

Form **990-EZ**

**Short Form**

**Return of Organization Exempt From Income Tax**

OMB No 1545-1150

**2015**

Under section 501(c), 527, or 4947(a)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code (except private foundations)

▶ Do not enter social security numbers on this form as it may be made public.

▶ Information about Form 990-EZ and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

**Open to Public Inspection**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

**A** For the 2015 calendar year, or tax year beginning JULY 1, 2015, and ending JUNE 30, 2016

**B** Check if applicable:  
 Address change  
 Name change  
 Initial return  
 Final return/terminated  
 Amended return  
 Application pending

**C** Name of organization  
**NORTH COUNTRY FOOD ALLIANCE**

Number and street (or P O box, if mail is not delivered to street address) Room/suite  
**2 EAST FRANKLIN AVENUE 1**

City or town, state or province, country, and ZIP or foreign postal code  
**MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA 55404**

**D** Employer identification number  
**46-3139547**

**E** Telephone number  
**612-568-4585**

**F** Group Exemption Number ▶

**G** Accounting Method  Cash  Accrual Other (specify) ▶

**H** Check  if the organization is not required to attach Schedule B (Form 990, 990-EZ, or 990-PF)

**I** Website: ▶ **northcountryfoodalliance.org**

**J** Tax-exempt status (check only one) -  501(c)(3)  501(c) ( ) (insert no)  4947(a)(1) or  527

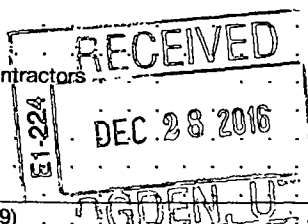
**K** Form of organization  Corporation  Trust  Association  Other

**L** Add lines 5b, 6c, and 7b to line 9 to determine gross receipts. If gross receipts are \$200,000 or more, or if total assets (Part II, column (B) below) are \$500,000 or more, file Form 990 instead of Form 990-EZ. ▶ \$

SCANNED JAN 10 2017

**Part I Revenue, Expenses, and Changes in Net Assets or Fund Balances** (see the instructions for Part I)  
Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part I

Revenue	1	Contributions, gifts, grants, and similar amounts received	1	192752
	2	Program service revenue including government fees and contracts	2	0
	3	Membership dues and assessments	3	0
	4	Investment income	4	0
	5a	Gross amount from sale of assets other than inventory	5a	0
	5b	Less: cost or other basis and sales expenses	5b	0
	5c	Gain or (loss) from sale of assets other than inventory (Subtract line 5b from line 5a)	5c	0
	6	Gaming and fundraising events		
	a	Gross income from gaming (attach Schedule G if greater than \$15,000)	6a	0
b	Gross income from fundraising events (not including \$ of contributions from fundraising events reported on line 1) (attach Schedule G if the sum of such gross income and contributions exceeds \$15,000)	6b	0	
c	Less: direct expenses from gaming and fundraising events	6c	0	
d	Net income or (loss) from gaming and fundraising events (add lines 6a and 6b and subtract line 6c)	6d	0	
7a	Gross sales of inventory, less returns and allowances	7a	0	
b	Less: cost of goods sold	7b	0	
c	Gross profit or (loss) from sales of inventory (Subtract line 7b from line 7a)	7c	0	
8	Other revenue (describe in Schedule O)	8	0	
9	<b>Total revenue.</b> Add lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5c, 6d, 7c, and 8	9	192752	
Expenses	10	Grants and similar amounts paid (list in Schedule O)	10	0
	11	Benefits paid to or for members	11	0
	12	Salaries, other compensation, and employee benefits	12	144535
	13	Professional fees and other payments to independent contractors	13	0
	14	Occupancy, rent, utilities, and maintenance	14	7790
	15	Printing, publications, postage, and shipping	15	2018
	16	Other expenses (describe in Schedule O)	16	24537
17	<b>Total expenses.</b> Add lines 10 through 16	17	178880	
Net Assets	18	Excess or (deficit) for the year (Subtract line 17 from line 9)	18	13872
	19	Net assets or fund balances at beginning of year (from line 27, column (A)) (must agree with end-of-year figure reported on prior year's return)	19	231
	20	Other changes in net assets or fund balances (explain in Schedule O)	20	0
	21	<b>Net assets or fund balances at end of year.</b> Combine lines 18 through 20	21	14103



98 7

**Part II Balance Sheets** (see the instructions for Part II)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part II

	(A) Beginning of year	(B) End of year
22 Cash, savings, and investments	1424	22 10009
23 Land and buildings		23
24 Other assets (describe in Schedule O)	2348	24 4094
25 Total assets	3772	25
26 Total liabilities (describe in Schedule O)	3541	26
27 Net assets or fund balances (line 27 of column (B) must agree with line 21)	231	27 14103

**Part III Statement of Program Service Accomplishments** (see the instructions for Part III)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part III

What is the organization's primary exempt purpose? **INCREASING ACCESS TO HEALTHY FOOD**  
 Describe the organization's program service accomplishments for each of its three largest program services, as measured by expenses. In a clear and concise manner, describe the services provided, the number of persons benefited, and other relevant information for each program title.

**Expenses**  
 (Required for section 501(c)(3) and 501(c)(4) organizations, optional for others)

28 <b>OUTREACH &amp; EDUCATION: WE TALKED TO OVER 40,000 PEOPLE ABOUT FOOD JUSTICE AND HOW TO GET INVOLVED WITH OUR DOOR-TO-DOOR OPERATION.</b> (Grants \$ ) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	28a	125145.6
29 <b>FOODSHARE! DONATED OVER 100,000 POUNDS OF HEALTHY FREE FOOD TO CHARITABLE ORGANIZATIONS THAT SERVE LOW-INCOME, ELDERLY, HOMELESS, IMMIGRANT, AND OTHER PEOPLE IN NEED.</b> (Grants \$ ) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	29a	9715
30 <b>GARDEN! BUILT A NEW COMMUNITY GARDEN ON A VACANT LOT IN SAINT PAUL. ALSO MADE PLANS FOR A NEW GARDEN IN MINNEAPOLIS AND A FRUIT GARDEN IN SAINT PAUL.</b> (Grants \$ ) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	30a	2753
31 Other program services (describe in Schedule O) (Grants \$ ) If this amount includes foreign grants, check here <input type="checkbox"/>	31a	210
32 Total program service expenses (add lines 28a through 31a)	32	137823

**Part IV List of Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees** (list each one even if not compensated—see the instructions for Part IV)

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part IV

(a) Name and title	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC) (if not paid, enter -0-)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
1. <b>ANDY LARSON</b> CHAIR, TREASURER	0	0	0	0
2. <b>CRAIG DREHMEL</b> SECRETARY	0	0	0	0
3. <b>JIM BJERKE</b> TREASURER	0	15303.20	0	0
4. <b>PETER RANDOL</b> CHAIR	0	12771.80	0	0

Part V Other Information (Note the Schedule A and personal benefit contract statement requirements in the instructions for Part V) Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part V

33 Did the organization engage in any significant activity not previously reported to the IRS? If "Yes," provide a detailed description of each activity in Schedule O
34 Were any significant changes made to the organizing or governing documents? If "Yes," attach a conformed copy of the amended documents if they reflect a change to the organization's name
35a Did the organization have unrelated business gross income of \$1,000 or more during the year from business activities
35b If "Yes," to line 35a, has the organization filed a Form 990-T for the year? If "No" provide an explanation in Schedule O
35c Was the organization a section 501(c)(4), 501(c)(5), or 501(c)(6) organization subject to section 6033(e) notice, reporting, and proxy tax requirements during the year?
36 Did the organization undergo a liquidation, dissolution, termination, or significant disposition of net assets during the year?
37a Enter amount of political expenditures, direct or indirect, as described in the instructions
37b Did the organization file Form 1120-POL for this year?
38a Did the organization borrow from, or make any loans to, any officer, director, trustee, or key employee or were any such loans made in a prior year and still outstanding at the end of the tax year covered by this return?
38b If "Yes," complete Schedule L, Part II and enter the total amount involved
39 Section 501(c)(7) organizations. Enter:
39a Initiation fees and capital contributions included on line 9
39b Gross receipts, included on line 9, for public use of club facilities
40a Section 501(c)(3) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on the organization during the year under: section 4911; section 4912; section 4955
40b Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Did the organization engage in any section 4958 excess benefit transaction during the year, or did it engage in an excess benefit transaction in a prior year that has not been reported on any of its prior Forms 990 or 990-EZ?
40c Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax imposed on organization managers or disqualified persons during the year under sections 4912, 4955, and 4958
40d Section 501(c)(3), 501(c)(4), and 501(c)(29) organizations. Enter amount of tax on line 40c reimbursed by the organization
40e All organizations. At any time during the tax year, was the organization a party to a prohibited tax shelter transaction?
41 List the states with which a copy of this return is filed
42a The organization's books are in care of Christopher Allison Telephone no. 612-568-4585 Located at 2 E. Franklin Ave. #1 Minneapolis, MN ZIP + 4 55404-2557
42b At any time during the calendar year, did the organization have an interest in or a signature or other authority over a financial account in a foreign country (such as a bank account, securities account, or other financial account)?
42c At any time during the calendar year, did the organization maintain an office outside the U.S.?
43 Section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trusts filing Form 990-EZ in lieu of Form 1041 - Check here and enter the amount of tax-exempt interest received or accrued during the tax year
44a Did the organization maintain any donor advised funds during the year?
44b Did the organization operate one or more hospital facilities during the year?
44c Did the organization receive any payments for indoor tanning services during the year?
44d If "Yes" to line 44c, has the organization filed a Form 720 to report these payments?
45a Did the organization have a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?
45b Did the organization receive any payment from or engage in any transaction with a controlled entity within the meaning of section 512(b)(13)?

46 Did the organization engage, directly or indirectly, in political campaign activities on behalf of or in opposition to candidates for public office? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part I . . . . . 

	Yes	No
46		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Part VI Section 501(c)(3) organizations only**

All section 501(c)(3) organizations must answer questions 47-49b and 52, and complete the tables for lines 50 and 51.

Check if the organization used Schedule O to respond to any question in this Part VI . . . . .

47 Did the organization engage in lobbying activities or have a section 501(h) election in effect during the tax year? If "Yes," complete Schedule C, Part II . . . . . 

	Yes	No
47		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
48		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
49a		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
49b		

48 Is the organization a school as described in section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)? If "Yes," complete Schedule E . . . . .

49a Did the organization make any transfers to an exempt non-charitable related organization? . . . . .

b If "Yes," was the related organization a section 527 organization? . . . . .

50 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated employees (other than officers, directors, trustees and key employees) who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None"

(a) Name and title of each employee	(b) Average hours per week devoted to position	(c) Reportable compensation (Forms W-2/1099-MISC)	(d) Health benefits, contributions to employee benefit plans, and deferred compensation	(e) Estimated amount of other compensation
NONE				

f Total number of other employees paid over \$100,000 . . . . . 0

51 Complete this table for the organization's five highest compensated independent contractors who each received more than \$100,000 of compensation from the organization. If there is none, enter "None."

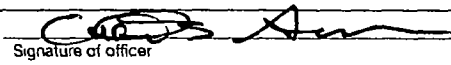
(a) Name and business address of each independent contractor	(b) Type of service	(c) Compensation
NONE		

d Total number of other independent contractors each receiving over \$100,000 . . . . . 0

52 Did the organization complete Schedule A? Note: All section 501(c)(3) organizations must attach a completed Schedule A . . . . .  Yes  No

Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief, it is true, correct, and complete. Declaration of preparer (other than officer) is based on all information of which preparer has any knowledge.

Sign Here 

	12/23/2016
Signature of officer	Date

  
 Type or print name and title CHRISTOPHER ALLISON ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR

Paid Preparer Use Only 

Print/Type preparer's name	Preparer's signature	Date	Check <input type="checkbox"/> if self-employed	PTIN
Firm's name	Firm's EIN		Phone no	
Firm's address				

May the IRS discuss this return with the preparer shown above? See instructions . . . . .  Yes  No

**SCHEDULE A**  
**(Form 990 or 990-EZ)**

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

**Public Charity Status and Public Support**

Complete if the organization is a section 501(c)(3) organization or a section 4947(a)(1) nonexempt charitable trust.

▶ Attach to Form 990 or Form 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule A (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

OMB No 1545-0047

**2015**

**Open to Public Inspection**

Name of the organization

**NORTH COUNTRY FOOD ALLIANCE**

Employer identification number

**46-3139547**

**Part I Reason for Public Charity Status** (All organizations must complete this part.) See instructions.

The organization is not a private foundation because it is. (For lines 1 through 11, check only one box.)

- 1  A church, convention of churches, or association of churches described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(i)**.
- 2  A school described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii)**. (Attach Schedule E (Form 990 or 990-EZ).)
- 3  A hospital or a cooperative hospital service organization described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**.
- 4  A medical research organization operated in conjunction with a hospital described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iii)**. Enter the hospital's name, city, and state.
- 5  An organization operated for the benefit of a college or university owned or operated by a governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(iv)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 6  A federal, state, or local government or governmental unit described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(v)**.
- 7  An organization that normally receives a substantial part of its support from a governmental unit or from the general public described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 8  A community trust described in **section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**. (Complete Part II.)
- 9  An organization that normally receives: (1) more than 33 1/3% of its support from contributions, membership fees, and gross receipts from activities related to its exempt functions—subject to certain exceptions, and (2) no more than 33 1/3% of its support from gross investment income and unrelated business taxable income (less section 511 tax) from businesses acquired by the organization after June 30, 1975. See **section 509(a)(2)**. (Complete Part III.)
- 10  An organization organized and operated exclusively to test for public safety. See **section 509(a)(4)**.
- 11  An organization organized and operated exclusively for the benefit of to perform the functions of or to carry out the purposes of one or more publicly supported organizations described in **section 509(a)(1)** or **section 509(a)(2)**. See **section 509(a)(3)**. Check the box in lines 11a through 11d that describes the type of supporting organization and complete lines 11e, 11f, and 11g.
  - a  **Type I.** A supporting organization operated, supervised, or controlled by its supported organization(s), typically by giving the supported organization(s) the power to regularly appoint or elect a majority of the directors or trustees of the supporting organization. **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and B.**
  - b  **Type II.** A supporting organization supervised or controlled in connection with its supported organization(s), by having control or management of the supporting organization vested in the same persons that control or manage the supported organization(s). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and C.**
  - c  **Type III functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with, and functionally integrated with, its supported organization(s) (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A, D, and E.**
  - d  **Type III non-functionally integrated.** A supporting organization operated in connection with its supported organization(s) that is not functionally integrated. The organization generally must satisfy a distribution requirement and an attentiveness requirement (see instructions). **You must complete Part IV, Sections A and D, and Part V.**
  - e  Check this box if the organization received a written determination from the IRS that it is a Type I, Type II, Type III functionally integrated, or Type III non-functionally integrated supporting organization.
- f Enter the number of supported organizations
- g Provide the following information about the supported organization(s).

(i) Name of supported organization	(ii) EIN	(iii) Type of organization (described on lines 1-9 above (see instructions))	(iv) Is the organization listed in your governing document?		(v) Amount of monetary support (see instructions)	(vi) Amount of other support (see instructions)
			Yes	No		
(A)						
(B)						
(C)						
(D)						
(E)						
<b>Total</b>						

**Part II Support Schedule for Organizations Described in Sections 170(b)(1)(A)(iv) and 170(b)(1)(A)(vi)**  
 (Complete only if you checked the box on line 5, 7, or 8 of Part I or if the organization failed to qualify under Part III. If the organization fails to qualify under the tests listed below, please complete Part III.)

**Section A. Public Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2011	(b) 2012	(c) 2013	(d) 2014	(e) 2015	(f) Total
1 Gifts, grants, contributions, and membership fees received. (Do not include any "unusual grants.") . . . . .	0	0	163789	238611	192752	595152
2 Tax revenues levied for the organization's benefit and either paid to or expended on its behalf . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0
3 The value of services or facilities furnished by a governmental unit to the organization without charge . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0
4 <b>Total.</b> Add lines 1 through 3 . . . . .	0	0	163789	238611	192752	595152
5 The portion of total contributions by each person (other than a governmental unit or publicly supported organization) included on line 1 that exceeds 2% of the amount shown on line 11, column (f) . . . . .						0
6 <b>Public support.</b> Subtract line 5 from line 4 . . . . .						595152

**Section B. Total Support**

Calendar year (or fiscal year beginning in) ▶	(a) 2011	(b) 2012	(c) 2013	(d) 2014	(e) 2015	(f) Total
7 Amounts from line 4 . . . . .	0	0	163789	238611	192752	595152
8 Gross income from interest, dividends, payments received on securities loans, rents, royalties and income from similar sources . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0
9 Net income from unrelated business activities, whether or not the business is regularly carried on . . . . .	0	0	0	0	0	0
10 Other income. Do not include gain or loss from the sale of capital assets (Explain in Part VI.) . . . . .	0	0	0	500	0	500
11 <b>Total support.</b> Add lines 7 through 10 . . . . .						595652
12 Gross receipts from related activities, etc. (see instructions) . . . . .					12	0
13 <b>First five years.</b> If the Form 990 is for the organization's first, second, third, fourth, or fifth tax year as a section 501(c)(3) organization, check this box and <b>stop here</b> . . . . .						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Section C. Computation of Public Support Percentage**

14 Public support percentage for 2015 (line 6, column (f) divided by line 11, column (f)) . . . . .	14	%
15 Public support percentage from 2014 Schedule A, Part II, line 14 . . . . .	15	%
16a <b>33 1/3% support test—2015.</b> If the organization did not check the box on line 13, and line 14 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	
b <b>33 1/3% support test—2014.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13 or 16a, and line 15 is 33 1/3% or more, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	
17a <b>10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2015.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, or 16b, and line 14 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	
b <b>10%-facts-and-circumstances test—2014.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, or 17a, and line 15 is 10% or more, and if the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test, check this box and <b>stop here.</b> Explain in Part VI how the organization meets the "facts-and-circumstances" test. The organization qualifies as a publicly supported organization . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	
18 <b>Private foundation.</b> If the organization did not check a box on line 13, 16a, 16b, 17a, or 17b, check this box and see instructions . . . . .	<input type="checkbox"/>	

SCHEDULE O  
(Form 990 or 990-EZ)

Supplemental Information to Form 990 or 990-EZ

Complete to provide information for responses to specific questions on Form 990 or 990-EZ or to provide any additional information.

OMB No 1545-0047

2015

Open to Public Inspection

Department of the Treasury  
Internal Revenue Service

▶ Attach to Form 990 or 990-EZ.

▶ Information about Schedule O (Form 990 or 990-EZ) and its instructions is at [www.irs.gov/form990](http://www.irs.gov/form990).

Name of the organization

NORTH COUNTRY FOOD ALLIANCE

Employer identification number

46-3139547

LINE 16: VEHICLE FUEL \$3866.3, PROGRAM SUPPLIES \$628.24,  
INSURANCE \$9674.39, VEHICLE MAINTENANCE \$3389.11,  
MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT \$574.98, BANK FEES \$1931.52,  
OFFICE SUPPLIES \$2563.13, DEPARTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLES FEES \$402.69,  
MN ATTORNEY GENERAL ANNUAL FILING FEE \$25, MUNICIPAL PERMITS \$50,  
PARKING TICKETS \$82, VEHICLE PURCHASE \$1350

LINE 24: CANON MG6620 PRINTER \$54, HP CHROMEBOOK 14 \$150,  
1999 GMC SAVANNA \$500, 1984 CHEVROLET BONNAVENTURE \$3390

LINE 31: TEACHING CLASSES ON SAFELY FORAGING WILD EDIBLES AND  
BUILDING A MOBILE KITCHEN FOR COOKING FREE COMMUNITY  
MEALS.