

December 2009

Dear

**Founder**

Jamie Bemis

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We're already looking forward to 2010—our 17<sup>th</sup> season of *growing food* and *growing community*. We'll be farming additional land and welcoming more hands than ever to grow food for people in need. But we need your help this critical season so we can:

**Grow more food**

With the help of hundreds of volunteers, Gaining Ground grew a record 23,000 pounds of organic fruits and vegetables in 2009—and donated all of it to food pantries and meal programs in Concord and nearby towns. In these difficult economic times, demand for our produce continues to rise. Gaining Ground is committed to meeting this urgent need.

**Welcome new volunteers**

People of all ages and abilities help us grow food for hunger relief—and gave more than 7,500 hours of their time in 2009. Letters, e-mails, and poems flood our mailbox thanking us for a meaningful volunteer experience. To meet the demand for volunteer opportunities in the coming season, we're extending our growing season, cultivating more land, expanding our maple sugaring program, and more.

**Your donation matters more than ever**

With your support, we can provide more healthy food to those at greatest risk of going hungry *and* increase our volunteer opportunities so that more people can work and learn in our gardens.

We rely on generous individuals like you. Please give today.

Thanks for supporting Gaining Ground,

President, Board of Directors

For the Board