



OASIS Farms 2021

A year of new beginnings, new friends, and new ideas.



Farm participant works in the grow cellar

2021 proved to be a year of transition and renewal at OASIS Farms. While we kicked off the year in the midst of Covid shutdowns, the dedicated staff and faithful volunteers were able to prepare, sow and nurture one of the healthiest crops to date. The coldest months seedlings were planted and maintained in our basement growing area as plans for a better field design were in the works. Installation of full coverage, high grade weed matting and a renewed irrigation system made planting, weeding and harvesting more streamlined and enjoyable.

Volunteers ensured a successful 2021 harvest.



Volunteer Sue oversees planters



Girl Scout volunteers work the fields



Volunteer Craig keeps the grounds mowed and trimmed



Our friends from SBA Temple have given us countless hours of service

By early Spring plans for replacing the old, badly damaged out buildings were well on its way to becoming a reality. With the help of county grants and a Maryland State Capital Bond, we were able to expand the renovated garage by adding a carport to protect the attached open patio. A cement pad was poured to accommodate a large equipment shed replacing the old one destroyed in a storm. Our largest barn was demolished making way for a brand new steel structure that will hold farm supplies and equipment with plenty of room left over to conduct instructional workshops on a multitude of farming skills.



OASIS participants show off the new garage expansion



Left: Construction workers bring down the old barn.

Below: A new steel building is erected on the old barn foundation and a sturdy cement pad supports our brand new equipment shed.



The large, unobstructed spaces provide safe and efficient learning and storage areas



A new equipment shed being built



A new barn for OASIS Farms



Participants check out farm equipment in new building

The capital improvements at OASIS

are much appreciated as more and more adult service agencies reopen and sign on as participants at OASIS Farms. As Montgomery County moves toward post pandemic, OASIS has welcomed four additional participating partner agencies and three independent participants.



A participant learns about garden tools



Participants build shelves for the new storage shed

Late Summer and early Fall

brought the return of former participants and many new participants scheduled for weekly outings to OASIS Farms. Two instructional display TV's supported by Apple equipment have made lessons much more engaging. The interactive kiosks around the farm continue to provide just in time instruction for developing new skills.

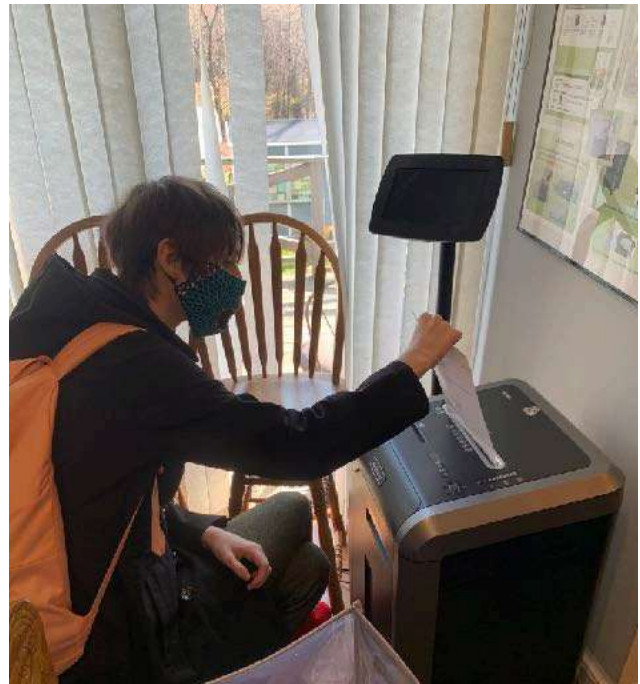
Document shredding and agricultural endeavors fill most days at OASIS Farms; but many textile crafts have been added and are enjoyed by the participants.



Many participants love to shred



Nurturing seedling plants is essential



Shredding can be done in the farm house or the more spacious garage



A participant makes seed bombs



Team Work!



You Go, Girl!



Our pumpkin patch was amazing

Hard work pays off! Our 2021 harvest has been one of the best to date. All of the workers, participants and volunteers at OASIS Farms can take pride in the beautiful harvest of late summer and fall.



Wow!



Check out those squash



Healthy eats



Beautiful veggies!



Delicious!

OASIS is a happy place.

While learning and developing vocational and life skills is a main focus at OASIS Farms, the socialization factor is essential to the community's success. Just look at these happy faces!



OASIS Farms grows "Happiness"



Noah collected natural materials for his DIY wreath



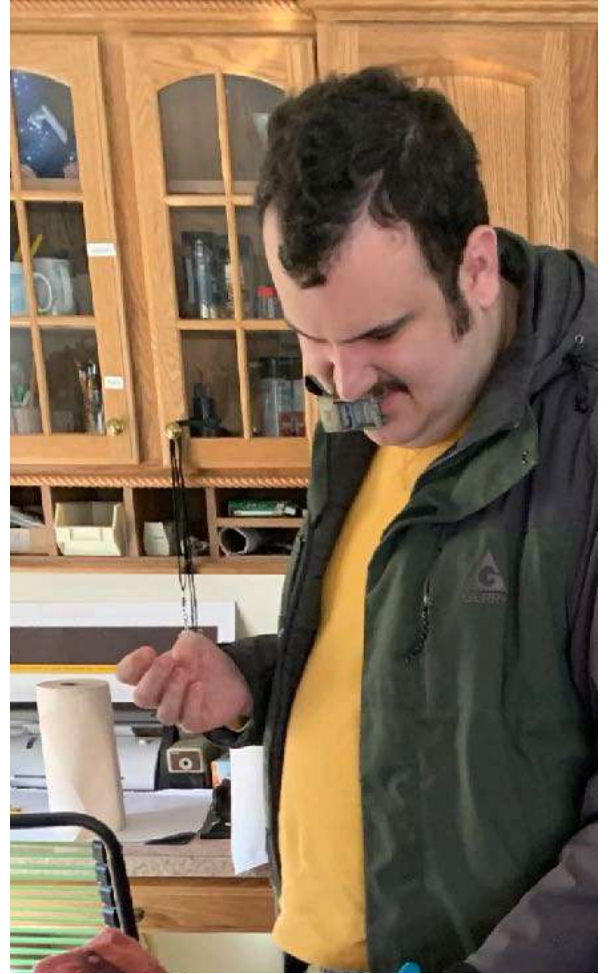
The best part is harvesting



All right!



A sense of belonging



A place where everybody fits



A place where all can succeed

OASIS Farms





Diana Jusino, Program Director



Prisca Rotich, Support Staff



Raj Rajagopal, President and Founder
Deb Leary, Grants Manager
Equipment volunteer, Ken Leary

**OASIS Staff wishes
you all a happy and
healthy holiday
season.**

**We appreciate your
support and hope that
you will continue to
help us to help those
we serve.**



Rory Boggs, On Site Volunteer



Patty & Craig Sullivan,
Responsible Volunteers