

# Farm to Table Dinner

A Case Study on  
Adding a Big Event to Your  
Fundraising Plans

**CASCADE**  
COMMUNITY MARKETS

A group of people is walking away from the camera on a dirt path through a forest. The path is lined with log stumps. In the foreground, a man in a blue and white plaid shirt and dark shorts is walking. Next to him is a woman with long brown hair, wearing a white sleeveless top, blue jeans, and a red shoulder bag. Other people are visible further down the path, including a man in a white shirt and a woman in a blue dress. The background shows a lush green valley with rolling hills under a bright sky.

# Welcome

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Executive Director  
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## We'll Cover:

- Our event model
- Year-by-year event evolution
- Key lessons we've learned
- Your questions

The background of the slide features six white bowls of light-colored soup, each garnished with fresh herbs, small blue and yellow flowers, and a sprinkle of seeds. A slice of rustic, dark brown bread is placed next to each bowl. The bowls are arranged in two rows of three, set against a dark background.

# Rate Your Planning Experience

1 = Never planned an event

2 = I have planned casual events or friend/family gatherings

3 = I have planned small formal events

4 = I have planned large formal events(over 50 people)

5 = I have professional experience in planning formal events

















How did we get here?



Year One



Year Two



# Year Three



# Year Four



# Year Five





# Year Six





So, what have  
we learned?

FARM TABLE  
DINNER

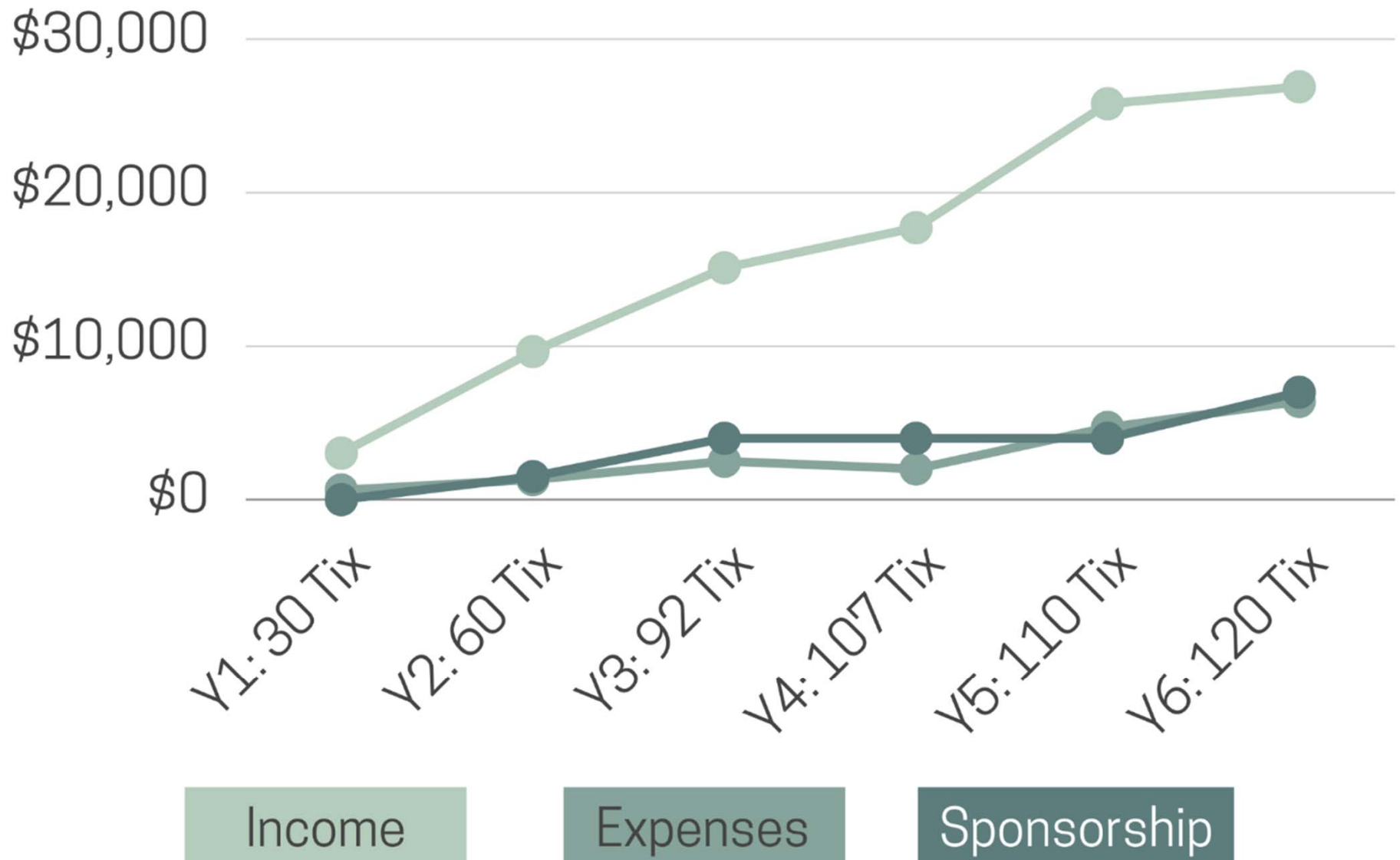
# Lesson 1: Many hands make light work.

Our last event required 35 volunteer staff members for dinner service alone.

But you'll also need volunteers for set up, clean up, planning, & thanking.



# Lesson #2: Balance expenses with sponsorship.



Lesson 3:  
Find the  
right  
partners.

Partners include:  
Location hosts  
Equipment-lenders  
Chefs  
Wineries/Breweries  
Sponsors



Lesson 4: Be  
clear with your  
expectations &  
your budget.

If you're asking for a donation,  
whether it's time, money, supplies or  
food, call it a *donation*.

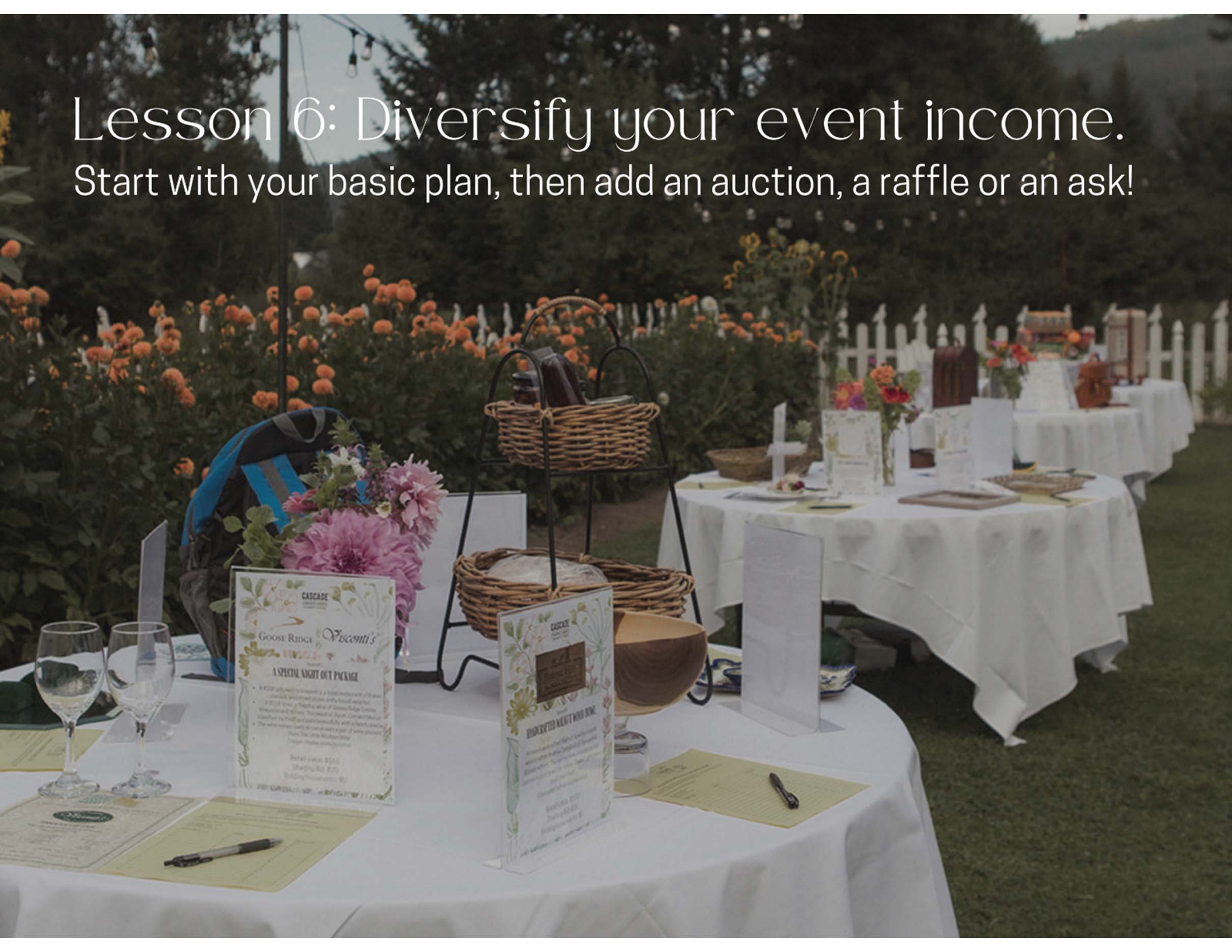


A field of vibrant yellow sunflowers with dark brown centers is the main focus. In the foreground, several string lights with glowing white bulbs are strung across the frame. The background consists of rolling green hills, which are softly blurred, creating a sense of depth. The overall lighting is soft and natural, suggesting a late afternoon or early morning setting.

Lesson 5: Start earlier.  
This applies to both planning & set up.

# Lesson 6: Diversify your event income.

Start with your basic plan, then add an auction, a raffle or an ask!





Lesson 7:  
Celebrate,  
appreciate  
and  
document.



Questions?





Thank You!

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