



  
**unfi**  
DRIVEN BY NATURE®

fiscal Year

# CSR Report 2010-2011

# a letter from **the ceo**

At UNFI we strive to hire people who are bright, motivated and committed to working in an environment driven by constant improvement. Equally important is a willingness to embrace our culture of being good to the environment, philanthropic and a belief in doing “what’s right” in everything we do.

This is UNFI’s second Corporate Sustainability Report and over the past year, I have become even more proud to have joined a company with such outstanding associates.

Each day I hear stories about associates proposing new ways to save energy, give to others, or work together to support our sustainability and philanthropy initiatives. Whether it’s through a company-sponsored event or on their own time, our associates are constantly contributing and making significant efforts to reduce their carbon footprint. Corporately we stand by our goal to reduce our carbon footprint by 5% by the year 2014 and have enabled tracking and monitoring systems which will guide us towards achieving this objective.

Today we are more committed than ever to supplying our customers with natural, organic and specialty foods in the most energy efficient manner possible. In 2010, we opened our fourth LEED®-certified facility in Lancaster, Texas, which significantly improved our fuel utilization. Through constant monitoring and improved technology, UNFI has reduced the number of route miles and greatly increased our fuel efficiency. While these are only a few examples, they help to show how committed we are to our environment.

-Steven Spinner



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## sustainable design

UNFI completed construction of a new 354,000 square foot distribution center in Lancaster, Texas. Our intention was to provide enhanced service levels to our established retail accounts in the southwest while reducing the number of miles currently driven by our fleet of trucks, thereby reducing our net CO2 emissions. This particular project will be our fourth building that has been built to LEED® standards.

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# Driven by People

# renewable energy

Through a reverse auction process we were able to purchase green power for 25% of our annual electricity usage in seven of our facilities that exist in deregulated states. This resulted in avoiding 4,190 metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>

Facility Location	Green Power Purchase (kWh/year)	Green Power Production (kWh/year)	Resource Mix			Total (%)
			Solar (%)	Wind (%)	Mixed Sources (%)	
Lancaster, TX	6,206,689				100%	100%
Dayville, CT	3,097,500	605,694	16%	84%		100%
York, PA	1,572,000			100%		100%
Rocklin, CA		1,634,831	100%			100%
Philadelphia, PA	380,544				100%	100%
Leicester, MA	359,055				100%	100%
Edison, NJ	351,420			100%		100%
Bridgeport, NJ	331,800			100%		100%
Providence, RI		173,085	100%			100%
UNFI REC Purchase	11,375,388			100%		100%
<b>Total:</b>	<b>23,674,396</b>	<b>2,413,610</b>				
<b>Total Green Power*</b>	<b>26,088,006</b>					
<b>Percent Green Power*</b>	<b>37.61%</b>					



Rocklin, CA 1.19 Megawatt Array

- System consists of more than 7,000 panels covering 175,000 square feet
- Energy output 2010 = 1,634,831
- Metric Tons of CO<sub>2</sub> Avoided 2010 = 541.6
- Exceeding estimated Return on Investment of 4.2 years

Dayville, CT 550 Kilowatt Solar Photovoltaic System

- System consists of 3,146 panels covering 44,000 square feet
- Energy output 2010 = 605,694
- Metric Tons of CO<sub>2</sub> avoided 2010 = 235.2
- Estimated Return on Investment of 6.5 years

Providence, RI 142.6 Kilowatt Solar Photovoltaic System

- System consists of 792 panels covering 11,000 square feet
- Energy output 2010 = 173,085
- Metric Tons of CO<sub>2</sub> Avoided 2010 = 75.5
- Estimated Return on Investment of 5.1 years

Did you know? All Green Power and REC purchases made by UNFI are Green-e Certified.



Sarasota

# hydrogen fuel cell



In June of 2010 UNFI mobilized 65 GenDrive™ fuel cell powered lift trucks at our Sarasota, FL distribution facility

- The sixty-five lift trucks are powered by hydrogen fuel cell technology. Hydrogen fuel cells produce energy by combining hydrogen, the most common element in the universe, and oxygen to yield electricity



- The hydrogen fuel cell project was expected to create annual savings of approximately 640,000 kilowatt hours

- By converting the Sarasota lift truck fleet to hydrogen fuel cells, nearly 132 metric tons of carbon emissions were saved, the equivalent of the emissions of 35 automobiles annually



# Update on

In 2009, UNFI put together its first company-wide Greenhouse Gas Emissions report and publically announced an emissions reduction target of 5% in 5 years from these levels through the EPA Climate Leaders program. Since the dismantling of the EPA voluntary program, UNFI has decided to move on to reporting through the Carbon Disclosure Project in Fall 2011.

Staff at UNFI are still collecting a complete data set for 2010 emission levels, but the chart below represents our best projection about what this final number may be. We are proud to announce that even with the addition of the Lancaster, TX warehouse our emission levels have stayed stable year over year. In 2010, REC credits through Renewable Choice Energy were

purchased to offset 11,000 tons of Carbon Dioxide Equivalent (CO<sub>2</sub>e) to help UNFI work toward its 5% reduction target. In the next year, UNFI will be exploring more technologies to implement on site so that energy and fuel consumption may be reduced and reliance on offsetting emissions will be reduced.

## Total 2009 and 2010 Greenhouse Gas Emissions for UNFI

Operational Emissions Category	Emissions Source Category	Greenhouse Gas	2009 Inventory Totals (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e)	2009 Percentage of Total Emissions	2010 Inventory Totals (MT CO <sub>2</sub> e)	2010 Percentage of Total Emissions
Direct Core Emission Sources	Stationary Combustion	CO <sub>2</sub> e from Stationary Combustion	3,814	2.86%	3,814	2.87%
	Mobile Combustion	CO <sub>2</sub> e from Mobile Combustion	92,028	69.06%	88,004	66.17%
	Process Emissions	CO <sub>2</sub> e from Process Emissions	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
	Fugitive Emissions	HRCs & PFCs from Refrigeration and AC units	4,296	3.22%	4,296	3.23%
Total Emissions from Direct Core Sources (Scope 1 Emissions)			100,137	75.15%	96,113	72.27%
Indirect Core Emission Sources	Purchased Electricity	CO <sub>2</sub> from Electricity	33,115	24.85%	36,883	27.73%
	Purchased Chilled Water	CO <sub>2</sub> from Chilled Water	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
	Purchased Steam	CO <sub>2</sub> from Steam	0	0.00%	0	0.00%
Total Emissions from Indirect Core Sources (Scope 2 Emissions)			33,115	24.85%	36,883	27.73%
Total Emissions			133,252	100%	132,996	100%

# management of resources UNFI and HARA

In 2011, UNFI will begin using Hara Environmental and Energy Management software to support its national energy efficiency and greenhouse gas emissions reduction strategies. Hara EEM will provide a platform to gather data in a centralized system and enable us to establish a baseline for future energy conservation.

We plan to use Hara EEM to help direct where these efforts will be best utilized for maximum benefits. The concrete data supplied by Hara EEM will also allow us to recognize and celebrate milestones and goals in energy and environmental strategies.



*Know your impact. Change the world.*



# EPA partnerships



## Green Power Partners

UNFI has set the goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 5% in five years. As part of this goal, UNFI has partnered with the EPA's Green Power Partnership, a voluntary program that supports the organizational procurement of green power by offering expert advice, technical support, tools and resources.



## Climate Leaders

In 2010, UNFI submitted its first Greenhouse Gas inventory to the EPA Climate Leaders Program. The inventory was audited by an EPA contracted 3rd party service and approved for publication. UNFI staff members took part in the Climate Leaders Conference in the fall of 2010, where they learned the program was being discontinued. UNFI will continue to submit its GHG Inventory through the Carbon Disclosure Project in the future.



## SmartWay Transportation Partners

In 2010, UNFI increased its participation in the SmartWay program by enrolling its West Region fleet. This increased participation from 301 to 550 vehicles being monitored by SmartWay. The EPA SmartWay Program provides recommendations for products and services that reduce transportation-related emissions. UNFI has earned the highest score of 1.25, which represents outstanding environmental performance of its fleet.

EPA  
Climate Leaders  
Conference  
Oct 2010



# fleet emissions



In 2010, UNFI looked to further reduce our carbon emissions by introducing new 2010 engine technology into our fleet. The new engines are more efficient and cleaner burning, thereby reducing emissions and improving fuel efficiency.

UNFI has developed a National Dashboard Program to measure Key Performance Indicators (KPI's) and maximize the performance of our truck fleet. The KPI's allow UNFI to identify areas of opportunity and establish new practices to increase fleet performance.

- All our trucks are now governed at 63 mph for optimized fuel economy
- All UNFI fleet vehicles have new tire inflation specifications to maximize fuel efficiency
- All refrigeration units have been adjusted to maintain cold chain integrity and minimize fuel consumption
- Route reorganization in our York DC has allowed us to increase the cubic volume on our trucks by 30% and reduce weekly mileage by nearly 10,000 miles

### Roadnet / PeopleNet

In 2007 UNFI began using Roadnet and PeopleNet software for our entire fleet.

Roadnet and PeopleNet work in conjunction to provide a complete management tool for our outbound transportation teams to manage our fleet.

### PeopleNet Benefits:

- Allows us greater visibility to a variety of factors that influence expenses and emissions.
- Gives us the ability to set expectations for high rpm and sudden stop and start events
- Demonstrates progressive shifting techniques, efficient truck maintenance and out of route miles

### Roadnet Benefits:

- Allows us to develop customer centric routes with accurate delivery windows that are tracked and updated
- Provides our drivers a tracking tool that allows transportation to manage on time deliveries and communications and reports on metrics related to on time delivery and driver performance.



In December of 2010 UNFI was a proud recipient of the first "Running Green" Roadie Award from UPS. This award, given to users of the Roadnet software, recognizes an organizations' commitment to environmentally sustainable practices and reduction of their ecological footprint. Using Roadnet software was instrumental in helping us to develop shipping routes that eliminated 2.6 million driving miles annually. By optimizing daily shipping

routes and significantly reducing out-of-route miles we were able to decrease fuel consumption and emissions. Our service levels to our customers improved with an increase in timely deliveries. Partnering with Roadnet helped strengthen our commitment to balanced environment, social, and economic performance.

## Trying New Things

- In the summer of 2010, UNFI tested Super Therm, a reflective silver coating applied to the top of refrigerated tractor trailers to reflect sunlight, hoping to keep the interiors cooler and save fuel. However, many of these trucks are loaded and driven at night and the technology was not implemented.
- This year we will be testing another new product, Eco-Flaps. Eco-Flaps innovative design works to reduce road spray for safety and drag for improved fuel consumption.

**UNFI has eliminated 2.6 million driving miles annually.**

# sustainable design



## York, PA

Our UNFI York, PA distribution center has earned the ENERGY STAR designation from the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR is the national mark of energy excellence and was designed to encourage companies to improve the performance and energy efficiency of workplaces.



Buildings designated by the ENERGY STAR save money, energy and have a smaller carbon footprint. York was recognized for demonstrating superior energy performance, reducing energy consumption by 63% (as compared to an average building of the same type and size), and scored 93 out of 100 possible points to earn the ENERGY STAR designation.

### Some of the features of the York facility:

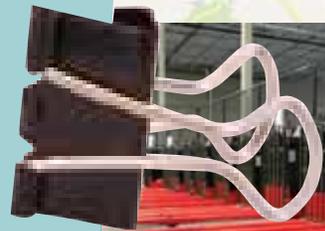
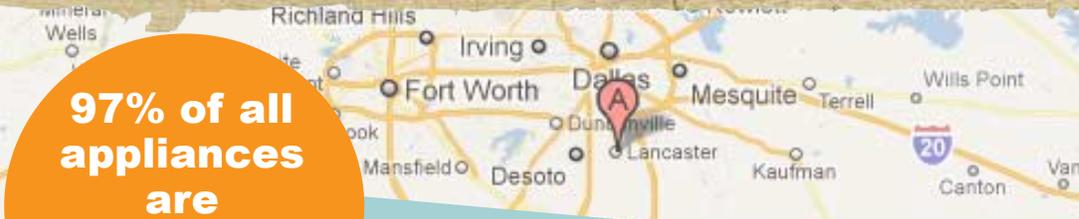
- Over 70% of all electronic equipment and appliances are ENERGY STAR rated
- A reduction of lighting power density by more than 25% compared to a building of similar size
- All building energy related systems were calibrated by a professional to ensure optimum performance and monitored annually by metering systems
- Water use reduction of over 40% by using motion-activated sensors and flow controls throughout the building as well as rainwater collection systems for process water use



**97% of all appliances are ENERGY STAR rated**

**Lancaster, TX DC LEED® Compliance**

- Over 97% of all office equipment and appliances are ENERGY STAR rated
- 100% of the wood installed in the building is Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certified
- Dock levelers are powered by solar panels, eliminating expensive dedicated power supply requirements
- Secure bicycle storage with changing/shower facilities for associates to encourage bike commuting
- 20% of all building materials manufactured within a 500 miles radius of the site, reducing transportation miles/emissions for materials used
- Ammonia based refrigeration system used, which is more environmentally friendly and energy efficient than any other refrigerant
- Recycling programs in place for cardboard, plastics, metal, paper, and glass
- Chemical free water treatment system for the refrigeration system saves 655,200 gallons on the make-up water and eliminates 852 gallons of industrial strength chlorine from the waste system
- 75% of all construction waste materials were properly recycled and/or reused instead of disposed
- Energy reduction of almost 30% when compared to a typical building of the same size



Did you know? Lancaster is the fourth UNFI building we designed to achieve LEED® certification by the United States Green Building Council. We have been a member of the USGBC since 2007.

# UNFI Helping Hands Committees giving back

Each UNFI facility has a Helping Hands Committee made up of associates who volunteer their time to source out and work on projects to benefit people in the local area. Helping Hands has a budget provided by UNFI and each committee may decide what projects to work on aside from company sponsored events.

**Chesterfield, NH** – donated backpacks, pillows, blankets, and journals to a foster care program, allowing foster children to transition to new homes with pride.

**Providence, RI** – collected backpacks, school supplies, and small suitcases to donate to Foster Care of RI to be distributed to foster children, allowing them to have their personal possessions in their own bags.

**Dayville, CT** – The Natural Born Heroes team raised \$31,000 during the Northeastern CT Relay For Life, making them the number one team overall in their region. This money will be used by the American Cancer Society to research cures and offer services to those fighting a battle with cancer.

**Iowa City, IA** – Iowa partnered with the Salvation Army to provide holiday gifts to the children of families in need within the local and surrounding communities. All associates also participated in the Coats for Kids Campaign to help keep children in the community warm during the harsh winter.

**Sarasota** – The Sarasota Helping Hands team reached out to the families at the

Ronald McDonald house and put on a BBQ for the Memorial Day holiday. It was a wonderful opportunity to meet numerous families faced with ongoing medical challenges with a loved one.

**Rocklin, CA** – The Rocklin Green Team has grown strong roots in their community. The Team is part of the Placer Sustain business collaborative which meets to discuss improving sustainability in the local community, was named Corporate Sponsor of the Year by the Dry Creek Conservancy, and invited local sustainable farmers to come speak to associates about the benefit sustainable agriculture can have on their health and the health of the community. Michael Funk also made an appearance for this team during **Non-GMO month to speak about the Non-GMO project that UNFI is involved in.**



**York, PA** – The York Helping Hands sponsored the Convoy for Wishes which benefits the Make-A-Wish Foundation. Local truckers and truck companies raise money through pledges to support children with life-threatening illnesses. York had 5 drivers participate this year and raised almost \$4500 for this great cause through sponsorships and donations.



**Ridgefield, WA** – The Ridgefield Green Team is a proud advocate for the Ridgefield Wildlife Refuge. Through both financial and volunteer resources this partnership has resulted in both education and hands on habitat restoration programs, most notably getting an upper hand on aggressive invasive species in the area such as Scot's Broom.



Drivers raised almost \$4500 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation



Did you know? UNFI associates across the nation donated over 750 gifts to those in need during the 2010 Holiday Season. That's a lot of holiday cheer!



# associate volunteer days

## Fall Volunteer Project – International Coastal Cleanup

As part of its commitment to the core value of social and environmental responsibility, UNFI sponsors two companywide volunteer days each year. On September 24, 2010, UNFI associates across the country took part in the International Coastal Cleanup Project. Eighteen UNFI facilities sent out a total of 159 volunteers to clean watershed areas and made a huge impact on their local environments.

## Some of the amazing totals of junk pulled out of the water:

- 2,020 Plastic Bags
- 1,743 Plastic Bottles
- 671 Glass Bottles
- 1,216 Cans
- 3,530 Food Containers
- 10,011 Cigarette Filters

## Spring Volunteer Projects

**Greenwood, Indiana** - Associates worked in partnership with the local Home Depot to transform Hickory Creek, a senior citizen place of residence. Braving the 99 degree heat they painted, planted, mulched and built a gazebo, fountain and a wheel-chair accessible raised vegetable garden bed.

**Rocklin, California** - Rocklin partnered with the Dry Creek Conservancy and participated in a maintenance and clean-up project in a local park. 25 associates worked eight hours on various projects at the park, including planting native acorns, spreading bark, removing invasive plant species in several areas, and painting the preschool building.

**Ridgefield, Washington**- Ridgefield associates volunteered their time at the Ridgefield Wildlife Refuge to help remove an invasive plant known as Scotch Broom from the area. If not removed, this invasive plant takes over areas that birds use for grazing during their migration periods.

## Habitat For Humanity

In June of 2011, UNFI facilities all across the country participated in community volunteer projects through Habitat For Humanity. Associates learned how to build scaffolds, hang sheetrock, install soffits and build front and back porches on the homes. Everyone had a great time and our associates are excited to participate again next year!

Helping Hands  
at UNFI





# key giving focus

## What We Give

In 2010 UNFI continued developing our charitable giving programs. We allocated 1% of Net Income for monetary donations to organizations aligned with our mission and vision. We kept our focus on charitable organizations within the natural and organic industry by strengthening our partnerships with the Non-GMO Project, the Organic Trade Association, and Vitamin Angels. We raised our voice in the Fight Against Hunger by aligning with national hunger relief organizations such as Nourish America and Feeding America. Our commitment to local giving flourished thanks to the enthusiasm and assistance of our associates. Our community outreach committees continued to engage in community activities, organize internal team building events, and lend a "Helping Hand" to those in need.

## Fiscal Year 2010 Food Donations:

\$5.2 million dollars (Wholesale) in the form of product.



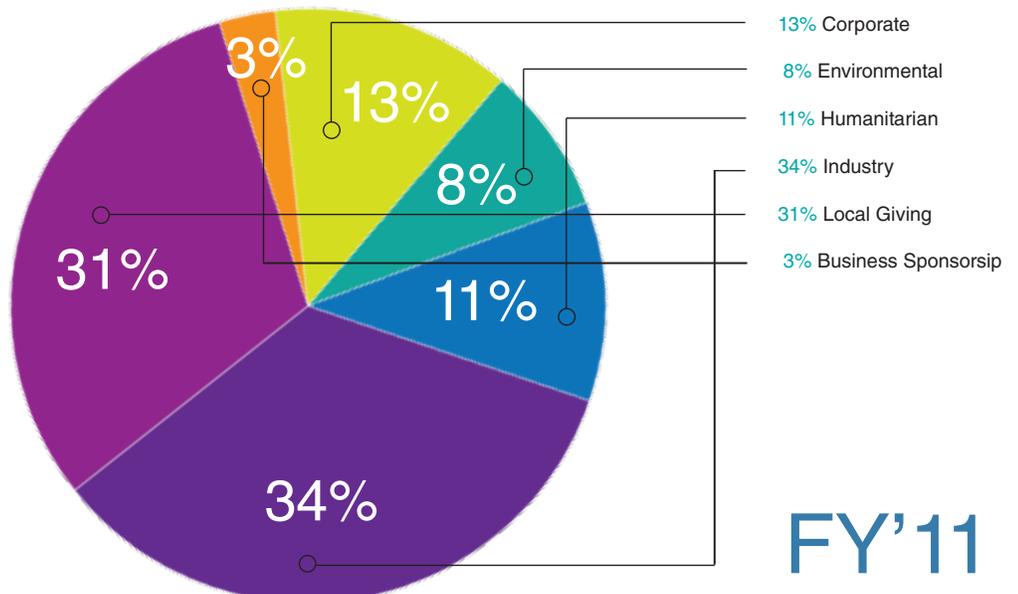
## Who We Give To:

### Top 12 Organizations supported by UNFI

- Vitamin Angels - \$55,000
- The Organic Center - \$50,000
- The Organic Trade Association - \$45,000
- Organic Farming Research Foundation - \$41,000
- The CRUDEM Foundation - \$25,000
- The Center For Food Safety - \$25,000
- The Non-GMO Project - \$20,000
- American Cancer Society - \$15,000
- Green Goat - \$14,000
- American Forest - \$10,000
- Children's Backpack Program - \$10,000
- Feeding America - \$10,000



## UNFI Corporate Giving Allocations \$663,000



FY'11

# industry organizations

## UNFI and Non- GMOs

- The Non-GMO Project began after two natural food stores, The Natural Grocery Company in Berkley, CA and Big Carrot Natural Food Market in Toronto, Ontario, both tried to implement non-GMO product policies. There was a lack of a consistent, industry-wide standard for what non-GMO actually was, and the Non-GMO Project began with the goal of creating a standardized meaning of non-GMO for the North American food industry.
- UNFI is a founding sponsor of The Non-GMO Project because we believe it is essential for the integrity and future of the organic and natural products industry
- UNFI supports a moratorium on the use of GMOs until in-depth research on their long-range consequences has been completed. We support the consumer's right to know and labeling of all foods containing GMO ingredients
- UNFI strongly and unequivocally supports Sustainable Agriculture and Organic Farming
- UNFI supports the establishment of GMO-free standards and a certification process

## Organic Seed Alliance

UNFI supports the Organic Seed Alliance, whose mission is to support the ethical development and stewardship of the genetic resource of agricultural seed.

## Organic Trade Association

UNFI is a proud supporter of the OTA. We work closely with them to advocate for important issues facing the natural and organic industry:

- Leadership Circle member which is the highest level of membership and support
- Major contributor and participant to the Annual Fund campaign
- Our Vice-President of Global Initiatives, Melody Meyer, sits on the Board of Directors and is chairperson of the Community relations committee
- Melody serves on a task force committee on pesticide testing and regularly provides input for OTA's public commentary to NOP regulations

## Organic Farming Research Foundation

We are a major contributor to the OFRF and support their research areas of focus which include:

- Providing information and training to organic farmers to enable them to be successful
- Ensuring significant funding for organic research and programs
- Cultivating future farmers, researchers, and policy advocates for organic
- Conducting agricultural research to give organic farmers the information they need to develop their skills

## FTSLA

### (Food Trade Sustainability Leadership Association)

UNFI continues to be a strong supporter of the initiatives taken on by the FTSLA. UNFI Sustainability and Philanthropy Manager, Alissa Becker, serves on the Board of Directors for this organization. Both Alissa and Lisa Madsen, Director of Sustainability, Philanthropy and Internal Communications, regularly participate in working groups to share best or speak at conferences for the FTSLA.

### The FTSLA focuses on:

- Helping the organic food trade adopt leading edge environmentally sound and socially just practices
- Fostering collaboration on best practices between members through meetings, webinars, and annual reporting through their "Declaration of Sustainability"
- Inspiring timely action to achieving sustainability by creating a process for businesses to make a public commitment to work toward improvement in 1-action areas including organics, climate change, energy, distribution, labor, packaging, water, waste, animal care, education and governance.

Did you know? The Non-GMO Project has an iPhone app that features a list of the brands and products enrolled in the Project's Product Verification Program. "There is no greater threat to the (natural and organic) industry than GMOs. They don't belong in the organic food supply." Michael Funk, May, 2007, The Organic & Non-GMO Report

# fighting hunger

## Partnership with Feeding America

UNFI proudly announced a national partnership with Feeding America in 2010.

Our commitment to the nationwide organization will focus on combating hunger in our local communities, including food banks, soup kitchens, and shelters. Feeding America is the nation's largest Food Bank Network, with over 200 food banks across America.

Each of our U.S. distribution centers will strive to reach families in need through our food donation program to member organizations within the Feeding America network. In addition, we participate in local Backpack Programs, designed to send children home from school with backpacks of easy to prepare nutritious food for the weekend. In Fiscal year 2010 UNFI donated over \$5.2 million dollars (Wholesale) of product through the Feeding America network.

## Fighting Hunger Locally

Associates at UNFI Distribution Centers around the country pitch in to fight hunger in their local communities. Our efforts are especially ramped up during the holiday season. Some major accomplishments on the local level this year include:

- Monetary donation by the Harrison facility to the Share and Care local food bank.

- Funds raised by the Providence facility through a holiday wreath sale and donated to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank
- Donation of 71 turkeys to the Amos House for homelessness during Thanksgiving by the Providence HR Team
- The Providence Helping Hands Team sponsored a holiday dinner at their local homeless shelter and served meals to its long-term residents
- Moreno Valley associates donated grocery gift cards to their local Salvation Army during the Thanksgiving season along with over 11 pallets of food
- On Thanksgiving Day, 15 Moreno Valley associates helped serve a holiday meal at their local Salvation Army
- The York facility donated 160 pounds of food and 17 turkeys to the York County Food Bank during the Thanksgiving season



Did you know? Each week, 5.7 million Americans seek food assistance from the Feeding America network. In 2009, 8.8 (11.1% percent) million families were in poverty.



# humanitarian causes

## UNFI and Vitamin Angels

- UNFI has been a corporate contributor to Vitamin Angels every year since 2005
- Select Nutrition, a division of UNFI, holds raffles benefiting Vitamin Angels at all their tabletop shows. The average contribution to Vitamin Angels from each raffle is over \$1,000. The April, 2011 raffle raised over \$7,000
- In 2010, UNFI was a proud supporter of Vitamin Angels' Thrive To Five Program through donations to the Batey Relief Alliance
- Twenty-five cents supplies a child under the age of five with enough Vitamin A for a year and reduces childhood mortality by 23%

## Vitamin Repack Project

UNFI participated in a repackaging project with Vitamin Angels in January of 2011. Our team in Atlanta repackaged vitamin A for distribution in Cote d'Ivoire, India and around the world. Just 2 doses of this product will increase children's survival rates by 23%. George Gibson, Carolyn Beverly, Lillian Cogdell, and Deanna Ross took 5 hours out of their workday to help Vitamin Angels put 32,000 bottles of vitamin A into 600 boxes, complete with VA labels and dosage instruction sheets!



**vitamin angels**



Did you know? Optional Payroll giving to Vitamin Angels is available to all UNFI associates, allowing an amount to be automatically deducted from their paycheck for donation.



**Table 1. Summary Results Of Distribution**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Number Of Micro-Nutrient Capsules Distributed</b>	<b>Number Of De-Worming Tablets Distributed</b>	<b>Number Of Children 2-12 Years Served</b>	<b>Average No. Of Multivitamins Per Child Per Year</b>
<b>2009-2010</b>	<b>15,154,123</b>	<b>110,000</b>	<b>41,518</b>	<b>249</b>



# relief effort

## International Relief Efforts

In response to the devastating earthquake in Japan in March, 2011, UNFI associates in the United States and Canada requested a way to donate to the country. UNFI pledged to match the donations, and the month long donation drive resulted in over \$20,000 sent to the following organizations:

- American Red Cross
- Save the Children
- Canadian Red Cross
- International Medical Corp

## Domestic Relief Efforts

In 2011 many states suffered devastating losses due to severe tornado storms. UNFI was proud to lend assistance to the relief effort in several states:

**ALABAMA** – Nourish America approached UNFI to help support their relief effort in Alabama. Our facility in Atlanta, Georgia mobilized within 48 hours of this request for assistance. Led by General Manager Doug Tatum and Inventory Control Manager Dale Romick, the Atlanta team assembled over 18 pallets of critical items for donation.

**MASSACHUSETTS**– In response to the tornados that ripped through Massachusetts in June 2011 the Dayville Helping Hands Committee donated \$700 worth of emergency items such as flight lights, batteries, and insect repellents as well as a pallet worth of supplies donated by local associates.

**MISSOURI** - UNFI associates from Harrison, AR delivered 5,000 lbs of toiletries and general merchandise items to the Ozarks Food Harvest in Springfield for distribution to the tornado victims in Joplin. This included items donated by the company, associates, and the Harrison community.

**IOWA** – Our team in Iowa City, IA partnered with Nourish America to donate 8 pallets of much-needed product for the disaster in Hamburg, IA. They assembled dry cereal, infant food, bread, snack bars and pasta to provide quick yet nourishing foods to the emergency relief effort.



# other causes

## American Cancer Society (Relay For Life)

Relay For Life is a fundraiser for The American Cancer Society that allows those lost to cancer to be remembered, gives emotional support to those living with cancer, and raises funds for research to discover a cure for the disease.

In 2011, UNFI organized several Relay Teams across the country. Associates raised funds from bake sales, luminaire (dedication candles), team races and even held raffles for premier parking spots!

**UNFI's Dayville, CT  
Relay For Life team,  
Natural Born Heroes,  
raised over \$31,000  
in 2011 alone!**

Let's continue to celebrate our survivors, remember those we have lost, and Fight Back...

## American Forests

UNFI is a proud supporter of American Forests, the nation's oldest nonprofit conservation organization. AF works with individuals, communities and policy makers to protect and restore forests around the world, and raise

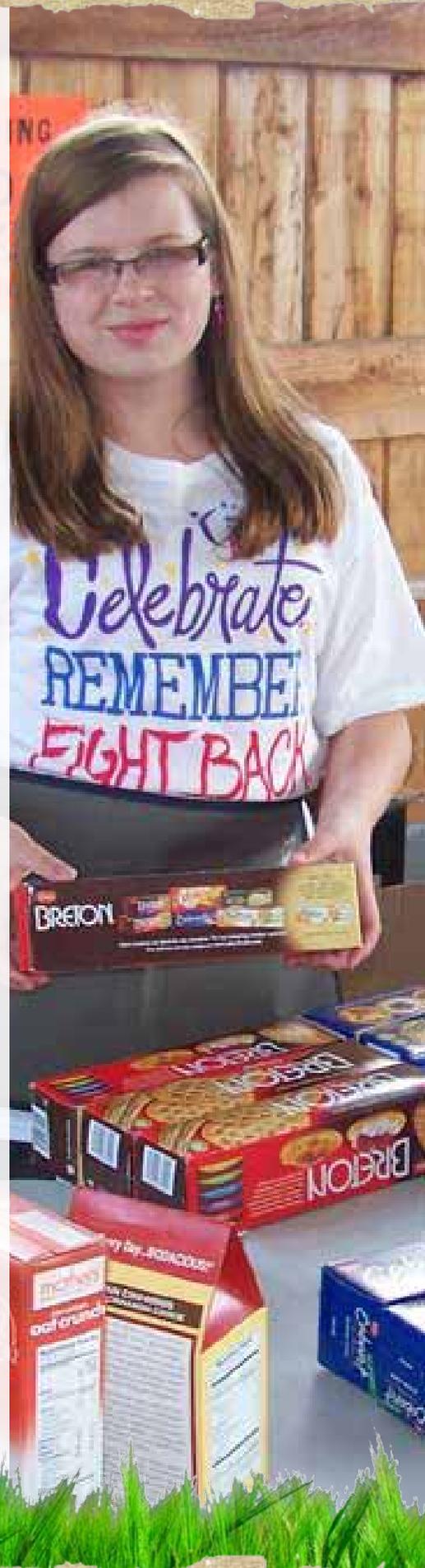
awareness of how important these ecosystems are to all forms of life on the planet.

In lieu of sending holiday greeting cards to our customers, suppliers and other external business partners UNFI planted 10,000 trees through American Forests' Wildfire ReLeaf. Wildfire ReLeaf is a national ecosystem restoration and tree planting initiative designed to plant millions of trees in environmentally sensitive areas scorched by wildfires of recent years. American Forests will plant native trees in forest areas that take years to regenerate, such as along stream banks that provide critical fish and wildlife habitat and slopes threatened by erosion.



## Nourish America

In 2011 UNFI began working with Nourish America. For more than ten years, Nourish America has been providing nourishing foods and nutritional supplements to those in need in America. We are looking forward to partnering with them more closely next year to assist them with their goal of ensuring that America's children grow to be healthy, strong, and successful adults.



# associate programs

## Health Risk Assessments

UNFI is committed to the health and well-being of our associates. Each year we host a Health Fair for all associates nationwide. Our goal is to help them understand their “numbers” such as blood pressure and cholesterol markers, and provide the tools and resources they need to take action, if needed.

From 2010 to 2011, the Wellness program saw a 144% increase in participation in the onsite events and a 420% increase in the participation in the Health Risk Assessments!

## Associate Co-op Benefit

In 2010, UNFI increased the associate discount from 20% to 25% in order to encourage healthier eating for our associates and their families - including pets!

## Flu clinics

Last fall UNFI held flu clinics for all associates during normally scheduled work hours. Our goal was to encourage preventative health care while offering a convenient and flexible time to receive it.

## UNFI Running/Walking Teams

UNFI facilities formed running/walking teams across the country to participate in charitable events and races. Our teams hold bake sales and organize raffles to raise entry fee money for charity recipient races. The teams race year round and have run or walked to support local Food Banks, the Susan G. Koman Foundation, the March of Dimes and Relay for Life.



Did you know? Ten members of our Providence running club are training for a half-marathon in August of 2011 to support the American Cancer Society and local Leukemia & Lymphoma chapter.

# leading by example



## **Amanda Ward**

Purchasing assistant Amanda Ward joined her Green Team out of responsibility to the environment, community, and a chance to gently educate co-workers on how food choices affect a myriad of things. Amanda is especially passionate about critical issues pertaining to the organic industry, like GMOs.

In her personal life, Amanda lives the organic philosophy. A large organic garden, where the soil is built up using only homemade compost, has been established at her home and a fruit and nut orchard is in the works. Chickens will help make compost and keep down pests and the household is hoping to be energy independent someday. Amanda states, "My goal is to have as little impact on our climate as possible by making my home efficient and reducing my food miles. Eventually I hope to feed my whole family primarily from my garden."



## **Jamie Lollback, Iowa Green Team Member**

Jamie Lollback has been with UNFI for three years as a Marketing Coordinator. She joined her Green Team when her supervisor, Emilee Jones, invited her to a meeting. She has been a regular attendee since then.

The Iowa team holds a "Bike To Work Week" every year and Jamie looks forward to participating. "It's really great to see both the office and warehouse staff get involved and, at the end of the week, we total up the miles and gas saved.

Results like these leave an impact - this year we saved over 3,565 car miles on the road and 142.6 gallons of gas in one week!," Jamie recalled.

In her personal green life, Jamie is all about the little efforts that add up —recycling at home, using water bottles instead of bottled water, biking instead of driving, and gardening. Jamie states, "I shop at the farmer's market and co-op, and occasionally volunteer for Local Foods Connection, which helps low income families eat and learn about fresh foods. My goal is to get a rain barrel and composter to increase the sustainability of my garden and find new projects for my Green Team!"



## **Susan Brown:**

Dayville business analyst Susan Brown serves as a member of the Dayville Helping Hands Committee and always comes to meetings with passion, enthusiasm and new ideas. Susan is an active member of Dayville's Natural Born Heroes team, which helps raise funds to benefit the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, and helps annually with the product sale, raffles, and luminary sales which have helped raise thousands of dollars every year.

Susan also donates her time to local human service organizations. She volunteers for TEEG, the Thompson Ecumenical Empowerment Group, which provides services and community enrichment programs for residents of Thompson, CT and surrounding communities. Susan also helps at the Pomfret (CT) Food Bank, where she shows people new to the food bank experience how the food bank runs and how to access it. Susan unselfishly gives in both her business and personal life!

# sustainable sourcing



## A New Look at Natural Protein

When UNFI decided to include natural protein in our product mix, we called on Chris Smith to become the “protein guy.” With thirty years of experience in food service and procurement, Chris dug right in to find suppliers who could meet UNFI’s strict standards. “The word natural is everywhere,” Chris explains, “but UNFI has established a new definition that their customers can trust.” To be a protein supplier for UNFI will mean protein that is always antibiotic free, no nitrates or nitrites, no growth hormones or steroids, fed vegetarian feed, and third party certified humane treated. All seafood will need third party sustainability certification as well. In May, 2011, the East Region suppliers sampled chicken, beef, pork, lamb, and seafood at the UNFI East Table Top show to very positive responses. Set for a June, 2011 launch to independent customers, UNFI will further reduce our carbon footprint by using

parallel suppliers for each coast, with eight suppliers in the east and five in the west. Another feature of the protein program is the oxygen permeable packaging on all proteins, enhancing freezer shelf life up to two years. These packages retain the product’s bright color and can be neatly hung in a freezer display case. In product and packaging, the protein program has arrived!

## Source Organic – Albert’s New Import and Marketing Division

Albert’s Organics fledgling division “Source Organic” has been operational for a full year and is providing service to those who operate with great sustainability integrity. Source Organic represents organic producers with a proven history of growing high quality food using organic sustainable farming methods in Latin America and New Zealand. Source organic also focuses on offering

Fair Trade products as a way to justly compensate farmers and workers in disadvantaged communities. Fair trade items are certified and the producer groups are engaged in deciding how the fair trade premium gets spent in their communities.

The premium can go towards improving infrastructure such as roads, facilities, access to clean running water and solar panels for sustainable energy. It can also provide technical training, education for the children, reforestation in areas of mono cropping as well as health and dental services. The array of advantages is staggering in depth and ability to address basic human needs in the community.

Source Organic works with the intention to make all entities successful. Everyone must enjoy wealth and success be it the receiver, producer and our company as we move forward in this new business model. Look for great things from this division locally and globally in the years to come.



Melody Meyer,  
VP of Global Initiatives for Alberts Source Organic

# closing statement

## Why Honeybees?

For the last several years I've been reading articles about Colony Collapse Disorder where it's estimated that beekeepers were reporting losses of 30% to 90% of their hives over the winter. The main symptom of CCD is simply no or a low number of adult honey bees present but with a live queen and no dead honey bees in the hive. The reasons for the collapse are unclear but there are many theories including pesticide exposure, invasive parasites, and even genetically modified crops.

The impact of colony loss could be significant. Honeybees pollinate more than 25% of US food crops including apples, nuts, avocados, soybeans, peaches, and blueberries just to name a few. Clearly Honeybees are an important part of our supply chain.

I started this spring with one hive and I'm not using medicines or chemicals on my bees like commercial keepers do. I'm just raising them as naturally as I can with the hope that the bees will help strengthen my local ecology by introducing new pollinators. It's only one hive and I clearly have a lot to learn but sustainability comes in many forms and making sure we have Honeybees for the next generation seemed like a good idea.



UNFI is a company committed to sustainability in all its forms. Whether through organic farming, sustainable agriculture, energy efficient buildings, solar panels, recycling, transportation initiatives or new technology we always strive to do the right thing. The associates who made these projects happen have embraced our culture in new and unexpected ways and our company's commitment to sustainability and philanthropy continues to grow through their increasing involvement.

Bee Good  
- Tom Dziki

*Chief Human Resources and Sustainability Officer*

