

Fiscal Year Ending September 30, 2020

Northwest Food Coalition

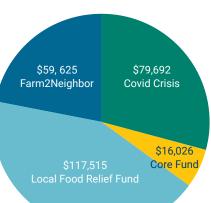
Overview

- · Unincorporated coalition of 70 food pantries, meals sites and baby pantries in six county area
- All volunteer leadership (Operating Committee)
- Fiscal and business services provided by NMCAA
- Donations received under NMCAA 501c3
- Coordinators services (Food Coalition and Purchasing) provided by two partner organizations (Goodwill Food Rescue and Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities)

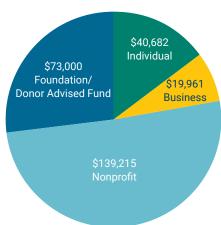
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\$272,858 **Sources of Funds**

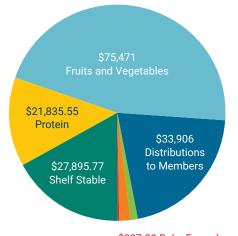


\$15,000 Purchasing Coordinator

\$340,346 \$2,500 Meijer Gift Cards **Inkind Donations** \$500 Target Gift Cards \$9,000 Food Coalition Coordinator

\$164,085 **Uses of Funds**

Kalkaska



\$287.88 Baby Formula \$2,840 Administrative \$1,484.40 Prepared Meals

Produce Purchased in 2020



3,450 lbs







1,600 lbs







tomatoes



800 lbs

onions

Basis for Rotary Grant to

build infrastructure and scale-up program



parsnips

700 lbs



700 lbs

sweet potatoes



cucumber



broccoli



green beans

4,000 lbs carrots



1,600 lbs

1,600 lbs squash

peppers

1,600 lbs asparagus

1,000 lbs watermelon

Farm2Neighbor was founded in 2018 to address leverage points in the system map "to help food insecure clients meet their nutritional needs."

The complete system map and ripple map can be viewed online at northwestmifoodcoalition.org/farm2neighbor

Program Goals

FARM2NEIGHBOR

- Improve access of healthy food for pantry clients
- Support the local farm economy through purchases of local produce
- Provide education on nutrition and cooking of local foods

2020 Accomplishments

- Farm2Neighbor distributed 20,455 lbs of local produce from 5 farms. This was an increase of 25% from 2019.
- Farm2Neighbor received directly, or was part of, several grants that supported the scale up and operations of the Farm2Neighbor program. Grants underwrote salaries of the Food Coalition Coordinator, the Purchasing Coordinator, and the warehousing and distribution of food by partner Food Rescue.
- The work to scale up the Farm2Neighbor program was key to creating systems for a resilient response to the pandemic for members. The infrastructure established by Farm2Neighbor made possible the food purchase and distribution from the successful fundraising campaign by Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities, called the Local Food Relief Fund.

Farm2Neighbor Impact

In 2020, MSU Extension facilitated a Ripple Map analysis of the Farm2Neighbor program. Feedback from appreciative inquiry surveys and two focus group meetings revealed that the creation of the Farm2Neighbor program was transformative in several areas as outlined on the next two pages.



"The relationship with the food coalition to work with you all."

- Reid Johnston, Second Springs Farm



F2N infrastructure enabled creation of local food relief fund

Developed

warehouse, repack and

distribution processes

zucchini

summer squash

Resilient COVID Crisis Response

Family Farm Boxes

Able to receive USDA







Farmers feel grateful and donate surplus regularly

More fresh food in pantries

Farmers increase capacity and develop new markets

Enhanced Farmer Economic security

Enhanced regional food security

Raising visibility of farmers

Increased amount for fresh food coming to pantries

Buying food at fair

price from farmers

Engages public in conversations about local food system

Public donates to F2N



Improving Health

Increased enthusiasm for fresh food by pantry volunteers

Volunteers engage more with clients around food and cooking

Clients take more fresh food

Enthusiasm about fresh food from clients

New clients coming to pantry for fresh food

enhanced dignity of clients receiving the best food

Clients feel valued and inspired

Providing Education on Food

FN2 follows Farm to School Harvest of the Month

Revise F2S educational materials for pantries

Pantries engage clients with educational material on F2N food

Clients consume a greater variety of fresh food and improve eating habits

Increasing Visibility and Understanding

Media/Talking about F2N increased public awareness about need for food access Visibility enabled F2N to apply for area grants

Grants enabled creation of web presence with public online donation

Online donations provided way to donate during Covid

Develop fundraising and marketing processes

Created shared system view of Food System

Enabled work towards regional food security



Developing New Capabilities

Creating grant funded position to purchase food

Developed purchasing processes and financial reporting processes

Seamlessly expanded purchasing needed for Local Food Relief Fund



New and Deepening Partnerships

Management of F2N required active communication between **Operating Committee, Coalition** members and Food Rescue

Communication improved between Coalition and Food Rescue

Developed sense of share goals and purpose

Purchasing coordinator position required collaboration between Groundworks and **Coalition and Food Rescue**

Creating representative **Purchasing Committee**

Members develop new leadership capabilities



FN2 follows Farm to School Harvest of the Month

MSUE CNI's engage clients in education, tasting and cooking F2N foods

Video project on F2N foods with MSUE

F2N Required coordination among NFC members

health outcomes

Created connection to healthcare community and client diet-related

Relationships among members deepened and understanding of food insecurity increased

Enabled funding of Purchasing position through health grant



Northwest Food Coalition