

**Terms defined:**

**Gleaning** – The act of extracting (food product) from multiple sources. Grocery rescue can be referred to as a *gleaning activity or process*. Most often, gleaning refers to the process of exacting unwanted produce from trees, bushes, or gardens such as the fruit trees of residents, businesses or government property in order to reduce mess and divert consumable produce to food distribution sites. The owner of the produce is eligible for a tax-exempt donation as long as the product is given to a charity.

**Farm 2 food bank**

**Grocery/retail rescue** – The partnership between traditional private grocery or retail businesses and non-profit agencies wherein edible about-to-expire foods, discontinued items or food product that does not meet the business's standard for sale due to appearance, are culled and set aside for donation rather than other means of discard such as landfill waste, livestock feed or composting. For this donation, private businesses receive a tax donation.

**Emerging retail** - The partnership between private businesses and non-profit agencies wherein edible about-to-expire foods, discontinued items or food product that does not meet the business's standard for sale due to appearance, are culled and set aside for donation rather than other means of discard such as landfill waste, livestock feed or composting. The distinction between grocery/retail rescue and emerging retail may appear subjective but a business is typically referred to as emerging retail when the first line of business is something other than the sale of groceries that consumers take home to prepare meals: convenience stores, discount stores, and restaurants like coffee shops that sell individually packaged food that is pre-labeled. For this donation, private businesses receive a tax donation.

**Banquet/prepared hot food** – The partnership between restaurants, caterers, and banquet facilities and non-profit agencies wherein the food product to be donated is within a perishable time frame because it is already prepared hot and must therefore be quickly consumed or quickly brought down in temperature to be stored and distributed/consumed at a later time. Since banquet/prepared hot food is often on a large scale, a great deal of advance planning is required so that each tray or pan is of a usable size for agencies to distribute to individual households in the same way that rescued groceries are distributed. For this donation, private businesses receive a tax donation.

**Food shows** – The partnership between food manufacturers and non-profit agencies wherein consumable product is donated for distribution to those in need, rather than packaged and returned to the manufacturer, or discarded to landfills, to feed livestock or to compost. These shows are irregular in nature and require advance planning due to typical volumes of donated product. For this donation, private businesses receive a tax donation.

**Vendor/food production donations** – The partnership between food wholesalers, vendors, or/and manufacturers and non-profit agencies wherein food product in large volumes that was procured for a purpose is longer needed, sellable or manageable within their inventory limitations, and is therefore donated rather than discarded to landfills, to feed livestock or to compost. These are typically irregular donations but may not require planning well in advance. Included in this category are private businesses such as US Foods, as well as co-op operations, and even institutions such as a school district.

**Middle Mile**

**Community food drives** – Small volume groceries given for the cause and purpose of hunger-relief or in exchange for something else such as entrance to an event, or in lieu of a library fine, etc. While some of this product may have been obtained from the pantries of the donor that would have otherwise been thrown away had it been an opportune time for donation, typically community drives are not sources of food that are being rescued or diverted from landfills or other means of discard.

**Agency empowered** – Agency empowered models of rescuing/gleaning food are ones in which the primary relationship between the food donor and non-profit agency is not a food bank. Instead, these agencies are those that provide a direct distribution to those in need in the community. While the initial connection may have been brokered by the food bank, the relationship is managed by the direct service agency and the donated food pounds are reported to the food bank by the direct service agency.

**Opportunity gap** – A term that describes the translation of research to operational practices when research or data indicates the current status or volume of outputs but forecasts that with strategic intervention, market conditions, or relationship building, the output could yield more. A strategic plan sets the goals, or timed benchmarks, based on forecasted projections that will close the opportunity gap.

**Potential categories:**

**Bucket 1: Prepared Hot Food**

*Characteristics of food in this category:*

- Food that is temp sensitive and must be quickly consumed or flash frozen
- Bulk food that is temp sensitive and must also be packaged into usable portion amounts
- Planned rescue that requires food bank/agency labor within a short window

*Included in this category:*

- Banquet
- Restaurant

**Bucket 2: Non-prepared Food**

*Characteristics of food in this category:*

- Food that is individually sold as grocery/retail product
- Bulk food that is already frozen or dry but is pre-packed and needs only a scheduled pick up
- Food that is in small, moderate or large amounts that are pre-scheduled on regular routes

*Included in this category:*

- Grocery retail
- Emerging retail
- Vendors/food production

**Bucket 3: Opportunity Food**

*Characteristics of food in this category:*

- Food resourcing based on circumstances that are unusual or irregular

*Food included in this category:*

- Gleaning
- Food shows
- Vendors/food production

**Scope and purview of the Food for People, Not Landfills Subcommittee:**

Suggestion 1: Food that is consumable and diverted away from landfills, livestock feed, or composting.

Suggestion 2: Food that will not be used for its original sourcing purpose and is therefore donated, rescued or gleaned for the purpose of feeding those in need.