



NEWS RELEASE
For Immediate Release
December 23, 2020

Contact: Brooke Pierce
Investment Director
Sun Valley Institute for Resilience
(914) 275-2775
brooke@sunvalleyinstitute.org

Impact Idaho Fund Poised to Provide Capital for Local Farms

Hailey, ID – Sun Valley Institute for Resilience has identified three regional farms for the pilot of their new Impact Idaho Fund. With the generous support of individuals and more recently an inspirational grant from the Heinz Family Foundation, the Impact Idaho Fund is more than half of the way through its preliminary capital raise. The initial funding focuses on projects that employ resilient agriculture practices to address critical gaps in the regional food system.

The Impact Idaho Fund is designed to attract and mobilize mission driven capital for innovative projects advancing community resilience in central and southern Idaho. Specifically, investments will target the buildout of sustainable, renewable, and regenerative practices related to food and agriculture, land, water, and energy use.

The identified recipients for the pilot round are Itty Bitty Farms in Carey, ID, scaling up local food production through season extension infrastructure and on-farm retail store improvements; Lookout Farm in Bellevue, ID, transitioning two acres from animal feed to seasonal vegetables; and Harmony Hens in Twin Falls, ID, expanding into organic pasture-raised meat birds and building a USDA-inspected on-farm poultry processor. Through the pilot, the Impact Idaho Fund seeks to demonstrate successful business and investment models to activate a larger pool of capital for future community resilience investments.

“Transforming our regional food system will positively impact our energy, water, and soil resources. It will dramatically re-shape our relationship with our land, our health, and the food on our plate,” states Lexie Praggastis, Executive Director of the Sun Valley Institute for Resilience. “The Impact Idaho Fund is critical to activate capital for the businesses that will lead this transformation. We are thrilled by the community support of this program and look forward to providing the funds to farmers before the start of the 2021 growing season.”



For more information and opportunities for supporting the Impact Idaho Fund visit sunvalleyinstitute.org/impact-idaho-fund

About Sun Valley Institute

The Impact Idaho Fund is a project of the Sun Valley Institute for Resilience (SVIR). SVIR is a catalyst for lasting quality of place, advancing economic, ecological and social resilience by pioneering transformative solutions from our home in central Idaho. We build social, economic and ecological resilience by connecting capital to community needs, fostering collaboration, raising awareness and serving as a catalyst for change. This history of advancing resilience allows SVI to mobilize resources in the face of the current COVID-19 pandemic. Sun Valley Institute is dedicated to supporting our whole community and we are working to connect resources to the people who need them most. Please reach out by email or through our social media with any community needs that you are seeing. For more information, please visit: www.sunvalleyinstitute.org and follow the institute on Twitter @SunValleyInst and Instagram at @SunValleyInstitute and Facebook at facebook.com/sunvalleyinstitute.