown Belfast business district, providing jobs for local workers, an outlet for local provisions, and as an incubator for sustainable cooperative business development.
from the GM's BCC GLOBAL ENDS MONITORING REPORT 2025

BELFAST COMMUNITY CO-OP



34.5%

+34.5% total sales growth



\$3.5 million paid in wages & benefits



~\$5,000,000

Nearly \$5 million in local product sales



39.5%

+39.5% growth in local sales year-over-year



3,383

3,383 local products from 307+ local vendors



307

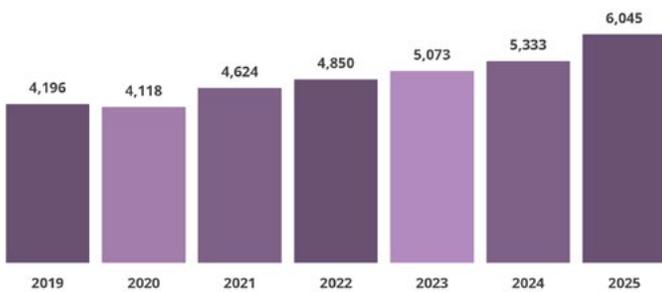
OUR CO-OP'S MISSION

② A source of healthy, nutritious, affordable food, & water.

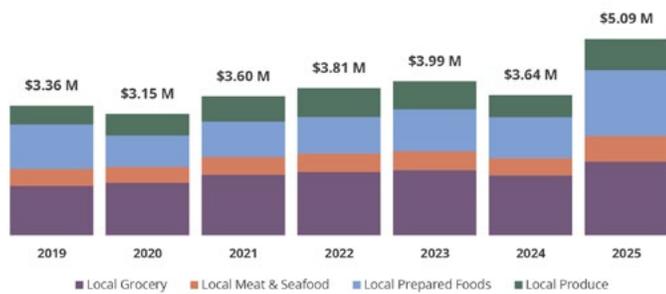
The GM must provide food choices for purchase that meet the needs and aspirations of the community in terms of overall health, nutrition, and affordability. The GM must also recognize and honor the human need for clean water in the Co-op. Our Co-op has stood as a pillar of health and nutrition in our community for 49 years. Our humble beginnings, brought about by a mutual desire for whole and natural foods amongst community members, have led us to our current position as the leader in our community providing the highest quality nutritious food.

from the GM's BCC GLOBAL ENDS MONITORING REPORT 2025

Owner Count Growth



Local Sales by Department

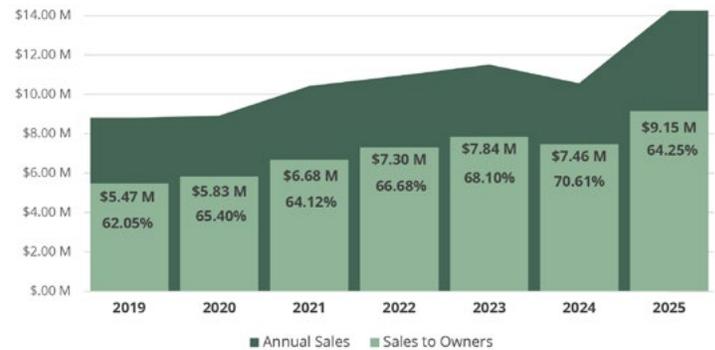


BELFAST COMMUNITY CO-OP

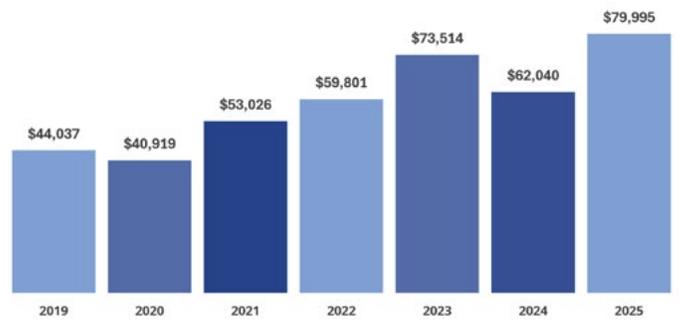
Average Weekly Customer Count and Purchase



Sales to Owners



Common Cents Donations



I OWN A GROCERY STORE WITH MY FRIENDS
BELFAST COMMUNITY CO-OP



13.3%

+13.3% ownership growth



FOOD ACCESS & EQUITY

One in six people in Waldo County face food insecurity—unsure where their next meal will come from, or whether there's enough for their families to eat. At the Belfast Community Co-op, we believe that affordable food and healthy eating should be accessible to all.

The Co-op is proud to play an active role in supporting our community. Each month we donate money, food, and time to local non-profits and organizations whose work helps strengthen food access and build local resilience. We proudly partner with many local organizations such as the Belfast Soup Kitchen to help get food to those who need it in our community. In-store, we offer a variety of programs and resources and invite you to learn more about how we can help make nutritious food more affordable for you and your family. You can find more details in-store or belfast.coop/food-access. Read our GM's update on page 6 for more about these numbers and the impact we made this year.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM FY 24-25

- **CORE food access discounts up 54%**
- **EBT/SNAP sales nearly \$400,000**
- **Farm Fresh Rewards redemptions averaging ~\$7,800/month**
- **WIC participation more than doubled**
- **Provided assistance for ~245 owners relying on SNAP during shutdown risk**
- **\$2,000+ raised quickly by Co-op Owners for emergency food access**



THIS FEEDS OUR COMMUNITY

Every Belfast Community Co-op branded item benefits food access programs right here in Waldo County. When you show off your Co-op swag, you are helping feed our community!

BELFAST COMMUNITY CO-OP SHOPPERS BOUGHT

PRODUCE

All This & More In FY 2024-25

Kale: 9,105 bunches

Local Carrots: 17,134 lbs

Local Potatoes: 24,220 lbs

Local Fresh Blueberries: 3,828 lbs

Local Frozen Blueberries: 11,717 lbs

DAIRY

Local Eggs: 15,340 dozen (184,080 eggs)

Local Milk: 7998 gallons (1,023,760 ounces!)

Local Cheese: 4,415 lbs

Local Bread: 42,160 loaves

Local Bagels: 14,064 individual bagels

Local Yogurt: 15,154 pints

BULK

Bulk Food Total: 126,952 lbs

Bulk Coffee: 11,404 lbs

Local Bulk Food: 6,707 lbs

PREPARED FOODS CO-OP MADE

Muffins: 12,369

Cookies: 18,243

Pizza Slices: 24,762

Sandwiches: 26,563

OUR CO-OP'S MISSION

③ **An environmentally responsible, efficiently managed, financially sound, democratically governed, inclusive cooperative enterprise.**

The Belfast Community Co-op minimizes environmental harm through our operations and purchasing decisions, prioritizing practices that reduce waste, conserve resources, and support ecological sustainability. Efficient management requires the General Manager to build and maintain a highly skilled and effective team capable of leading the cooperative toward its mission. For the Co-op to be financially sound we must maintain financial health sufficient to continue operations, meet obligations to stakeholders, weather reasonable disruptions, and reinvestment in the enterprise. Democratic governance requires the General Manager to uphold the democratic nature of our association in a fair and balanced manner, consistent with cooperative principles. Inclusiveness means the Co-op provides meaningful opportunities for all to participate in and benefit from the association.

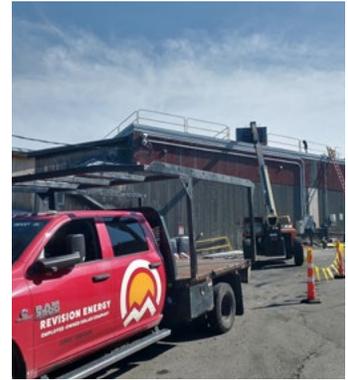
from the GM's BCC GLOBAL ENDS MONITORING REPORT 2025

The Co-op values our partners in our community. In 2025, Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition helped spark our Bring It Back silverware initiative & Revision Energy installed solar panels on our Co-op. Scrapdogs takes our food waste for compost!



Co-op Workers love representing our great partners, like locally-grown favorite Grandy Organics & Equal Exchange cooperative, among many!

BELFAST COMMUNITY CO-OP



Our 93 solar panels generate enough power to



Keep 55,205 pounds of carbon out of the atmosphere every year.



Brew 2,567,893 cups of coffee in a year.



Offset the amount of carbon sequestered every year by planting 355 trees.



Last year we purchased

11,810 lb

of organic & fairly traded coffee from Equal Exchange, equivalent to the annual harvests of about

6 family farms



The fair prices & pre-harvest financing offered by Equal Exchange support economic resiliency for farmers. Each of your purchases makes a difference, so thank you!



16,185 lbs diverted!

This is the total weight we have collected from you so far.



16,055 miles offset!

Your composting efforts are equivalent to not driving 16,055 miles. Whoa.



106 seedlings planted!

Composting has a huge impact on the environment. From a greenhouse gas equivalency standpoint your composting efforts are equivalent to 106 urban trees seedlings grown for 10 years.



728 gallons of gas!

The number of gallons of gasoline offset by diverting food scraps from the landfill

OUR CO-OP'S MISSION

④ A greater understanding of health, food systems, cooperatives, & economic & environmental sustainability.

It is vital to the ongoing sustainability of our cooperative that we have an active and educated base of owners with a holistic understanding of where we fit into the food system. To that end, we offer a number of opportunities for engagement with our community throughout the year on topics that both directly and indirectly affect the Co-op. from the GM's BCC GLOBAL ENDS MONITORING REPORT 2025

OUR CO-OP'S MISSION

⑤ An invested, engaged, & empowered staff that thrive in a safe, respectful, inclusive, & equitable workplace.

The General Manager must create a workplace that is welcoming to all workers, meeting the needs for both physical and psychological safety. The General Manager must draft policy that ensures fair treatment of workers and opportunities for professional development. from the GM's BCC GLOBAL ENDS MONITORING REPORT 2025

THE GM'S BCC GLOBAL ENDS MONITORING REPORT is a document completed and presented by the General Manager for the Co-op's Board of Directors every year after the close of the fiscal year. The GM provides sales numbers, accounting statements, and many other business metrics along with his interpretations of the data. This process assures that the GM is meeting the goals and obligations set out by the Board and our co-op's policies. Want to learn more? Owners are welcome to attend monthly Co-op Board of Directors meetings to learn more about how our business is governed behind the scenes.



Congratulations & Thank you, Tom!



25+ Tom Clemetson retires after more than 25 years of dedicated service to our co-op. Tom (and his family) have been instrumental to the co-op's years of success in many ways. Tom's roles included (and are not limited to) facilities, produce manager, customer service, IT, oddjobs, and accounting. We wouldn't be here without you!

Picture above: Accounting team Cristiane, Tom, and Doug



L-R: Finding Our Voices "Into the Light" collaboration, Maine Life Media Filming, & Maine Food Convergence workshop participation

Advocacy for SNAP by Co-op Management: Gina Ferendo & Heather Q Hay at Maine State Capitol & with state Senator Curry and state Representative Dodge.



Customer Comments from our Customer Experience Surveys provide valuable feedback and help us serve you better. From the good to the great, we want to hear about your experience. Randomly selected Co-op customers receive an invite on their receipt that reads: "\$5 for your thoughts! Tell us about today's shopping trip." You can receive a coupon worth \$5 off a future \$25 shopping trip for filling out a survey and we receive your valuable comments. Here are a handful of the "Very Highly satisfied" customer comments from the past year. We take great pride in serving our community and love to hear about it! Want to tell us more? Drop a note in the comment box or email info@belfast.coop

We stopped in to get some ready to eat meals because most restaurants were closing up on a Sunday. Everything we bought was delicious! We could tell it was prepared with love and high quality ingredients. I'm so happy we found this grocery store and will be coming back for more!

I'm a local kinda gal... recommend you all the time.

The store feels very clean and is well organised. The products are varied and always in stock. Checkout is quick and staff is friendly. A lot more fun than (other store)! The co-op is convenient. It's always a friendly, familiar place. And I can find what I need quickly.

The Belfast Co-op is a treasured addition to our vibrant downtown. I can find things there which are not available elsewhere, and the selection of local and organic produce is the biggest draw for me. The new renovations are beautiful and the store feels much more inviting.

I have been a member of the Belfast Co-op for well over a decade and on every single visit have appreciated the calm, welcoming & peaceful atmosphere of the store. It's not overwhelming and hectic like large chain grocery stores. With the new renovations the Co-op is especially clean, bright, and spacious.

Tried a new yogurt, very nice and the bacon was just what I was looking for.

The man working in the bulk aisle was great, he offered to help and asked if I had any questions, which I did and he answered well. Jenn at the checkout was her expert, cheerful self, I always enjoy her service.

The staff is excellent, responsive and knowledgeable. There is not just courtesy expressed but also enthusiasm. People like where they work and they like the customers that serve.

Everyone is so friendly and welcoming! I love to shop here more than other stores because of that! I also like to pre-order cases as that makes food much more affordable!

I was impressed with the clear labeling on the vegan items. The array of excellent ready made options was impressive. We all thought the staff were kind and helpful. Thank you!

It's really good. It's really conveniently located. With the expansion, the seating and deli are great to have. It's important to me to have a place where I can find organic and specialty products for my food allergies

The folks at the coop are so friendly and welcoming! They always make the shopping experience a great one! I appreciate the atmosphere!

Staff has good knowledge of products and were able to direct me to find specialty items. Everyone is always friendly and welcoming!

Everyone is so friendly and welcoming! I love to shop here more than other stores because of that! I also like to pre-order cases as that makes foods much more affordable!

It's an easy, satisfying place to shop

The selection of local products is always good. Staff are always willing to help with questions and check on items. I love all the results of the renovation- much more welcoming and more space to move through the areas.

A great selection of good food for our community, and owned by our community.

I shop 100 percent at our wonderful co-op. We are an example to all how not for profit control over our food can be successful. Staff just gets better all the time

Overall friendliness of not only staff, but also the other customers. My spouse and I like the casualness and efficiency of getting around in the Co-op space.

I just love the feeling in the co-op and the availability of healthy organic produce and seafood and other organic health food items.

The Belfast Community Co-op is our go-to store for all groceries and almost every other household need. We love the design of the recently renovated store. The staff are always extremely helpful and professional. Hooray for the Co-op!!

Great shopping experience

This little store packs a big punch. I can literally find almost any ingredient I need for recipes. The produce is very high quality.

I am in the farm fresh program as a member of the co-op. I am on EBT and really appreciate the savings. The money I save makes it very worthwhile.

The co-op is welcoming. The store is kept clean. I found everything I was looking for. The cashiers use my preferred name and pronouns. The cafe is nice and sunny.

Common Cents starts with the community. We're so proud of the amazing contributions our Co-op makes to our wider community through our highly successful community donation program! By rounding up your spare change for over a decade, we raised and contributed more than **\$567,922.80** to area groups and non-profits. This past fiscal year from 10/24-9/25 we raised **\$74,994**. We also track Common Cents totals by calendar year, from 01/25-12/25 we raised **\$82,434.32**. **No matter how you count it, we make a big difference.** These diverse groups enrich our community and their work benefits and supports our region in so many ways. 100% of round-up donations go to each group.

From October 2024- September 2025
\$79,994 in Common Cents donations
contributed by Co-op shoppers

\$79,994



Belfast Community Co-op
COMMON CENTS

SUMMER 2025

WALDO COUNTY BOUNTY	JUNE \$6,994.39
WABANAKI REACH	JULY \$8,220.50
RESTORATIVE JUSTICE PROJECT MAINE	* NEW RECORD * AUGUST \$8,276.65



\$23,491.54

Congratulations to all these past recipients and best of luck to the recipients for 2026. See the list at belfast.coop/common-cents.

Do you want to get your group involved? Anyone can nominate a local non-profit group for 2027. Start on our website: belfast.coop/common-cents



Voting for the 2027 recipients will start in Fall 2026 by Co-op Owners.

Questions: info@belfast.coop

Community Common Cents donations since roughly 2015-2025

\$567,922.80

BELFAST COMMUNITY CO-OP
is celebrating our 50th
& you're invited!



See you Sat. Aug 22nd, 2026

at Steamboat Landing for our **FREE**
community birthday party- sharing
stories, music, food, and friends.
-->belfast.coop/50years



Supporting New
 Food Co-ops: FCI.COOP

*Thank you to our 6000+ owners, our shoppers,
 & neighbors! Everyone Welcome since 1976!*

\$21,115

**Belfast Community Co-op proudly supported our
 community with at least \$21,115 in charitable
 donations & sponsorships in FY 24-25, not counting
 donations made by customers in Common Cents round-up.**



- 2024-2025 Co-op Collaborations, Contributions, & Sponsorships:** · Adas Yeshuron Synagogue · All Roads Music Fest · Ames Elementary School · Amjambo Africa · Atlantic Challenge · Belfast Area Chamber of Commerce · Belfast Area Childcare Services · Belfast Area High School Seniors · Belfast Bay Watershed Coalition · Belfast Community Radio · Belfast Curling Club · Belfast Farmers Market · Belfast Flying Shoes · Belfast Free Library · Belfast Garden Club · Belfast has Pride Parade · Belfast Maskers · Belfast Poetry Festival · Belfast Soup Kitchen · Belfast Summer Nights · Black Cat Book Fair · Black Owned Maine · Camp Jinka · CDF Disaster Relief Fund · Chip Dillon Photography · City of Belfast · CMBA Principle 6 Conference · Coastal Mountains Land Trust · Colonial Theater / Hawthorne Collective · Colonial Theater Drag Show · Common Ground Fair Volunteer Kitchen · Cooperative Development Fund · Cooperative Maine Business Alliance · Counter Current Collective · Dorywoman Rowing · Ecology Learning Center · Finding Our Voices · Food Co-op Finder · Food Co-op Initiative · Friends of Katahdin Woods and Water · Game Loft · GBAM Food Cupboard · Good Shepherd Food Bank · Green and Healthy Maine · Green Energy Times · Harborfest · Hope Elementary School · Hospice Volunteers of Waldo County · John Steinman · Justonlook Media · Maine Celtic Celebration · Maine Coast Animal Rescue · Maine Food Convergence · Maine Gem Museum · Maine Life Media · Maine People's Alliance · Maine Public Radio · Maine School Garden Network · Maine Tourism Association · Maine TransNet · Maine Youth Action Network · Marshall Wharf · Midcoast Shakespeare Festival · Midcoast Villager · MOFGA · Montville Fire & Rescue · Mount View Elementary School · Mount View Schools · NATIFS · National Co-operative Grocers · NCBA-CLUA · Neighbor for Neighbor Giving Tree · Neighboring Food Co-op Association · New England Farmers Union · New Hope Midcoast · New Roots Cooperative Farm · Niweskok · No Greater Love Food Pantry · Office of Maine Refugee Services · Our Town Belfast · OUT Maine · Penobscot Bay Orchestra · Phoenix Knights Gaming (formerly Game Loft) · Portland Magazine · Revision Energy · Resistance Faire · Restorative Justice Project Maine · Rockcoast Roller Derby · RSU #3 · Run Wild 5k · Scrapdogs Community Compost · Special Olympics Maine · Starrett Children's Center · Sweet Tree Learning · The Laila Al-Matrouk Memorial · Theatre Nouveau · Torchlight Media · Troy Howard Middle School · UMaine Cooperative Extension · UMaine Wild Blueberry Conference · Unitarian Universalist Church of Belfast · Upstream Watch · Wabanaki Benefit Foundation · Wabanaki Reach · Waldo County Action Partners · Waldo County Bounty · Waldo County Climate Resilience Fair · Waldo County Humane Society · Waldo County Little League · Waldo County Pet Food Pantry · Waldo County YMCA · Waterfall Arts · White Ash Learning co-op · and many more



123 High Street
 Belfast, Maine 04915
 Phone: (207) 338-2532
 belfast.coop
 info@belfast.coop