



CARIBOU COUNTY GREENHOUSE, FOOD PRODUCTION & WELLNESS COOPERATIVE

Regional Agricultural Resilience Pitch Book

A Community Food, Education & Wellness Initiative for Southeast Idaho



*Building Sustainable Agriculture, Community Wellness,
and Regional Resilience*



**CARIBOU COUNTY GREENHOUSE,
FOOD PRODUCTION & WELLNESS COOPERATIVE**

Growing Resilience • Nourishing Community • Cultivating Hope

PROJECT OVERVIEW

An Integrated Approach to Food Production, Education, and Community Resilience



A Regional Agricultural Support Hub

The Caribou County Greenhouse, Food Production & Wellness Cooperative is envisioned as a centralized agricultural support hub serving growers, families, educators, and community organizations throughout Southeast Idaho. Through greenhouse production, propagation systems, food storage infrastructure, educational programming, and cooperative support services, the project seeks to strengthen food security, community wellness, and long-term regional resilience.



Greenhouse Production

Year-round and season-extension food production to increase local food availability.



Propagation & Seedling Center

Locally grown starts and plant production for growers, schools, and community programs.



Food Storage Infrastructure

Improved cold storage and food preservation capacity to reduce waste and increase food security.



Cooperative Grower Network

Shared resources, knowledge, and infrastructure that empower independent growers and build resilience.



Education & Training

Practical horticultural and agricultural education for all ages and experience levels.



Community Wellness

Improved food access, healthier choices, and stronger, more vibrant communities.



PRODUCE



PROPAGATE



STORE



SUPPORT



EDUCATE



NOURISH

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FOUNDER & ORGANIZATIONAL BACKGROUND

Experienced Horticultural Leadership for Regional Agricultural Resilience



Experienced Leadership Rooted in Horticulture and Education

The Caribou County Greenhouse, Food Production & Wellness Cooperative is led by Christopher Evans, Project Leader and General Manager of Applegarth Greenhouse & Apothecary, LLC. Christopher holds a B.S. in Agricultural Education with a minor in Ornamental Horticulture and brings more than three decades of experience in greenhouse production, nursery systems, propagation, landscape horticulture, agricultural education, and community-centered growing initiatives. This background provides the technical knowledge, educational foundation, and practical leadership needed to guide the cooperative from concept to long-term regional resource.



HORTICULTURAL EXPERIENCE

More than three decades of work in greenhouse, nursery, plant production, propagation, and landscape systems.



AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Academic training in agricultural education and ornamental horticulture supports practical teaching and public outreach.



GREENHOUSE OPERATIONS

Experience with production planning, propagation systems, climate management, and season-extension infrastructure.



REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE

Local understanding of Southeast Idaho's short growing season, cold climate, alkaline soils, water challenges, and agricultural needs.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Commitment to helping residents, gardeners, growers, families, and community partners build practical horticultural knowledge.



PROJECT LEADERSHIP

Provides planning, coordination, operational management, educational development, and long-term cooperative guidance.



LEAD



TEACH



CULTIVATE



CONNECT



SERVE



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MISSION STATEMENT

Growing Food. Growing Knowledge. Growing Community.



Our Mission

To develop a climate-resilient greenhouse and agricultural cooperative system that strengthens local food production, horticultural education, community wellness, and long-term sustainability throughout Southeast Idaho through coordinated support of regional growers, local food infrastructure, and practical community-centered agriculture.



Local Food Production

Strengthening regional food security through greenhouse production, propagation systems, and season-extension agriculture.



Cooperative Support

Providing infrastructure, resources, and educational opportunities that help independent growers succeed.



Sustainable Agriculture

Promoting practical growing systems adapted to the environmental realities of Southeast Idaho.



Community Wellness

Improving access to healthy foods, educational resources, and opportunities that strengthen quality of life.



Education

Building local knowledge and agricultural skills through workshops, demonstrations, and hands-on learning.



FOOD



EDUCATION



WELLNESS



STEWARDSHIP



COMMUNITY

CARIBOU COUNTY GREENHOUSE, FOOD PRODUCTION & WELLNESS COOPERATIVE

Rooted in Caribou County. Cultivating Resilience. Inspiring Generations.

VISION STATEMENT

Cultivating a Stronger, Healthier, and More Resilient Southeast Idaho



Our Vision



A future where Southeast Idaho communities have reliable access to fresh, locally produced foods; where growers are supported through shared infrastructure and education; and where agriculture, wellness, and stewardship work together to create healthier families, stronger local economies, and a more resilient region.



Stronger Local Food Production

Expanding year-round food production to strengthen food security and ensure fresh, healthy options for our communities.



Supported Independent Growers

Providing resources, space, and support that help local growers thrive and our local food system grow stronger.



Education & Workforce Development

Inspiring and equipping all ages with the knowledge and skills to build a vibrant agriculture and wellness workforce.



Healthier Families & Communities

Improving access to nutritious foods and wellness resources to support healthier families and a higher quality of life.



Beautiful Community Spaces

Creating welcoming gardens, gathering spaces, and learning environments that bring people together and inspire pride.



Resilient Infrastructure & Self-Reliance

Building climate-smart infrastructure that strengthens our local food system and supports long-term regional resilience.



FOOD SECURITY



EDUCATION



WELLNESS



STEWARDSHIP



COMMUNITY



RESILIENCE

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REGIONAL OVERVIEW

Why Southeast Idaho Needs Agricultural Resilience Infrastructure



A Region of Strength. A Region of Challenge.

Caribou County possesses a strong agricultural heritage, abundant natural beauty, and a tradition of self-reliance. However, the region also faces significant challenges including short growing seasons, rising food costs, supply chain vulnerability, limited local food infrastructure, and increasing pressure on rural households.

Strengthening agricultural resilience is essential to ensuring long-term food security, economic opportunity, and community well-being.



AGRICULTURAL HERITAGE

Farming, ranching, and food production remain central to the identity of Southeast Idaho.



SHORT GROWING SEASON

High elevation and long winters limit local production opportunities.



IMPORTED FOOD DEPENDENCE

Many foods travel hundreds or thousands of miles before reaching local families.



RURAL ISOLATION

Distance and transportation challenges increase costs and vulnerability.



RISING FOOD COSTS

Inflation continues to strain household budgets and food access.



COMMUNITY WELLNESS

Access to fresh foods directly impacts long-term health outcomes and quality of life.



EXTEND GROWING SEASONS



SUPPORT LOCAL GROWERS



IMPROVE FOOD ACCESS



BUILD RESILIENCE



STRENGTHEN COMMUNITIES

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FOOD ACCESS CHALLENGES

Rising Costs, Limited Availability, and Rural Food Vulnerability



Healthy Food Should Not Be a Luxury

Families throughout Southeast Idaho face increasing challenges accessing fresh fruits, vegetables, and nutritious whole foods. Rising transportation costs, inflation, supply chain disruptions, and limited rural retail options place additional pressure on household budgets. These challenges are often felt most strongly by seniors, working families, and residents living far from major population centers.



Rising Food Prices

Inflation continues to increase the cost of fresh produce and essential foods.



Transportation Costs

Many foods travel hundreds or thousands of miles before reaching local stores.



Limited Retail Options

Rural communities often have fewer grocery choices and reduced competition.



Seasonal Availability

Fresh produce becomes less available during long winter months.



Supply Chain Vulnerability

Weather, transportation disruptions, and market instability affect availability.



Community Health

Limited access to nutritious foods contributes to long-term health challenges.



AFFORDABILITY



ACCESSIBILITY



NUTRITION



STABILITY



COMMUNITY HEALTH

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AGRICULTURAL INFRASTRUCTURE GAPS

Building the Systems Our Communities Need



Strong Agricultural Roots. Missing Infrastructure.

Southeast Idaho possesses productive farmland, dedicated growers, and a strong agricultural heritage. However, many communities lack the infrastructure needed to support local food production at scale. Limited propagation facilities, food storage systems, cooperative grower support, educational resources, and distribution infrastructure reduce the region's ability to build a resilient local food economy.



PROPAGATION & SEEDLING PRODUCTION

Limited access to locally produced starts and transplants.



COMMUNITY GREENHOUSE SYSTEMS

Few shared facilities designed for season extension and education.



FOOD STORAGE INFRASTRUCTURE

Insufficient cold storage and aggregation capacity.



GROWER SUPPORT NETWORKS

Independent growers often work in isolation.



DISTRIBUTION & MARKET ACCESS

Limited infrastructure connecting producers to consumers.



AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION

Few regional facilities dedicated to practical horticultural training.



PROPAGATION



PRODUCTION



STORAGE



DISTRIBUTION



EDUCATION

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LOCAL SOLUTIONS OPPORTUNITY

Building Resilience Through Local Agriculture, Education, and Community Investment



The Opportunity Before Us



Southeast Idaho already possesses many of the ingredients necessary to strengthen local food production and community resilience. Dedicated growers, agricultural knowledge, available land, community partnerships, and strong local traditions provide a foundation for meaningful progress. By investing in strategic agricultural infrastructure, education, and cooperative support systems, communities can create lasting improvements in food access, economic opportunity, and long-term sustainability.



Greenhouse Production

Extending growing seasons and increasing local food availability.



Propagation & Seedling Systems

Providing locally grown starts for growers, schools, and community projects.



Cooperative Support

Helping independent growers succeed through shared resources and infrastructure.



Food Storage & Distribution

Improving the movement of locally produced foods throughout the region.



Community Education

Expanding horticultural knowledge, food literacy, and practical skills.



Regional Partnerships

Connecting growers, organizations, schools, and community leaders.



GROW



EDUCATE



SUPPORT



CONNECT



SUSTAIN

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LAND ACQUISITION & SITE DEVELOPMENT

Creating the Physical Foundation for Long-Term Agricultural Resilience



Establishing the Cooperative Campus

Land Acquisition & Site Development establishes the permanent physical foundation for the Caribou County Greenhouse, Food Production & Wellness Cooperative. This component supports the acquisition and preparation of a properly located agricultural site in the Soda Springs area capable of housing greenhouse production, propagation systems, food storage, wash/pack infrastructure, water systems, demonstration gardens, educational programming, and future community food-access facilities.



SITE ACQUISITION

Secures a permanent land base in the Soda Springs area for cooperative agricultural development.



ZONING & ACCESS

Supports appropriate land use, safe year-round vehicle access, delivery circulation, and community participation.



UTILITY CONNECTIONS

Provides access to electrical service, natural gas, water resources, and infrastructure needed for greenhouse operations.



SITE PREPARATION

Includes grading, drainage, parking, access roads, fencing, and preparation for phased construction.



CAMPUS EXPANSION

Allows future greenhouse systems, food storage, wash/pack facilities, education spaces, and demonstration gardens.



COMMUNITY VISIBILITY

Creates a stable, visible, and accessible agricultural resource center for growers, families, educators, and partners.



SECURE



PREPARE



CONNECT



BUILD



EXPAND



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GREENHOUSE FACILITY OVERVIEW

The Central Hub of the Cooperative System



A Regional Agricultural Support Center

The proposed greenhouse facility serves as the operational center of the Caribou County Greenhouse, Food Production & Wellness Cooperative. Designed to support food production, propagation, education, and community engagement, the facility provides critical infrastructure that helps strengthen local food systems and supports long-term regional resilience.



FOOD PRODUCTION

Season extension and greenhouse crop production to increase local food availability.



PLANT PROPAGATION

Seedling and transplant production for growers and community projects.



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

Workshops, demonstrations, and practical horticultural training.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Resources and services that strengthen regional food systems and local collaboration.



BEAUTIFICATION PROJECTS

Demonstration gardens and landscape education that enhance our communities.



FUTURE EXPANSION

Infrastructure designed to support long-term growth, innovation, and adaptation.



GROW



PROPAGATE



EDUCATE



SUPPORT



EXPAND

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GREENHOUSE CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS

Creating the Ideal Environment for Healthy Plants and Year-Round Production



THE RIGHT ENVIRONMENT SUPPORTS STRONG PLANTS, ABUNDANT HARVESTS, AND HEALTHY COMMUNITIES.



Engineered for Growth and Efficiency

The greenhouse is designed with advanced climate and environmental systems that create a stable, energy-efficient growing environment. These systems work together to regulate temperature, humidity, airflow, and light—supporting optimal plant health, reducing disease, and extending the growing season. By investing in reliable environmental controls, the cooperative ensures consistency, sustainability, and long-term productivity.



TEMPERATURE CONTROL

Efficient heating and cooling systems maintain ideal temperatures for plant growth year-round.



HUMIDITY MANAGEMENT

Humidity control helps prevent disease, promotes healthy growth, and improves overall plant performance.



VENTILATION & AIR CIRCULATION

High-quality ventilation ensures fresh air exchange, reduces excess heat, and supports strong plants.



LIGHT MANAGEMENT

Supplemental lighting extends daylight hours during darker months to support consistent plant production.



IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

Automated irrigation delivers water efficiently and consistently to reduce waste and support healthy roots.



ENVIRONMENTAL MONITORING

Sensors and automation provide real-time data for informed decisions and efficient operations.



HEALTHIER PLANTS



HIGHER YIELDS



ENERGY EFFICIENCY



REDUCED DISEASE



STRONGER COMMUNITY

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PROPAGATION & SEEDLING CENTER

Growing Strong Starts for a Stronger Community



Building the Future from the Ground Up

The Propagation & Seedling Center is designed to provide high-quality plants, seedlings, and transplants for local growers, community gardens, schools, and regional projects. By producing strong, healthy starts locally, the cooperative reduces transportation costs, supports regional self-reliance, and ensures that plants are well-suited to our unique growing conditions. This center strengthens our local food system from the very beginning of the growing cycle.



QUALITY SEED STARTS

Locally grown seed starts that are healthy, vigorous, and well-adapted to our climate.



TRANSPLANT PRODUCTION

Vegetable, herb, and flower transplants for growers and community projects.



SUPPORTING LOCAL GROWERS

Reliable access to affordable, high-quality starts strengthens local food production.



EDUCATION & YOUTH PROGRAMS

Hands-on learning opportunities for schools, youth groups, and aspiring young growers.



COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Supplying plants for community gardens, landscaping, beautification, and donation gardens.



SUSTAINABLE PRACTICES

Using responsible methods to grow strong plants while conserving resources and reducing waste.



PLANT



NURTURE



DEVELOP



SUPPORT



THRIVE

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WATER INFRASTRUCTURE & IRRIGATION SYSTEMS

Sustainable Water. Healthy Plants. Stronger Communities.



Smart Water Systems for a Resilient Future

Reliable water infrastructure is essential for year-round growing and long-term sustainability. Our integrated system is designed to conserve water, improve efficiency, and support healthy plant production while protecting this vital resource for future generations. These systems help the cooperative adapt to changing conditions, reduce waste, and ensure that every drop contributes to stronger food systems and healthier communities.



WATER COLLECTION

Rainwater collection from greenhouse roofs reduces runoff and provides a reliable source of clean water for irrigation.



WATER STORAGE

On-site storage tanks located inside the greenhouse ensure water is available when needed and protected from freezing.



FILTRATION SYSTEMS

Advanced filtration ensures clean, safe water for plants, reducing buildup and maintaining system efficiency.



DRIP IRRIGATION NETWORK

Efficient drip irrigation delivers water directly to plant roots, reducing waste and promoting strong, healthy growth.



MONITORING & CONTROLS

Smart monitoring systems track usage and conditions to optimize efficiency and support data-informed decisions.



SUSTAINABLE STEWARDSHIP

Conserving water today ensures a stronger tomorrow for agriculture, communities, and future generations.



CONSERVE WATER



SUPPORT GROWTH



IMPROVE EFFICIENCY



BUILD RESILIENCE



STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY



SECURE OUR FUTURE

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FOOD STORAGE & WALK-IN COOLER

Preserving Freshness • Reducing Waste • Strengthening Food Security



Reliable Storage for a Stronger Food System

The Food Storage & Walk-In Cooler provides the infrastructure needed to maintain the quality, safety, and freshness of locally grown produce. Proper storage reduces food waste, extends shelf life, and supports growers, community programs, food banks, and markets throughout the region. This critical capacity helps ensure that nutritious food is available when and where our communities need it most.



TEMPERATURE CONTROL

Maintains optimal temperatures to preserve freshness and prevent spoilage.



EXTENDED SHELF LIFE

Proper cooling extends the life of produce, reducing waste and losses.



SUPPORT FOR GROWERS

Provides storage capacity that helps growers manage harvest volume and timing.



FOOD SECURITY & ACCESS

Helps supply fresh, nutritious food to food banks, schools, and local wellness programs.



FOOD SAFETY STANDARDS

Supports safe handling and compliance with recommended food safety practices.



BUILT FOR THE FUTURE

Scalable infrastructure designed to grow with the needs of our community and region.



PRESERVE



REDUCE WASTE



SUPPORT GROWERS



IMPROVE ACCESS



BUILD RESILIENCE

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WASH/PACK & FOOD SAFETY FACILITY

Promoting Clean, Safe, and Ready-to-Serve Local Food



Ensuring Safety from Harvest to Table

The Wash/Pack & Food Safety Facility provides a clean, efficient space for washing, sorting, packing, and preparing fresh produce in accordance with food safety standards. This facility supports local growers, strengthens consumer confidence, and ensures nutritious food is handled with care from the moment it leaves the farm to the moment it reaches the table. Food safety is a shared responsibility—and a foundation for a healthier region.



CLEAN WASH SYSTEMS

Commercial-grade wash stations remove dirt and contaminants while protecting produce quality.



SORTING & QUALITY CONTROL

Careful inspection and sorting ensure only the highest quality produce reaches our communities.



EFFICIENT PACKING

Proper packing protects produce integrity, extends shelf life, and prepares food for distribution.



FOOD SAFETY STANDARDS

Designed to meet industry best practices for food safety, handling, and sanitation.



SUPPORTING LOCAL GROWERS

Provides growers with professional infrastructure to expand markets and serve more families.



HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Safe handling means healthier food for families, stronger programs, and a more resilient region.



CLEAN



INSPECT



PACK



PROTECT



PARTNER



NOURISH

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COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY

Strengthening Access to Fresh, Local, and Nutritious Foods



Food Security for a Stronger Tomorrow

The Caribou County Greenhouse & Cooperative strengthens community food security by increasing access to fresh, nutritious, locally grown foods for all residents. By combining year-round greenhouse production, local grower partnerships, food storage, and community distribution, we help ensure that every family has access to the healthy foods they need to thrive—today and for generations to come. Together, we are building a more resilient, self-reliant, and nourished Southeast Idaho.



IMPROVED ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD

Increasing availability of fresh, locally grown produce, fruits, and herbs for families, seniors, and vulnerable populations.



YEAR-ROUND AVAILABILITY

Greenhouse production extends our growing season, providing consistent access to fresh foods throughout the year.



SUPPORTING LOCAL FAMILIES

Affordable, healthy food helps families eat well, reduce food insecurity, and build stronger, healthier households.



COMMUNITY DISTRIBUTION

Partnering with local organizations, food pantries, and programs to get fresh food to those who need it most.



BUILDING RESILIENT COMMUNITIES

Strengthening our local food system to reduce reliance on distant supply chains and external uncertainties.



INVESTING IN OUR FUTURE

Healthy food today leads to healthier communities, stronger youth, and a more vibrant tomorrow.



NOURISH
Providing healthy food for body and mind.



STRENGTHEN
Strengthening families and building resilient communities.



CONNECT
Connecting growers, neighbors, and local food resources.



EMPOWER
Empowering individuals through access to healthy choices.



THRIVE
Thriving together through food, community, and hope.

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COMMUNITY WELLNESS & HEALTH

Healthy Food. Healthier Families. Stronger Communities.



Food Is More Than Agriculture

Access to fresh, nutritious foods directly influences health, wellness, quality of life, and long-term community resilience. Rural communities often face additional barriers to healthy eating, including higher food costs, limited availability of fresh produce, and fewer opportunities to access locally grown foods. Strengthening local food systems helps create healthier families and stronger communities.



BETTER NUTRITION

Fresh foods support healthier diets and improved quality of life.



FAMILY WELLNESS

Access to healthy foods benefits children, adults, and seniors alike.



COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Food brings people together through education, events, and shared experiences.



FOOD SECURITY

Reliable access to nutritious foods strengthens resilience during difficult times.



ACTIVE LIFESTYLES

Gardening and food production encourage lifelong healthy habits.



LONG-TERM RESILIENCE

Healthy communities are better prepared for future challenges.



NUTRITION



WELLNESS



FAMILY



CONNECTION



RESILIENCE

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COMMUNITY BENEFIT & REINVESTMENT MODEL

Revenue Supports Mission. Mission Does Not Serve Revenue.



A Mission-Driven Reinvestment Framework

The cooperative is designed as a self-sustaining community resource where revenue-generating activities support long-term public benefit. Income from greenhouse production, plant sales, propagation services, educational programs, agricultural products, specialty retail, and related activities may be reinvested into food access, education, demonstration gardens, workforce development, infrastructure improvements, and expanded community services throughout Southeast Idaho.



EARNED REVENUE

Greenhouse crops, plant sales, propagation services, workshops, and market operations help support long-term sustainability.



FOOD ACCESS

Reinvestment may expand access to fresh produce, healthy foods, and community food-security initiatives.



EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Revenue may support workshops, greenhouse training, youth engagement, and practical horticultural education.



DEMONSTRATION GARDENS

Surplus resources may improve public gardens, pollinator habitats, and educational landscape spaces.



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

The cooperative can support training, skill-building, agricultural mentorship, and local opportunity.



COMMUNITY SERVICES

Reinvestment strengthens infrastructure, beautification, seed-saving, outreach, and expanded regional support.



PRODUCE



EARN



REINVEST



EDUCATE



STRENGTHEN

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DEMONSTRATION GARDENS & COMMUNITY BEAUTIFICATION

Creating Attractive, Educational, and Functional Community Spaces



Growing Inspiration. Strengthening Communities.

Our Demonstration Gardens & Community Beautification projects create vibrant, sustainable spaces that educate, inspire, and bring people together. These gardens showcase climate-smart practices, support biodiversity, and enhance the beauty and livability of our community. By blending function with beauty, we create places where learning grows, connections flourish, and communities thrive.



BEAUTIFUL & WELCOMING SPACES

Thoughtfully designed gardens enhance public spaces, creating inviting environments for all to enjoy.



EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Hands-on learning opportunities teach sustainable gardening, nutrition, and environmental stewardship.



POLLINATOR & WILDLIFE HABITAT

Native plants and pollinator gardens support bees, butterflies, and beneficial wildlife year-round.



PRODUCTIVE DISPLAYS

Showcase raised beds, herbs, vegetables, and flowers to inspire home gardening and healthy living.



COMMUNITY CONNECTION

Shared spaces encourage volunteer involvement, events, and pride in our community landscapes.



SUSTAINABLE LANDSCAPES

Climate-appropriate plantings, efficient irrigation, and low-maintenance designs support long-term beauty.



BEAUTIFY OUR COMMUNITY



INSPIRE LEARNING & GROWTH



SUPPORT NATURE & BIODIVERSITY



STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY PRIDE



SUSTAINABLE BY DESIGN



BUILD A BRIGHTER FUTURE TOGETHER

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EDUCATION & TRAINING CENTER

Building Knowledge, Skills, and Community Through Practical Agricultural Education



Practical Education for Stronger Communities

The Education & Training Center provides hands-on learning opportunities designed to strengthen horticultural knowledge, food production skills, and community self-reliance throughout Southeast Idaho. Through workshops, demonstrations, seasonal classes, and community programs, participants gain practical experience in gardening, greenhouse management, food production, water conservation, landscape design, and sustainable growing practices adapted to local conditions.



GREENHOUSE PRODUCTION

Learning practical greenhouse management and season-extension techniques.



HOME & COMMUNITY GARDENING

Developing successful food gardens adapted to Southeast Idaho conditions.



WATER & IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT

Understanding efficient water use and conservation practices.



LANDSCAPE DESIGN & BEAUTIFICATION

Promoting climate-appropriate and water-wise landscaping.



FOOD PRODUCTION & PRESERVATION

Teaching growing, harvesting, storage, and preservation methods.



COMMUNITY WORKSHOPS

Providing continuing education opportunities for residents of all ages.



LEARN

Build knowledge that lasts.



GROW

Develop skills and confidence.



SHARE

Share knowledge and resources.



CULTIVATE

Cultivate community and connection.



IMPROVE

Improve lives and strengthen our future.

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ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Building Collaboration Through Shared Resources and Community Partnership



A Collaborative Community-Based Model

The Caribou County Greenhouse, Food Production & Wellness Cooperative is designed as a regional agricultural support initiative that brings together growers, educators, community organizations, and local partners through shared infrastructure, educational opportunities, and cooperative collaboration. The project is intended to strengthen local food production while supporting long-term community resilience and regional self-reliance.



APPLEGARTH GREENHOUSE & APOTHECARY

Project founder and operational coordinator responsible for facility development, administration, and program management.



COOPERATIVE GROWERS

Independent producers utilizing shared resources, infrastructure, educational opportunities, and regional collaboration.



COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Volunteer advisors providing community feedback, local knowledge, and strategic guidance.



EDUCATIONAL PARTNERS

Schools, extension programs, nonprofits, and organizations supporting agricultural education.



COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Food banks, wellness programs, civic organizations, and local initiatives working toward shared goals.



FUNDING & STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Grant providers, foundations, businesses, and organizations supporting project development.



LEAD



GROW



ADVISE



EDUCATE



PARTNER



SUPPORT

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COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Community Voices Guiding Regional Agricultural Resilience



Listening to the Community

The Community Advisory Council is envisioned as a volunteer group of local stakeholders who provide feedback, community insight, and practical guidance to help ensure that project activities remain responsive to regional needs. By bringing together diverse perspectives from agriculture, education, health, business, and community organizations, the council helps strengthen communication, collaboration, and long-term project success.



AGRICULTURAL PERSPECTIVES

Providing insight from growers, producers, and agricultural professionals.



EDUCATION & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Supporting educational opportunities and workforce development.



COMMUNITY WELLNESS

Helping identify local food access and wellness priorities.



BUSINESS & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Connecting project activities with regional economic opportunities.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Encouraging communication and participation throughout the region.



STRATEGIC GUIDANCE

Providing practical feedback to support long-term sustainability.



LISTEN



COLLABORATE



ADVISE



CONNECT



STRENGTHEN

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PROJECT INVESTMENT OVERVIEW

Phased Infrastructure Investment for Regional Agricultural Resilience



Strategic Investment in Regional Resilience

The Caribou County Greenhouse, Food Production & Wellness Cooperative is designed as a phased infrastructure investment rather than a single construction project. Each component strengthens the next: land supports facilities, greenhouse systems expand production, propagation supports growers, water infrastructure stabilizes crops, storage protects harvests, and education turns physical infrastructure into long-term community capacity.

Together, these investments create a practical regional food-resilience system capable of supporting local production, healthy food access, grower participation, educational programming, community wellness, and long-term economic sustainability throughout Southeast Idaho.



SITE FOUNDATION

Land, utilities, access, grading, and campus development create the physical base for growth.



GREENHOUSE SYSTEMS

Climate-controlled production expands growing seasons and improves crop reliability.



PROPAGATION CENTER

Seedling and transplant production supports growers, gardeners, and community programs.



WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Irrigation, storage, filtration, and monitoring systems stabilize agricultural production.



FOOD STORAGE

Cooler and post-harvest systems reduce waste, preserve quality, and support distribution.



EDUCATION & ACCESS

Training, wellness programs, gardens, and food access turn infrastructure into public benefit.



PLAN



BUILD



GROW



STORE



SERVE



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EXISTING ASSETS & IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

Building on Strong Foundations to Maximize Community Impact



Strong Foundations. Local Commitment.

The Caribou County Greenhouse, Food Production & Wellness Cooperative is not starting from zero. Existing greenhouse infrastructure, horticultural expertise, educational planning, business systems, outreach platforms, and founder investment already provide a practical foundation for implementation.

These in-kind contributions reduce startup costs, strengthen fiscal responsibility, and allow future funding to be directed toward expansion, completion, and measurable community benefit.



GREENHOUSE ASSETS

Existing steel structure, ventilation equipment, tools, and production resources provide a head start on implementation.



TECHNICAL EXPERTISE

Decades of experience in horticulture, propagation, greenhouse operations, landscape, water systems, and regional growing.



EDUCATION DESIGN

Existing training concepts, workshops, outreach programs, and demonstration garden planning strengthen community learning and impact.



BUSINESS SYSTEMS

Established structure, compliance, admin systems, vendor relationships, and financial management capacity support efficient operations.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Existing platforms, publications, relationships, and regional networks support engagement and strengthen public awareness.



FOUNDER INVESTMENT

Significant personal investment of time, labor, research, grant preparation, infrastructure acquisition, and leadership commitment.



LEVERAGE



STRENGTHEN



EXPAND



STEWARD



SERVE



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FUNDING STRATEGY & FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

Building a Self-Sustaining Model for Long-Term Community Impact



Revenue Supports Mission. Mission Does Not Serve Revenue.

The Caribou County Greenhouse, Food Production & Wellness Cooperative is designed to become a financially sustainable community resource. External funding, grants, philanthropic partnerships, industry support, community participation, earned revenue, and mission-focused reinvestment work together to reduce risk and strengthen long-term impact.

This balanced approach allows infrastructure to be built responsibly while future revenue supports education, food security, agricultural resilience, wellness, and expanded community services for Southeast Idaho.



GRANT FUNDING

USDA, agricultural, food security, health, workforce, stewardship, and community development grants support infrastructure, programs, and community benefit.



PHILANTHROPIC SUPPORT

Private foundations, regional partners, and mission-aligned charitable funding invest in long-term community health, education, and food security.



INDUSTRY PARTNERS

Mining, agriculture, equipment, healthcare, utilities, finance, and local business partners provide resources, expertise, and strategic support.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Volunteer labor, sponsorships, material donations, equipment contributions, and local expertise build ownership and reduce project costs.



EARNED REVENUE

Greenhouse crops, plant sales, propagation, workshops, market operations, events, agricultural services, and value-added products generate ongoing income.



MISSION REINVESTMENT

Surplus revenue strengthens education, food security, gardens, infrastructure, workforce training, and expanded community services.



FUND



PARTNER



EARN



REINVEST



SUSTAIN



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PROJECT COMPONENT SUMMARY

Coordinated Infrastructure for Regional Agricultural Resilience



A COORDINATED SYSTEM, NOT ISOLATED PROJECTS

The Caribou County Greenhouse, Food Production & Wellness Cooperative is designed as a phased, modular infrastructure system. Each component supports a specific regional need while strengthening the whole: land development, controlled-environment growing, propagation, water quality, food storage, food safety, community market access, demonstration landscapes, and horticultural education. Together, these components create a practical foundation for local food resilience, grower support, workforce development, and long-term community wellness.



SITE DEVELOPMENT

Land, utilities, access, grading, and future expansion capacity.



GREENHOUSE SYSTEMS

Climate-controlled infrastructure for extended-season regional production.



PROPAGATION CENTER

Seedling production, transplant supply, and grower support capacity.



WATER MANAGEMENT

Filtration, storage, fertigation, and reliable greenhouse water quality.



FOOD INFRASTRUCTURE

Cooler, wash/pack space, food safety, and produce handling systems.



COMMUNITY ACCESS

Market, wellness center, education, gardens, and public benefit programming.



BUILD



GROW



STORE



DISTRIBUTE



EDUCATE



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PHASED DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

A Practical Build-Out Plan for Long-Term Regional Resilience



BUILDING CAPACITY ONE PHASE AT A TIME

The Caribou County Greenhouse, Food Production & Wellness Cooperative is designed to grow through a realistic phased development strategy. Rather than depending on a single large funding event, the project can begin with essential site preparation and greenhouse completion, then expand into propagation, water infrastructure, food storage, wash/pack capacity, market access, education, and community programming. This approach allows funders, partners, and community supporters to invest in clearly defined stages while building toward a complete regional food-resilience system.



1. SITE READINESS

Secure land, utilities, access, grading, and basic development capacity.



2. GREENHOUSE COMPLETION

Finish the structure, climate systems, and protected growing space.



3. PROPAGATION CAPACITY

Establish seedling production, starts, transplant systems, and grower support.



4. WATER & STORAGE

Add water treatment, storage, cold storage, and food-handling support.



5. MARKET & WELLNESS

Develop local food access, real foods retail, wellness education, and community services.



6. EDUCATION & EXPANSION

Grow training, demonstration gardens, partnerships, and regional participation.



PREPARE



BUILD



GROW



STORE



SERVE

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EXPECTED COMMUNITY OUTCOMES & REGIONAL IMPACT

Strengthening Food Security, Education, Wellness, and Local Resilience



MEASURABLE BENEFITS FOR A STRONGER REGION

The Caribou County Greenhouse, Food Production & Wellness Cooperative is designed to create practical, visible, and long-term community benefits. By combining protected food production, local grower support, produce storage, food safety infrastructure, wellness education, and horticultural training, the project strengthens regional self-reliance while improving access to fresh food and practical agricultural knowledge. Its impact extends beyond a single greenhouse by supporting families, growers, students, local institutions, and the broader resilience of Southeast Idaho.



1. FOOD SECURITY

Improves local access to fresh produce and seasonal food supply.



2. GROWER SUPPORT

Provides starts, coordination, education, and shared infrastructure.



3. COMMUNITY WELLNESS

Connects healthy food access with practical wellness education and resources.



4. WORKFORCE TRAINING

Builds horticultural skills, food-systems knowledge, and local capacity for future opportunities.



5. REGIONAL RESILIENCE

Reduces dependence on distant supply chains and helps stabilize local food systems.



6. PUBLIC BEAUTIFICATION

Demonstrates climate-appropriate landscaping and builds community pride and unity.



NOURISH



TEACH



SUPPORT



STRENGTHEN



INSPIRE



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CLOSING VISION

Growing a More Resilient Future for Caribou County



A LIVING INVESTMENT IN COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

The Caribou County Greenhouse, Food Production & Wellness Cooperative represents a practical vision for strengthening local food access, agricultural education, community wellness, and regional self-reliance. By combining greenhouse production, grower support, food infrastructure, public education, and demonstration landscapes, the project creates a living foundation for long-term resilience. With the right partnerships and phased investment, this initiative can help Caribou County grow more food, teach more skills, nourish more families, and prepare more wisely for the future.



1. LOCAL FOOD

Expanding access to fresh, regionally grown produce for families, schools, and local institutions.



2. PRACTICAL SKILLS

Teaching gardening, greenhouse production, and food-system knowledge.



3. COMMUNITY HEALTH

Connecting nutrition, wellness, education, and community resources for stronger families.



4. REGIONAL STABILITY

Strengthening preparedness through local infrastructure and reliable food systems.



5. SHARED INVESTMENT

Creating opportunities for funders, partners, growers, businesses, and residents to invest together.



6. LASTING LEGACY

Building a resource that can serve and inspire future generations and a thriving region.



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