

Fresno Metro Ministry - Food to Share Program

2022 Annual Summary

Food Recovery and Distribution Network & Gleanings:



- Deployed 5 cargo vans and drivers daily during the year - while covering several driver transitions and accomplishing new hire training/operational skills
- Added 26 Food Donor organizations, now have a total of 116
- Added 17 Food Receiver organizations, now have a total of 43
- 1,592,937 Rescued and Redistributed pounds of food in 2022
 - Total 2022 Pounds Recovered/Redistributed: 1,560,330 lbs.
 - Plus Gleanings: 32,607
- Cumulative pounds of food Recovered/Redistributed 2017-2022 = 8,414,199 pounds

Cooking Skills & Nutrition Education & CalFresh/Food Demonstrations:

**COOKING
MATTERS™**



- Enrolled/Graduated 179 Cooking Matter Participants in 9 Cohorts
 - Fresno Area Indian Health Program
 - West Fresno Family Resource Center
 - San Joaquin Estates, Summer Parks
 - EPU Valley Dream Center
 - Highway City Development Center
 - EOC Light House
 - EL Dorado Park
- Conducted six Healthy Cooking demonstrations serving Served 1,325 Participants
 - Butler Mennonite Brethren Church
 - Mt. Olive Church
 - Rpto Divino Asamblea de Dios
 - West Fresno Family Resource Center
 - West McKinley Refinery Church
 - HOPEWorldwide Central Valley -
- Conducted 12 CalFresh Enrollment Workshops - Competing 525 CalFresh application pre-screenings
- CalFresh Training - Recruited and Trained 10 Residence Advisory Leaders for CalFresh
 - They met 12 times (monthly) - to discuss outreach strategies, community concerns, and possible solutions

Community Gardens and Urban Farms:



- Over 250 community gardeners from low-income underserved communities now have active garden plots at Metro's 4 gardens
 - Totaling 14 acres being managed + 5 active aspiring farmers being incubated and mentored at YoVille Garden/Farm
- Planted 76 Fruit bearing trees
- Composted 15,241 lbs of food waste
- Diverted 2,731 yards of woody biomass from the landfill
- Farmer Training Program - Farm Trainees grew, harvested, and sold 18,051 lbs of produce in food-insecure neighborhoods and communities in Fresno County.
- Workshops - held 6 community workshops to teach gardening and farming
- Planted over 15,000 SF of native plants and pollinator habitat in partnership with Xerces society

Food Security Data System & Policy Council:



- **Fresno Food Security Network (Food Policy Council)**
 - Conducted 9 network meetings in 2022
 - Surveyed 176 Fresno County community residents to set priorities
 - Grew the network from 217 to 261 members
 - Participated with 10 other U.S. food policy councils to share and develop national best practices for development and implementation
- **Food Security/Sufficiency Insights (FSI) Tool updates**
 - Utilized the FSI tool through Urban Footprint to visualize food insufficiency data to target areas with the highest need where Food to Share does not currently have food recovery and distribution partners.
 - Through community outreach for feedback on policy priorities, locations that are best to potentially partner with were identified, and are being added to the points of interest in the FSI tool to help fill in general service gaps.
 - 38 new potential partners were identified using the FSI tool

Kids' Hands-On Healthy Food School Programs - Rite Aid Pilot:



- Rite Aid Healthy Futures Pilot designed and launched - serving over 600 students in
 - hands-on cooking classes, future food leader classes, and classes at Yo'Ville community garden.
- Fresno Unified Schools, with over 72,000 students, liked the kids' pilot program and results so much - they asked Metro to start scaling programs for staged district-wide deployment - and connected Metro with state Extended Learning Opportunity Program funding to do so.

Healthy Community Food Hubs:



- St Rest + Food to Share Hub is the first of many healthy food hubs needed in Fresno and the Valley - and will be added to through our relationship with Central Valley Community Foundation and a federal EDA grant to start - as part of a \$65 million regional food and agriculture technology and innovation initiative called F3.
- In 2022, we finished the renovation of the 5,852 sq. ft. 80-year-old warehouse on the St. Rest Campus as a modern food logistics platform for Metro's Food to Share food recovery and distribution program and St. Rest's Food Ministry and secured approval of plans and building permits to construct the new 3,940 sq. ft. two-story building on site with a certified commercial kitchen, training area, classroom, and offices - construction will begin April 2023 and be completed February 2024.
- During 2022 we raised an additional \$2,265,462 - so our total development funds raised now equal \$5,893,700. Since the total development cost has now inflated to \$6,267,700 with final bids and federal clearances - we have a shortfall of \$374,000 to complete construction cost funding - which equals about 6% to go - not bad for the greater community good - just need to raise the balance as expeditiously as possible since we begin construction on Phase 2 in April 2023.

