

2008 WFAN Annual Report

Dear WFAN Supporters and Friends,

As many of you know, 2008 was a time of rebuilding and refocusing for Women, Food and Agriculture Network.

After more than 10 years at the helm, WFAN's founder and only executive director, Denise O'Brien, made the decision to resign as coordinator to focus on her farming operation and pursue other career opportunities.

The board of directors of WFAN had several strategic discussions about the direction the organization could and should take. Then-board member Leigh Adcock was selected as the new executive director, and began her position in June. She immediately began coordinating the statewide flood relief coalition made up of more than a dozen farm and faith groups and funded primarily by Farm Aid to help the victims of 2008's storms and floods. More than \$40,000 was distributed to more than 80 families.

Our focus remains on providing a network for women engaged in sustainable agriculture – whether as farmers, advocates, eaters, academics or policy-makers. Our network's tools continue to evolve, as we move into the social networking arenas of Facebook and Twitter. We hope you'll join us there.

We continue to provide a quarterly 8-page newsletter full of color photos, information, and profiles of you and your work. A monthly e-bulletin keeps us in touch in the 8 other months. Our listserv has grown to nearly 150, and our email list has more than doubled – from around 300 in 2008 to 700 in 2009.

Clearly, the groundswell of support nationwide for safe and healthy food and conservation of our natural resources has translated into expanded interest in our work. Women have been and continue to be the primary drivers behind the alternative agriculture movement, better nutrition in schools, and building healthy communities for their families.

WFAN also has been aggressively pursuing foundation and federal funding for our program work, which in 2008 included two major efforts:

Women's Land Management Resource Center

Thanks to foundation support from the Kellogg Foundation, we are engaged in a feasibility study to provide consulting services to women farmland owners in Iowa on estate planning, conservation planning, accounting and budgeting. The project will produce a business plan by the end of 2009 which we intend to implement in 2010.

Women Caring for the Land

Women farmland owners also are being served by the Women Caring for the Land project, funded in 2008 by the McKnight Foundation and Farm Aid. This project, which began in February 2009, brings together groups of women landowners from two or three contiguous counties to share knowledge with one another and learn from women conservation professionals about how to improve soil and water conservation on their farmland.

Board Changes

Our board of directors was expanded in December 2008 with the addition of Sarah Long of Madrid, IA, Julie Wilber of Boone, IA, Hannah Lewis of Ames, IA, and Steph Larsen of Lyons, NE. Other board members at the end of 2008 included Cheri Grauer, Jana Linderman, Amy Miller, Stacey Brown, and Penny Brown Huber. We said goodbye to Sue Futrell of Iowa City after her many years of dedicated service to the organization.

As WFAN finished its 11th year, the need for the organization's activities became more apparent than ever. We thank those of you who have been with us on the journey, and those who are just joining our community. We are here to serve you, and want to hear from you about ways we can improve as we move together into

the future we envision and create together.

Warmly,
Jana Linderman, Board Chair
Leigh Adcock, Executive Director



WFAN Founder Moves On

After more than 10 years, WFAN co-founder Denise O'Brien of Atlantic, IA, left her position as coordinator of the organization in May 2008 to work full-time on her organic CSA, Rolling Acres Farm, and to pursue other work related to sustainable agriculture.

All of us involved with sustainable agriculture owe Denise an enormous debt of gratitude for her decades of passionate support and advocacy on the local, state, national and international levels. We are fortunate in that Denise continues to speak out on behalf of women in agriculture and of WFAN wherever she goes, and is always making connections with supporters and potential funders and passing these helpful links on to Leigh and the board.

Denise is currently co-coordinator of the 13th Annual Community Food Security Coalition annual conference, set for Oct. 10-13 in Des Moines, IA.

You may still reach Denise at denise@wfan.org.

In Appreciation

WFAN is honored to recognize those who made gifts in 2008. With our change in organizational structure in 2005, we do not ask for membership dues but rather ask for an annual donation. These gifts are essential to WFAN for general operating purposes, including our newsletter and website, and to help ensure that WFAN will continue to serve you and other women working in sustainable agriculture into the future.

Foundation & Corporate

W.K. Kellogg Foundation
McKnight Foundation
Farm Aid
Agricultural Missions
Fieldstone Alliance
Heifer International

Penny Brown Huber
Jane Bush
Mary Doerr
Linda Grove
Dana Jackson
Jana Linderman
Nancy McKlveen
Amy Miller
Linda and Henry Neuman
Susan Roberts
Claire Sponsler & Jeffrey Porter
Angie Tagtow

Angela Tedesco
Under \$100
Cece Arnold
Denyce Babinec-Rusch
Ann Baier
Fr. Marvin Boes
Patrick & Ann Bosold
Barbara Buss
Leslie Cooperband
Brian Depew
Jerry Dewitt
Caroline Dieterle
Kelley Donham

Lloyd Dumenil
Tanya Ferguson
Gloria Goll
Sara Gould
Gretchen Graff
Katy Hansen
Pat Harms
Ellen Heywood & Paul Ingram
Susan Jasper
Donna Larsen
Doris Malkmus
Jackie Miller
George Naylor

Denise O'Brien
Carolyn Palmer
Janis Peak
Sue Petersen
Geri Pettitt
Alta Price
Martha Schut
Marvin & Jan Shirley
Cesarie M. Simmons
Nancy Thomas
Sara Thomsen
Donna Winburn

\$100-\$499

Marlene Alberigo
Angela Beaman
Susan Beckett
Stacey Brown

2008 - 2009 Board of Directors

Jana Linderman — Chair
Cheri Grauer — Vice Chair
Sarah Long — Secretary
Hannah Lewis — Treasurer
Stacey Brown
Penny Brown-Huber
Steph Larsen
Amy Miller
Julie Wilber



Jana

Staff

Leigh Adcock — Executive Director
52384 150th St.
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Leigh

Mission

Linking and empowering women to build food systems and communities that are healthy, just, sustainable, and that promote environmental integrity.

Women, Food, and Agriculture Network 2008 Operating Statement

Revenues		
Individual Contributions		\$2,915
Corporations		\$950
Non-Profit Organizations		\$2,951
Fundraising Agencies		\$631
Foundations		\$69,529
Fee for Service		\$4,000
Total Revenues:		\$80,976
Expenses		
Personnel		\$25,171
Professional Services		\$9,612
Occupancy		\$594
Printing & Postage		\$512
Supplies		\$530
Travel & Conferences		\$1,102
Insurance		\$882
Communication & Outreach		\$643
Accounting Services & Fees		\$7,415
Total Expenses:		\$46,461
Revenues less Expenses:		\$34,515