Summary of Community Impact Data
Barrington Farm School, 2025

The purpose of this report is to document the impact that the Barrington Farm School had on the community in 2025. By "impact," we refer to the number of community members who interacted with the farm, the number of times people had contact with the farm, the types of interactions they had, and the amount of contact time people had with the farm. Such data are difficult to obtain in completeness. Further, quantitative data do not describe the quality of those interactions: impact on community wellbeing, connectedness, learning, and health. Nonetheless, qualitative impacts are not possible without actual contact, interaction, and participation, which we attempt to document here.

Types of Metrics and Data Sources

- **Education**: Patty, Gail, Jessalyn, and Wayne provided invaluable data on the numerous school groups and community members who came to the farm or to outside events specifically to learn something. Topics included hydroponics, pollinators, soil health, composting, beekeeping, living and nonliving things, homes and habitats on the farm, ecosystems, regenerative agriculture, and more. Examples include student field trips and the Field to Fork Workshop.
- **SPED Education**: Wayne did a great deal of work with special needs youth and adults. He worked with Barrington High School students with IEPs, the Barrington Transitions Academy for special needs high school graduates learning transferable skills, and one-on-one with a special-needs child over the course of the year. Gail and Jessalyn provided data on the visit of the L.I.F.E. non-profit group.
- **Interns**: Janelle and Gail provided data on the four paid high-school interns in 2025.
- **Composting**: Jill provided detailed and copious data on the volunteer workforce in twice-weekly work sessions, plus the management provided by Jill and Tim. Jill and Karen Griffith provided precise data on the weight of food scraps processed.
- **Engagement**: Gail, Jessalyn, and Deb provided data on the numerous events, meetings, and tours that connected people to the farm without necessarily volunteering. The Farm to Table Dinner was a prominent example.
- **Farm Stand**: Karen and Deb provided excellent data on the volunteers at the farm stand. Since the farm stand moved to an in-person model for the first time this year, we attempted to capture at least some of the interactions with customers at the farm stand.
- **Collaboration**: Gail, Jessalyn, Wayne, and Deb provided data on meetings and conversations with other organizations to discuss future collaborations and mutual interests.

- **Projects**: Deb, Karen, Mike, and Ron provided data on infrastructure projects that community members carried out in 2025.
- **Field Work**: Janelle provided detailed data on volunteers who worked in the field, high tunnel, seed house, and wash station. Wayne provided data on his volunteer field work (e.g. mowing).
- **Social Media**: As the farm's social media director, Jessalyn provided basic data for this report. She has far more detailed data that deserves its own, separate report. Nonetheless, we include her basic data so as not to overlook a critical method by which the farm interacts with the community.
- **Produce Donations**: Mark tracked every item and quantity donated to Tap-In, Good Neighbors, and Better Lives. This year, some of the donations were in bulk, while others were in packages. Thus, we are reporting here just the dollar value in comparison with last year.

What Is Not Included

Any attempt to capture the activities and interactions of a large community is bound to be incomplete. We are not able to count, for example, all of the people who visited the farm stand, only the number of transactions. Also, there are no data on the number of people and number of times people contributed food scraps for composting. The administrative work in running the farm is a critical question but is outside the scope of this report. That would include board work, supervision of employees, and the hours of work of the employees themselves. When a board member or employee did volunteer work outside of their administrative or paid duties, they did so as community members, and their interactions and hours were included in our report.

Explanation of the Data

As a hypothetical example, a group of 5 people spent 2 hours on the farm on one day. The same group returned on a different day and spent 3 hours. We tally these data as follows.

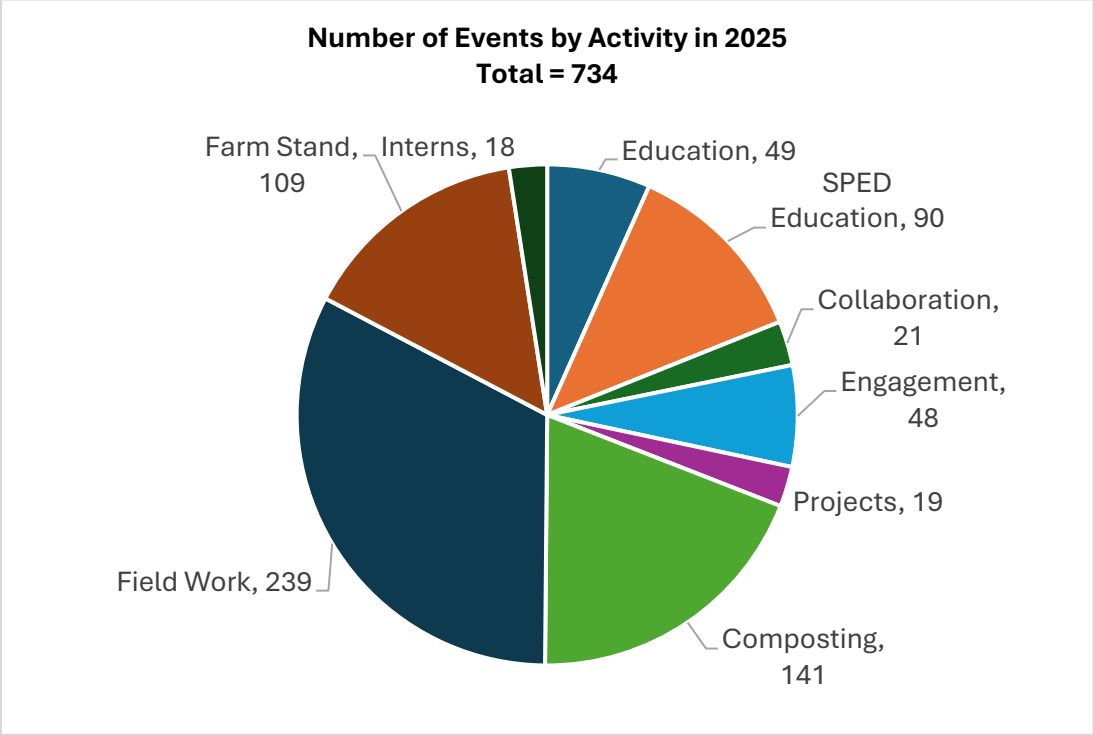
	Number of visitors	Time spent	Events	Contacts with the farm	Person-hours	Unduplicated Headcount
Day 1	5	2	1	5	10	5
Day 2	5	3	1	5	15	--
TOTALS			2	10	25	5

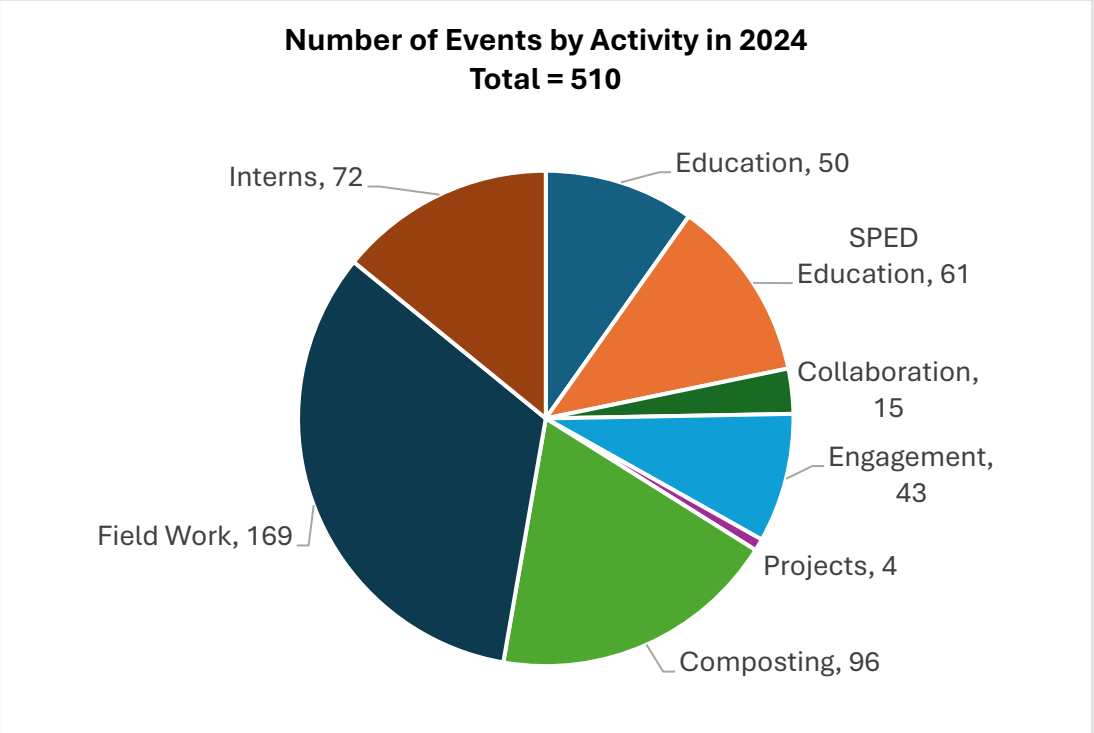
Highlights

	2024	2025
Food scraps composted	64,188 lb	72,663 lb
Education	50 programs 1,500 learners	157 programs 995 learners
Volunteers	197 volunteers 3,623 hours	309 volunteers 5,431 hours
Produce donations	$8,789 value	$20,055 value
Community interactions	2,446 people 3,558 interactions 8,196 hours	2,426 people 7,041 interactions 9,886 hours
Number of “events” (interaction opportunities)	510	734
Social media followers/subscribers (snapshot data at end of 2025)	Newsletters 1,679 Facebook 1,733 Instagram 1,827	

Number of Events

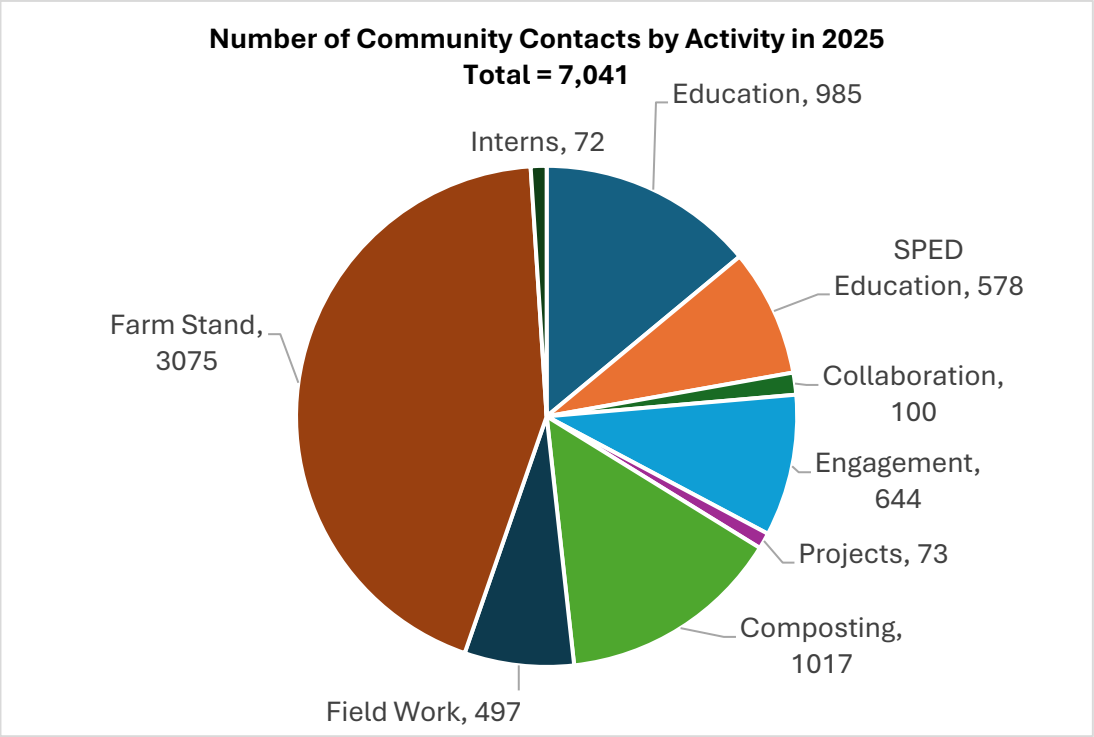
The number of events grew in 2025 with the addition of the farm stand being staffed plus growth in field work and composting.

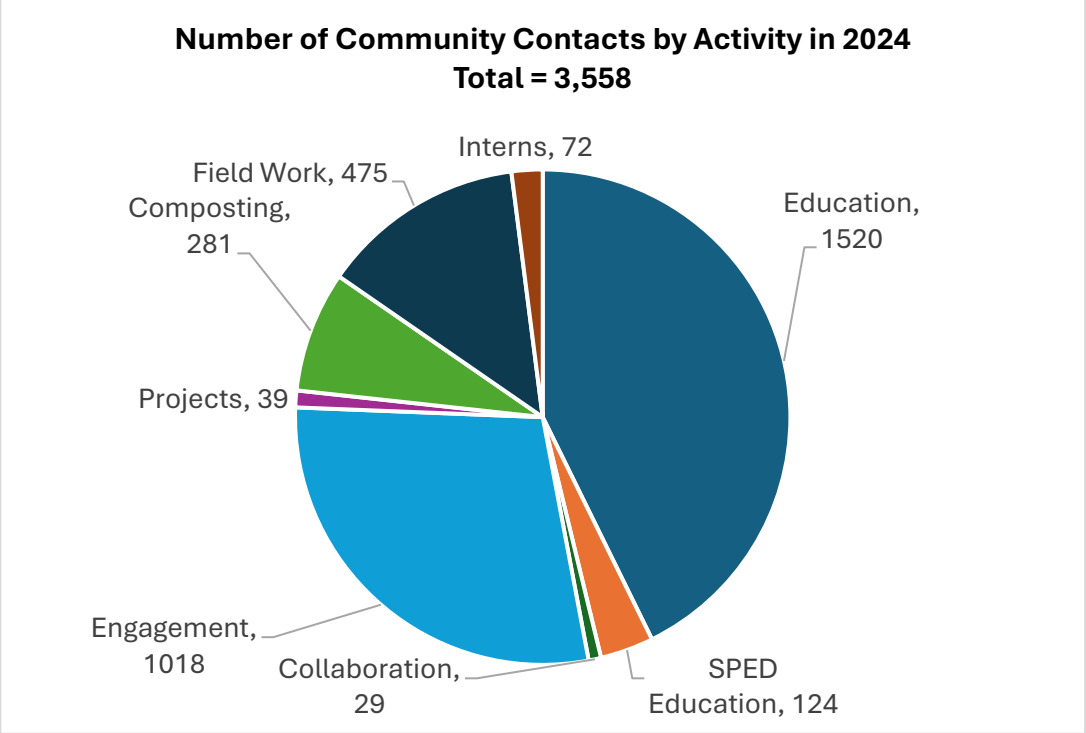




Number of Community Contacts

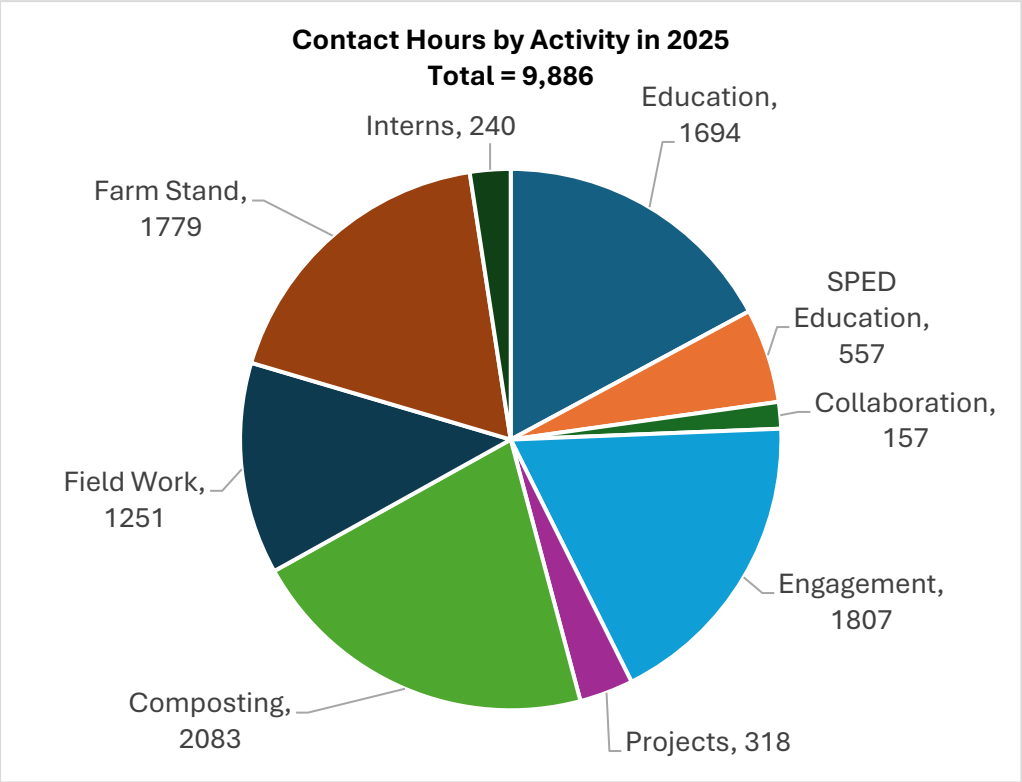
Similarly, a large increase in contacts was helped by the addition of the farm stand.

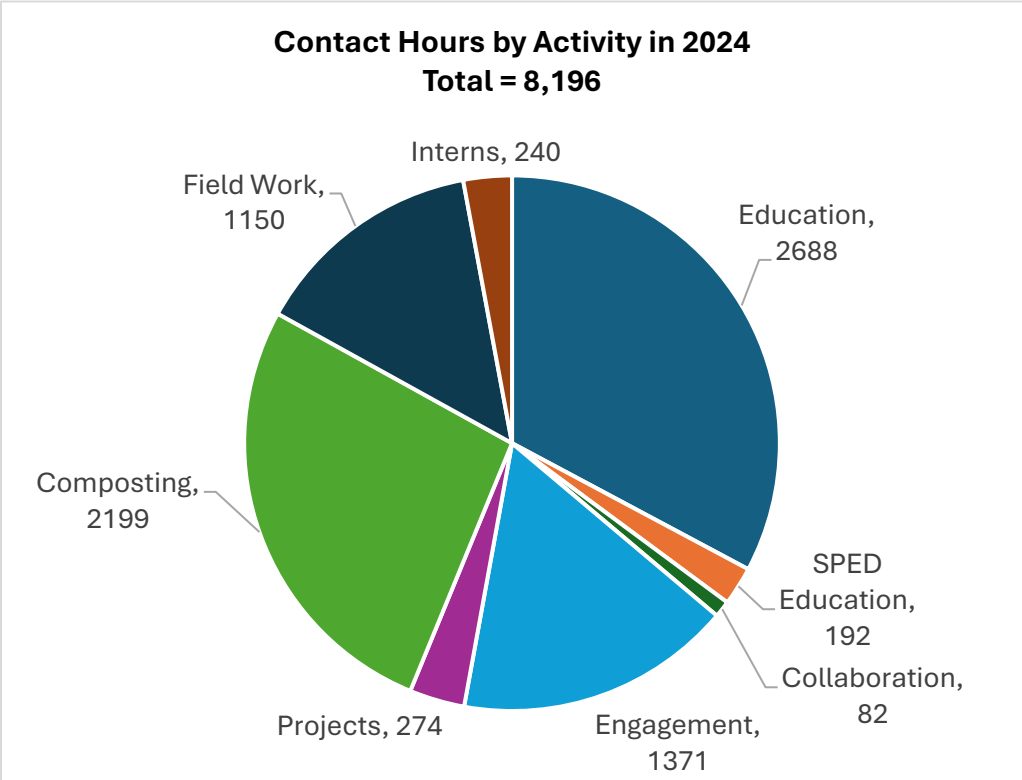


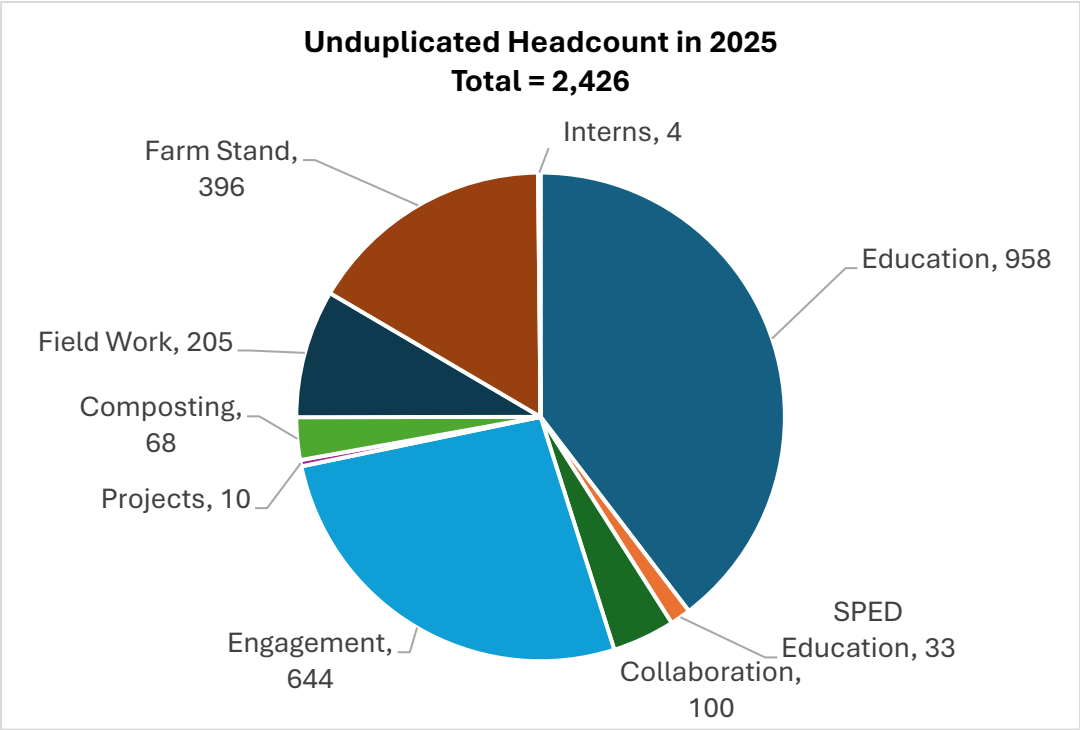
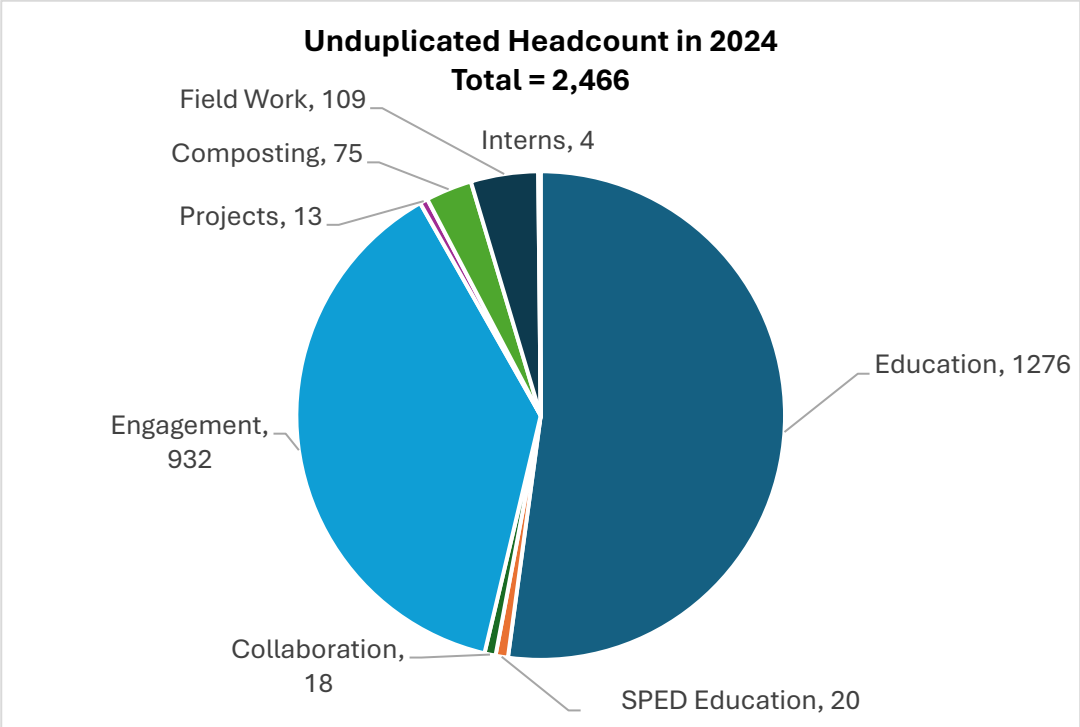


Contact Hours

Contact hours grew by 20% in 2025.





Head Count

As noted above, the number of people the farm had contact with is undercounted. However, the fact that at least 2,400 individuals had interactions with the farm is an achievement.