

Solving Food Insecurity
2018

# WHAT IS ON COMMON GROUND?

- Local 501c3
- A system to improve access to nutritious food and minimize food waste

#### Mission:

Connect our community with nutritious food, education and tools to help adults and children meet their potential.



#### CO-FOUNDERS

#### Shannon Dobbs

- Reno business/property owner since 2006
- Army veteran
- Logistics & management expertise
- Community collaborator for equity, social service
   & systems development





#### Michelle Dobbs

- Intervention, education, public safety, grants & business operations
- Directed local, regional & statewide social-service programs
- Reno business/property owner since 2012

#### THE SITUATION: HUNGER

More than 1 in 4 Kids in Washoe
County do <u>not</u> know from where
they'll get their next meal

Household Food Security:

Access to enough food for an active, healthy life

Source: Washoe County Food Policy Council

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15% of all WC residents
are food insecure

† † † 60,000 † † † †

1/3 of them do not
qualify for Federal food
assistance
† † † 20,000 † † †
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Source: Washoe County community health needs assessment

#### THE SITUATION: CHILDREN

Growth & Learning Learning Impairments



More
Susceptible to
Illnesses

## Our Kids in Washoe County

- 19% live in poverty
- 26,000 are food insecure
- Over 2,600 experienced homelessness & 300 lived on the streets in 2014

Source: WC Community Health Needs Assessment 2015-2017

#### THE SITUATION: SENIORS

"I have some options, but some people don't have any options at all... take whatever, and that makes people so, so unhealthy."



"[Food pantries are] not set up for people with special diets, you get what you get. You may only get bread...a few vegetables. 'Just depends what comes in."

### Our Seniors in Washoe County

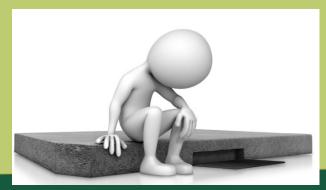
- Over 20,000 experience social isolation
- 1 out of 4 have difficulty walking a 1/4 mile
- Over 25% are experiencing poor health & reduced quality of life
- Number of seniors will nearly double by 2030

Source: WC Community Health Needs Assessment 2015-2017

#### THE SITUATION: REALITY

- Number of people reliant on federal & public nutrition support at all-time high in W.C.
- 1/3 of all food-distribution sites report not having enough food
- 1/2 of all families receiving food from a pantry have had to choose between buying food or paying for other needs

Source: WC Community Health Needs Assessment 2015-2017



#### THE SITUATION: BARRIERS

**Transportation Access to Food Cost of Food Lack of Appliances Little Awareness of** Resources **Special Dietary Needs** 

Source: OCG Focus Group Studies 2017

#### THE SITUATION: FOOD DESERTS



It's access, that's the number one thing. We want to make healthy choices, but we don't always get that opportunity.

Only 29% of Washoe County zip codes have access to a "healthy food outlet" (i.e. grocery store or produce stand).

Federal recommendation = 50%

Source: Washoe County Chronic Disease Report Card

## WHAT IS THE OCG SOLUTION?

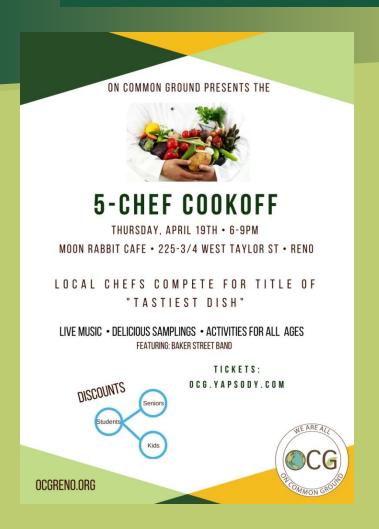
- A Downtown Community Grocery Market
- Mobile Markets to Serve Areas that have limited food access
- A **Food Processing Plant** to convert food into shelf-stable product, using locally grown and produced food and food that would otherwise be wasted (sealed; traceable; nearing the sell or use-by date)
- Produce Faire with farmers' market, arts & cultural components in City Centre



Sliding Scale:

Community members in need purchase nutritious food & necessities at cost

### GET INVOLVED: EVENTS





## GET INVOLVED







- Volunteer
- Donate
- Monthly Newsletter Sign up
- Ask your friends:







Contact@OCGReno.org



Instagram

## ON COMMON GROUND

## QUESTIONS



Thank you!

#### FOOD HUB

- Efficient distribution
- Locally grown priority
- Gleaning collection site
- Curb food waste; process food at sell-by date for shelf stability
  - Cooking
  - Canning/Preservation

#### FOOD IS COMMUNITY

- Grocery market
  - Sliding scale
  - One-stop shop
- Multi-use
  - Community events calendar
  - Interactive demos & art
  - Café
  - Indoor/Outdoor

#### ACCESS

- Busses or trucks
- Nutritious food
  - Fresh
  - Prepared
- Sliding scale
- Target food deserts

MOBILE GROCERY UNITS

DOWNTOWN
MARKET &
COMMUNITY
CENTER

**PARTNERSHIPS** 

**EDUCATION** & OUTREACH

#### **RESOURCE SHARING**

- Food-producer benefits
  - Donation credit/gleaning
- Food banks/pantries
  - Increase food availability
  - Neighborhood ambassadors
  - Collect/transport food
  - Avoid duplication

OCGReno.org
FaceBook.com/OCGReno
Contact@OCGReno.org

**WAREHOUSE** &

**PROCESSING** 

**CENTER** 

#### SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

- Cooking & nutrition classes
- On-site jobs & training
- Computer lab
  - Resume building
  - Knowledge center
  - Skills training
- Job postings
- Volunteerism