unfi®
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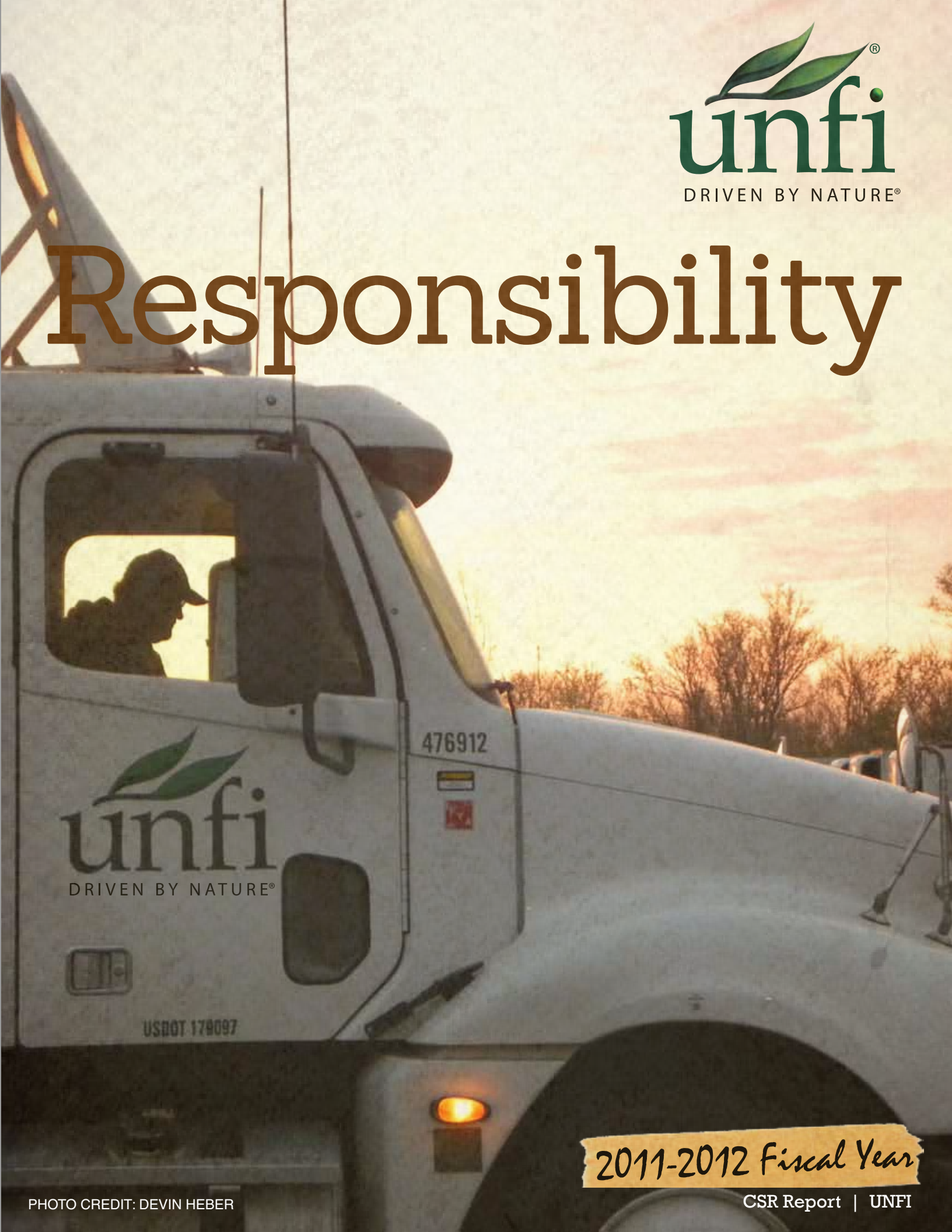
Responsibility



2011-2012 Fiscal Year

PHOTO CREDIT: DEVIN HEBER

"When the roots of UNFI were starting to sprout in the early 1970's, there was a belief that we needed to consider future generations in our actions. We needed to make sure our grandchildren inherited a world where food was healthy and farm land, water and air were pure. It wasn't just part of our job. It was our responsibility."

—Michael Funk
Chairman of the Board

Mission

To bring our customers the best selection of high-quality natural, organic and specialty food through a sustainable supply chain.

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From the President

Responsible corporate behavior focuses on accountability, transparency and engagement. At UNFI, we rely on these actions to help us continue to shape our sustainability and philanthropy mission. We remain committed to honoring our role of corporate citizenship, whether by supporting sustainable agriculture, increasing access to nutritious food, supporting our local communities, or reducing our carbon footprint.

Our report this year is a reflection of the efforts of our associates, and everyone else connected with United Natural Foods and our family of brands as we consider our impact, contributions and obligations to our communities.

Corporate social responsibility and sustainability are integrated business platforms that build long-term shareowner value. These platforms foster innovation, drive operational efficiency, and improve environmental performance.

UNFI's deep commitment to corporate social responsibility reflects our desire to remain responsive to consumers' expectations of the foods they choose for themselves and their families, while playing a part in building a healthy and sustainable world for future generations.

Steven L. Spinner
President and CEO, UNFI

Responsibility

To be responsible is to care, to be obligated, and to assume great challenges. Rather than accept things as they are we must take action to change them.

At UNFI, responsibility is not only part of our corporate culture; it is also intensely personal. We are a living example of a company committed to a triple bottom line - a passionate social and environmental conscience with shareholder value.

The stories in this report are just some examples of our work in core philanthropic and sustainability areas that include fighting hunger, providing humanitarian relief, protecting our environment, providing industry support, and giving to our local communities.

Fighting hunger in America, reaching out to a proud generation

Implementing sustainable energy **technologies to decrease UNFI's environmental impact**

Leading efforts to cultivate government support **for organic farming**

Building energy efficient facilities using sustainable design **practices**

Providing nutrients **for children and families that are in need**

Bringing Fair Trade **to small banana growers in Ecuador and Peru**

Applauding associates who make a difference in their community

Enhancing our commitment **to philanthropy and sustainability with the creation of a new UNFI Foundation**

5 in five
GHG REDUCTION GOAL

1. Conservation

Energy-GREEN POWER

From solar panels that generate renewable energy, to Green-e Certified power purchases, UNFI continues to build on its commitment to incorporate environmentally sustainable practices into present and future activities.

By investing in Green-e Certified projects, community wind projects, and low impact hydrogen projects, UNFI is lowering it's reliance on fossil fuels.

This past year UNFI began partnering with Bonneville Environmental Foundation (BEF) to purchase 1,390,000-kilowatt hours of renewable energy credits. In keeping with UNFI's goal of achieving five percent greenhouse gas reduction from 2009 levels, the BEF renewable energy credits offset electricity for UNFI's entire Ridgefield-Washington facility.

As seen in our inventory data, emissions have stabilized throughout the company despite our continued increase in growth. This is largely due to initiatives taken on by the Transportation Team to reduce driver idle time and increase Miles Per Gallon (MPG). UNFI remains dedicated to finding solutions that will help to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide emissions produced in our business operations. The Sustainability Team is working diligently to find technologies that will help us save both environmental and economic resources and help us achieve our GHG mitigation goals.

5 in five
GHG REDUCTION GOAL

Greenhouse Gas Mitigation Goal
In 2009, UNFI announced its emissions reduction target of 5 percent in 5 years.

2009
132,308 $mtCO_2e$
2010
133907 $mtCO_2e$
2011
133957 $mtCO_2e$

($mtCO_2e$ stands for metric tons carbon dioxide equivalents)

PHOTO CREDIT: MADELINE NOLAN

PHOTO CREDIT: DEVIN HERBER

Select Nutrition Digital Catalog

Digital catalogs save money, are good for the environment, and are easier to use. In October, 2011 Select Nutrition began transitioning to a digital monthly sales catalog. The number of printed copies sent via common carrier or in the mail has been reduced by 50 percent. The digital distribution list is growing and sales team members are sending the digital edition to their customers. Approximately 3,250 retailers now have access to the digital catalog.

"Copies sent via common carrier or in the mail have been reduced by 50 percent"

"From my perspective, we live in an eggshell. We only have so much atmosphere to work with, and only so many resources at our disposal. I have two grandchildren, one is 8 weeks old, and the other is 9 years old. It is a comfort to know that their future is getting better because of the work we're doing at UNFI. My responsibility, the focus on sustainability with the UNFI fleet – it's not just a band-aid; it's long term; it's something that will continue to pay dividends to us as a company and to the future for our children and grandchildren."

-Blair Altemus
UNFI National Fleet Manager

UNFI Fleet

- **1349 vehicles under the UNFI banner**
- **UNFI has increased its fuel economy from an average of 6.12 MPG during Fiscal Year 2011 to 6.39 MPG during Fiscal Year 2012. This is an increase in MPG of 4.4% year over year. This increase in MPG reduced UNFI fuel consumption by 320,000 gallons for Fiscal Year 2012.**
- **UNFI's governed speed of 63 MPH has assisted in the continued increase in MPG and the reduced consumption of fuel.**
- **To further assist UNFI in increasing MPG and to decrease our need for fossil fuels UNFI is investing heavily in training and education in our routing and on-board technologies. UNFI has put an emphasis on reviewing all routing to ensure the most efficient and effective routes are run in all of our DC's. For Fiscal Year 2011 UNFI average 418 mile per route and in Fiscal Year 2012 UNFI has reduced this number to 400 mile per route. In Fiscal Year 2012 UNFI shipped 125,000 routes.**
- **UNFI has started to install APU's (Auxiliary Power Units) in all sleeper tractors. This allows the driver when stopped to rest in the tractor and not idle. The APU is a battery powered unit that runs the AC and heater when needed without running the tractor which reduces fuel consumption and UNFI's carbon foot print.**
- **UNFI's fleet specifications restrict a truck to idling no more than 5 minutes.**

PHOTO CREDIT: DEVIN HERBER

2. Sustainable Design

1. Moreno Valley, CA

8 trucks in the fleet run on compressed natural gas (CNG)

4. Sarasota, FL

Hydrogen fuel cell technology on reach trucks

2. Chesterfield, NH

Energy Star rated facility, marking it as one of the most efficient distribution facilities in the nation for superior energy efficiency and environmental protection

3. Dayville, CT

550-kilowatt solar panel array installed on the roof

5. York, PA

Facility is LEED® Gold Certified and Energy Star rated

7. Ridgefield, WA

First refrigerated warehouse to ever receive the LEED® Gold Certification

9. Providence, RI

LEED® Silver Certified, featuring a 142 kilowatt solar panel array

8. Rocklin, CA

Roof boasts a 1.2 Megawatt solar array, offsetting over 60% of electricity needed to run the building's refrigeration unit.

6. Lancaster, TX

LEED® Gold Certified facility

3. Industry Organizations

Now, perhaps more than ever, families in our country are paying closer attention to the food we eat, where it comes from, what is in it and how it impacts our health. Organic agriculture is among the fastest-growing sectors in food production. It is creating jobs in rural America and lucrative market opportunities for American family farmers.

UNFI financially supports and interacts with strategic organizations that are key to the overall success of the organic industry. It is an industry that is growing at an annual average rate of 9 percent, even in one of the worst downturns in the country's history. UNFI supports a myriad of groups in order to network and be aware of the various components that make up the organic industry. We work with organizations that promote sustainable agriculture, fair trade, and organic farming practices. Examples of our affiliations include the Organic Trade Association, the Food Trade Sustainability Leadership Organization, the Organic Seed Alliance, the Organic Farming Research Foundation and The Organic Center. We always give a percentage of our sales to industry and organic causes. This year UNFI is working closely with the various organizations to advocate for important funding in the 2012 Farm Bill. The bill is the second largest piece of legislation second only to the defense bill in spending. It supports food production and consumption in the U.S., setting the tone and direction for the future. This year UNFI is part of an effort to shift that direction to support a healthier lifestyle and sustainable organic agriculture.

Continued growth of organic agriculture requires modest but important investments in programs that provide the foundation for innovation, global competitiveness and job growth. Uniform organic standards, oversight, research and market information all will help offset the costs of organic certification for small businesses, and provide risk management tools appropriate for the organic sector.

UNFI supports efforts to include funding for upgraded technology for the National Organic Program (NOP), which enforces national organic standards, accredits certification and ensures the integrity of the organic seal.

UNFI is also supporting Farm Bill funding for competitive grants dedicated to organic research, including projects that range from improving weed management and developing organic seed to enhancing environmental sustainability and carbon sequestration on organic farms.

78%
U.S. families are buying organic

17,600
Certified organic farms, ranches and businesses nationwide

$31 Billion
Amount generated by the organic industry

4x
The organic industry creates jobs at a rate 4 times the national average

ZUCCHINI CROPS - KARINA MILLILO

ORGANIC VEGETABLES - KARINA MILLILO

Non-GMO Project Founding Member

UNFI is one of the founding members of the non-GMO Project, which provides third party certification for non-GMO (genetically modified organisms) products. The Project works to create one standard in which consumers can have confidence in when buying their food. UNFI continues to support right to know campaigns that would require genetically engineered products' labeling. Over 40 countries including Europe, Japan and even China require GMO labeling. In the U.S., California may be the first state to require the labeling. The mandate is on its November 2012 ballot.

• With over 600+ SKUs enrolled; Blue Marble Brands, a UNFI company, is the leading non-retail food company participating in the non-GMO project

4. Corporate Giving

UNFI's commitment to give back to the communities in which we operate is flourishing, thanks to the enthusiasm and assistance of our associates. Whether working on farms and restoration projects, planting trees and tending community gardens, or cleaning up watersheds and volunteering for food banks, UNFI associates are making a difference. They embrace a culture of being good to the environment, giving to others, and working together to support sustainability and philanthropic initiatives.

Helping Hands Committees are comprised of associate volunteers who are passionate about supporting UNFI's core value of philanthropy. The Committees build partnerships with local charitable organizations through both monetary donations and volunteer projects.

Associates across the country are creating action plans, taking direct responsibility for them, and making it their own. The accomplishments described on the right are just a small sample of the hundreds of projects undertaken by our associates through our Corporate Giving programs over the past year.

$7 Million

UNFI's Total Corporate Giving, Including Food and Monetary Donations

30

Number of UNFI Community Teams within the United States

American Forests

Since 2007, UNFI and its associates have partnered with American Forests, the nation's oldest nonprofit conservation organization, to replant trees in areas that have been damaged by wildfires. Through American Forests' Global ReLeaf® program, UNFI donations have funded the planting of 45,103 trees nationwide. Planting just one large tree can provide a supply of oxygen for two people, and generate a net cooling effect equivalent to 10 room-sized air conditioners!

PHOTO CREDIT - DEVIN HEBER

“You have to take ownership for the vision you want to create; take responsibility, learn what you can, create solutions, and most importantly, pass it on. That’s what UNFI does with our charitable giving through the new UNFI Foundation and various local initiatives. At the end of the day, taking responsibility by doing the right thing for people and the planet is what makes UNFI successful.”

—Jeff Fontaine
UNFI Director of External Reporting

Habitat for Humanity

Many of our UNFI locations have partnered with local chapters of Habitat for Humanity, a non-profit organization based on the belief that every man, woman and child should have a decent, safe and affordable place to live. Nearly 100 UNFI associates have donated 400 hours to participate in building houses for Habitat for Humanity.

619 Total Associates Participated in our Corporate Volunteer Program

3,724 Total Hours Volunteered for Local Charitable Projects

150 Field Sales Associates **1,050** hours

150 UNFI Field Sales Associates, challenged due to geographic spread, that volunteered for projects in their local communities

American Cancer Society

UNFI Associates across the country support the American Cancer Society in its fight against cancer and efforts to find a cure. Many, like Margaret Loew, Vice President of Special Projects, have been affected by cancer.

"I, myself, am a cancer survivor," Loew says. *"My passion is to help make a difference and take my own stance on philanthropic responsibility."*

Margaret is actively involved with the Natural Born Heroes, a UNFI sponsored team at the Dayville Distribution Center for Relay for Life, which raises funds for the American Cancer Society. *"I'll always be out there giving,"* says Loew, *"I'll never really retire."*

- Margaret Loew

Vice President of Special Projects

$65,000

Amount of Donations by UNFI Associates to support Cancer Research

PHOTO CREDIT - KEITH M STEFFEN

Community Garden Story

Across the country, UNFI associates volunteer at community gardens to help plant, grow and harvest produce for local food banks. In many cases, these gardens also serve as educational and employment training centers for children and those who are unemployed or disabled. Partnership with these gardens provides UNFI and its associates the opportunity to work directly with those who support sustainable agriculture while giving back to those in need.

PHOTO CREDIT MATT DAYKA

5. Vitamin Angels

UNFI supports Vitamin Angels, which provides critical vitamins for expectant mothers and children from six months to five years in countries around the world.
In February, UNFI's Director of Sustainability and Philanthropy, Lisa Madsen, and President of Blue Marble Brands, Chris Testa, traveled to the Dominican Republic with Vitamin Angels.

Lisa Madsen, Chris Testa, and Howard Schiffer participated in the 2012 Vitamin Angels program .

Why did you want to go?

Chris:

I lead such a lucky life and feel like I've been blessed with good fortune and health. I have a desire to give something back. If you want to grow as a person, you need to experience first hand how other people go through life and view life.

Lisa:

I wanted to be out in the field meeting the children and their mothers to see how we could help and the difference we are making. The living conditions we saw were extremely challenging. It's incredible that people in this day and age are living without electricity, running water or ready access to healthy diets and medical care.

Did it change you?

Chris:

I think it definitely did. It's not wanting what you don't have that's important, it's wanting what you do have. The people were amazing. They weren't asking for money, or something they saw on TV. They were very focused on the same basic needs and wants that we all have. They want their kids to have a better life, self-respect, and love.

I have a five, eight, and 10- year-old. Shortly after I came back, my son wanted to know why we wouldn't knock down the walls of the house so he could have a bigger bedroom. I took him aside and told him that I just came from a house where they have dirt floors, don't have a bathroom. That was a perspective he just hadn't even considered.

As Americans, we don't realize the medicinal value of our food. We're in the food business, eating good food can change your life; it really can. I've always believed that, lived my life that way - still it was incredibly impactful to see how providing even the smallest vitamin dose made a huge difference.

Lisa:

What amazed me was how happy and joyous these families were in spite of their challenges. They were patient, calm and hopeful about the future. I realized I am trying to raise my children in a world with too much, and the mothers there are trying to raise their children in a world with too little. We have different sets of circumstances, resources and opportunities, but at the core of it all we're trying to accomplish the same thing. We all have a focus on family. We want our children to be healthy; we want them to know they are loved. We want them to grow up and realize their full potential.

My children have so much, but they take it for granted. When I arrived home, I just stood in my daughter's doorway, amazed at how much stuff we really have. I wanted my children to understand, so I showed them the pictures of the Dominican Republic. After seeing the pictures, my daughter stood up and ran to collect her dolls so she could send them to the children.

What is UNFI's responsibility as a leading organic food distributor?

Chris:

If you want to find out who you are, you start at your roots. The people who started UNFI got into the organic business because they wanted to provide a better future and better foods for our kids. We are staying true to those roots, taking responsibility to use our resources to help others, while also providing good returns for our shareholders. I'm very proud that UNFI has made the commitment to use our resources to help.

Lisa:

UNFI is passionate about providing access to healthy, nutritious food to improve health. We truly believe we can make a difference, and believe we have a responsibility to do what we can, not just by selling products, but also by education, advocacy, support, and becoming actively involved in organizations that align with our priorities, like Vitamin Angels.

vitamin angels

Thrive to Five

Vitamin Angels program to distribute essential micronutrients to children under five and pregnant and lactating women. UNFI was a proud sponsor of the 2011 Dominican Republic distribution trip.

25 cents

The cost to reach one child for one year with two essential doses of Vitamin A, reducing malnutrition, infection, blindness, and mortality

32,250

Number of children 6-59 months that received Vitamin A doses in 2011 through Thrive to Five

20,166

Number of children 6-59 months that received multivitamin tablets in 2011 through Thrive to Five

2,151

Number of pregnant and lactating women that received multi-vitamin capsules as a result of Thrive to Five

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6. UNFI Foundation

In May of 2012, UNFI announced the formation of a charitable foundation, which will reinforce our mission of promoting a healthy, organic and sustainable food system.

The UNFI Foundation will fund innovative new programs that support the development of healthy, sustainable foods and food practices, and the health of our planet. The Foundation's priorities are to increase organic sustainable agriculture and encourage good nutrition through healthy food choices.

Research and Transparency
The Foundation will focus on supporting organizations that provide research and science, and bring transparency to our food system. Examples of this are those who work to protect the biodiversity of our seed supply, and the stewardship of genetic resources of organic seed. It will also fund programs that provide research and science to help develop organic farming practices. The Executive Director, Melody Meyer, will work closely with organizations within the Natural and Organic Industry which promote transparent labeling in our food supply.

Education and Nutrition
Another important area of focus for the Foundation is that of education and nutrition. It will support organizations that teach sustainable farming practices to promote conservation of resources. Grants will be available to fund conferences and collaborative education forums for new and innovative ideas. Programs that provide education on the importance of healthy food choices, and the relationship between food and health will also be a priority. Lastly, support will be provided for those who help supply nutrients and micro-nutrients to at-risk populations.

Supporting new organic and sustainable farmers
Recognizing the need to develop more organic farms and farmers to meet the growing demand for organic products, the Foundation will support organizations that seek to increase the 17,600 certified organic farms in our country, and also to foster the next generation of sustainable and organic farmers.

In the words of Melody Meyer, *"This initiative provides another wonderful opportunity for UNFI to make a meaningful difference with the growers, right at the beginning, where it counts. I believe we have a responsibility to make a difference in our community, be it at the local or the global level."*

— Melody Meyer
UNFI Vice President Policy and Industry Relations

A New Way to Serve – Veteran Farmers

With fewer young people entering the farming profession, and concerns about the graying of American farmers, UNFI is supporting efforts to mentor a new generation of farmers while also helping veterans re-enter the workforce. The Farmer-Veteran Coalition (FVC) helps veterans transition from the military to agricultural careers. UNFI partnered with FVC to sponsor the attendance of 22 military veterans at the 32nd annual Eco-Farming Conference, where they learned about local, organic and sustainable agriculture.

7. Fair Trade

Bananas are the most popular fruit in the world, and the main fruit in international trade. In terms of volume, they are the number one exported fruit, with almost the entire banana crop coming from developing countries. Yet historically, small growers were limited in their ability to bring their produce to international markets and crippled by the volatile prices that are often below the cost of production.

Fair Trade Certification is a market-based model of international trade that benefits more than one million farmers and farm workers in 70 developing countries across Asia, Africa and Latin America. Fair trade prices and premiums offer a unique development approach, which guarantees financial investment in community development. Fair Trade builds sustainable futures for small farmers by supporting quality products, funding community development and putting in place strong environmental standards. Those standards prohibit GMOs and dangerous chemicals, promote biodiversity and limited carbon emission, and incentivize organic production.

Albert's Organics is helping farmers bring their organic bananas and other products to the U.S. market by supporting three small grower associations. They are: Cerro Azul and Urocal in Ecuador– all of which use Albert's Organics as their exclusive importer. By uniting and obtaining Fair Trade Certification, the farmers are able to bring services and a sense of prosperity to their communities that they could not achieve by working alone.

Fair Trade ensures a stable price that covers production and living costs to help farmers escape from poverty and provide a decent standard of living for their families. It guarantees minimum floor prices and social premiums for these banana farmers. Combined with gaining fair labor conditions, growers are able to realize premiums and use them to fund projects that would not otherwise be possible, such as health care, running water, bathrooms and new schools.

With a firm commitment to the Fair Trade program, representatives from Albert's Organics have made multiple trips to Ecuador and Peru to meet directly with the banana growers and to visit their farms. They help improve the quality of operations, and offer advice and assistance to farmers as they develop business skills necessary to compete in the global marketplace. Fair Trade empowers farmers and farm workers to lift themselves out of poverty. It enables producers to invest in their farms, their communities and to protect the environment.

As customers become increasingly concerned about the state of the world and look for opportunities to use their power in the marketplace to make a positive difference, Albert's Organics is helping provide an avenue for consumers to vote with their dollar. Fair Trade Certification enables consumers to opt for a better world with their dollars simply by looking for the Fair Trade label on bananas they buy. When consumers buy Fair Trade bananas they are doing far more than making a food purchase; they are making an investment in people's lives.

FAIR TRADE CERTIFIED™

$420,000

Total contributed by Albert's Organics in Community Development Funds since 2006

62%

Year over year growth in commitment to Fair Trade

4.5 million pounds

Albert's total Fair Trade organic volume for 2010

ALTER ECO + unfi DRIVEN BY NATURE

20 laptops

UNFI partnered with Alter Eco, one of our suppliers, to donate 20 laptop computers to quinoa farmers in the Bolivian Southern Altiplano. Alter Eco works with marginalized farmers to develop a wide range of Fair Trade products. The computers, distributed to the quinoa producers cooperative (ANAPQUI), are assisting farmers in crop planning, traceability, organic program monitoring and implementation, improving crop yield and production techniques.

Through Fair Trade, ANAPQUI has experienced considerable export growth. Due to increased trade, Fair Trade farmers are seeing larger incomes and therefore have been able to improve their quality of life. Cooperative members cite better housing, clothing, and more education for their children, greater access to health services and the ability to reinvest additional incomes into their farms.

8. In Good Company

In September UNFI began participating in Clifbar's *"In Good Company"* program. One fortunate UNFI associate traveled to Arizona for 10 days to help build a home for a family living on the Hopi Reservation. The Hopi people particularly struggle with housing within their community, and often have generations of families living under one roof.

"There is a moment when it seems your life stops, your perception shifts, and everything after changes. The Hopi proverb says," All time is present now." That was the case when we first set foot on the Hopi Reservation.

A wise and weathered couple, Sonia and Everett Adams, met us. They had been living on the reservation in a three-bedroom house with 12 other family members, a living situation that was at best jam-packed. Many in the Hopi tribe live in poverty. They struggle with health, have limited material possessions, and labor to meet basic daily living needs. Yet amidst all that, there is a spiritual calmness and sense of peace.

Our responsibility, with Clifbar and Red Feather Development Group, was to build a house that would accommodate the Adams family, stabilizing their current living condition. Sonia is the matriarch of her family, and a community leader within the tribe. Despite the clear problems that the reservation faces, the Hopi people are proud of their community and cherish their culture. Even when tribe members leave the reservation, go to college or pursue other outside activities, they often return. Above all else they value and take pride in their families, their spiritual connection with each other, and with their community. The monetary gains that so many of us focus on in society take a backseat to creating a stronger, healthier community. I admire that, and in a way I feel those same values are reflected in the UNFI outlook that focuses on the triple bottom line.

The spirit of the Hopi is something that you can't teach, but you most certainly can learn from it. At UNFI we share some values with the Hopi people; we have a responsibility to provide for our community. It's the nature of our job, whether it be helping to bolster our associate relief fund, or working with our communities and partner organizations, we find avenues to maintain that sense of community.

The house that we built for the Adams family will be passed down not just to immediate generations, but also for generations to come. It stands as a symbol of strength and commitment to helping those in need. I think that is our true responsibility at UNFI. To make sure that everyone has an equal chance at a good quality of life. Through food, nutrition programs, initiatives like the Hopi build, we stand by our community and are proud to be dedicated to bettering the lives of everyone within it. Together we made a difference.

Crudem Well

In Northern Haiti, the region's largest hospital, Hôpital Sacré Coeur (HSC), struggles to maintain a clean, predictable water supply. The water from three 60-70 foot wells is questionable, putting patients at the 73-bed hospital at risk of bacteria exposure and contamination. That is about to change. With a grant from UNFI to the CRUDEM Foundation, and a donation from Project Hope, a new 200-foot well is being drilled and a 6,000-gallon capacity solar water purification system will be online in the fall of 2012.

9. Fighting Hunger

The face of hunger is not always recognizable. It looks like many different types of Americans, including college graduates, middle-class families, the elderly, and even small children. It includes diverse populations that span across the nation and that many would never expect.

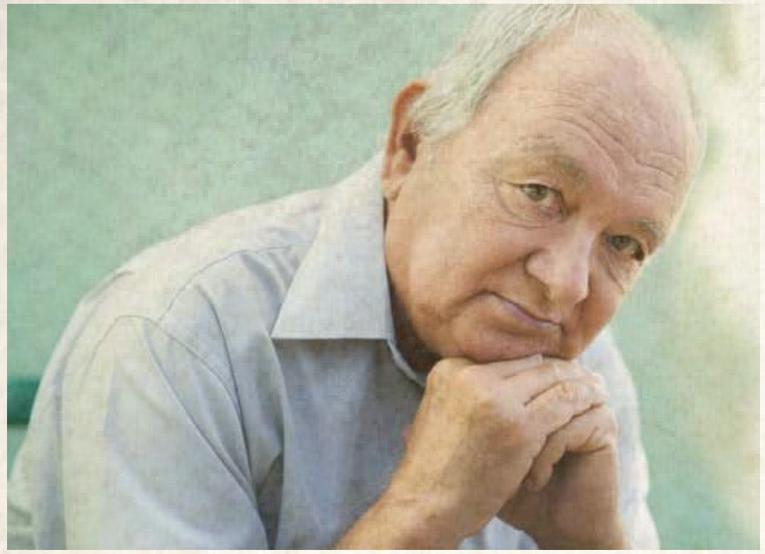
For one out of six people in the United States, hunger is a reality. UNFI partners with Feeding America and is working diligently to make that reality history. Our corporate partnership is also personal for many UNFI associates. Many associates work with food banks, partner with community organizations, and raise money and donations to help provide nutritious food for those in their community.

In Lancaster, Texas, UNFI Director of Human Services, Crystal Brennan joins a crew of UNFI associates that works to combat hunger in their community.

"We raise money, we make donations of food, and we spend time helping," said Brennan. *"You know, many of those we help are our neighbors; their children go to school with our kids; they may be folks who are just down on their luck."*

There is a need for over 300,000 meals every day in the North Texas area. One in four children in Dallas County alone is food insecure, and Crystal and other UNFI associates commit themselves to helping. This year UNFI donated over 490,000 pounds of food in North Texas.

"We feel it is our responsibility to help our community where we can, as much as we can," Brennan said.



Fighting Hunger for Seniors

In a perfect world, retirement means relaxing by the beach, traveling the world, or playing a quick nine on a beautiful summer day, letting all the stresses of life melt away with age and wisdom. But for a growing number of Americans, retirement means scraping together the little they have to pay for essentials, like housing and food. Some 8.3 million seniors, Americans 60 and older, face the threat of hunger.

UNFI is partnering with Nourish America to provide healthy food and vitamins for seniors. It's not easy. Often seniors will decline assistance, insisting that available aid go to younger families; or seniors may be too proud to accept help- even if it is desperately needed.

This past year, a grant from UNFI provided nutritional supplements and nourishing foods for more than 1,000 seniors, in the Shenandoah, IA area. The assistance also provided disaster relief in the form of chewable vitamins for seniors citizens in small towns in the Midwest that were hit by devastating tornados and floods.

FEEDING® AMERICA

UNFI is proud to partner with Feeding America to provide its member agencies with millions of pounds of food each year. In addition, our associates spend time volunteering at food banks, soup kitchens and shelters. They hold fund-raising drives, collect needed food items, spend time assembling holiday food baskets, and put together lunch boxes and backpacks for kids. Ensuring that all people have access to nutritious foods is paramount to the mission of UNFI.

Over $4 Million

Pounds of Food Donated

$6,386,778

Value of Food Donated to Feeding America in Fiscal Year 2012

10. Conclusion

UNFI takes its' responsibility to the environment and local communities seriously. Everything we do is built on the belief that we can continue our growth trajectory in a responsible and sustainable way. Our associates are a big part of that; they bring the power of ideas; they work to implement initiatives that replenish the environment, reduce our carbon footprint and contribute to the communities in which we operate. Our shared success reflects and carries forward UNFI's deep-rooted and long-standing values.

—Tom Dziki

SVP, Chief Human Resources & Sustainability Officer

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CSR Report | 2011-2012 Fiscal Year

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