

Food For Thought

Welcoming EFN's Newest Director

EFN is excited to announce that our team has grown! We proudly welcome Lianna Olds, our new Deputy Director, to the team! With the expansion of EFN's capacity and the need for food resources continuing to climb in 2023, there is no better time to expand our leadership team.



EFN is projected to move 14 million pounds of food within our network this year, and as we have learned from the upward trends of recent years, we can expect continued demand in the years to come. EFN recognizes now is the time to take on valuable new leadership and insights as our organization works to expand and better serve our Pierce County neighbors in need.

Lianna comes to us with 11 years of development and community support experience with nonprofit organizations in both Pierce County and North Texas. Her expertise includes fund development, community outreach, board development, and team building. Lianna is driven by her commitment to justice and education, volunteering with the South Sound Chapter of the Association of Fundraising Professionals and teaching Public Administration and Nonprofit Management as an Adjunct Faculty member for The Evergreen State College. She is excited to use her strategic approach to further the work of addressing food insecurity. Lianna lives in Lakewood with her husband and two dogs (Boomer and Adele). She can most frequently be found experimenting in her kitchen or messing around in her garden. *Welcome to the team, Lianna!*

A Night of Shared Abundance

Thankful For Festivities, Food, And Fundraising

Thank you to everyone who supported our Abundance Dinner & Auction in October! More than 400 of you came together and donated auction items, sponsored tables, purchased packages, and raised your paddles. **All of this helped us raise more than \$490,000 - equivalent to 980,000 meals!** We hope everyone who attended the event had a great time - stay tuned for photos from the night.

At this year's Abundance, we shared the message that it starts and ends with food. Food is the most fundamental human need - without meeting our basic nutritional needs, we can neither survive nor thrive. EFN's network of more than 75 partner food pantries, meal sites, and shelters are serving more monthly visits than any other time in our history. As the cost of housing and other essentials continue to rise, more of our neighbors find themselves with no money left in their budget for food. We are so grateful for our community's incredible generosity at Abundance to help EFN feed our neighbors in need.

Didn't get a chance to attend Abundance?

You can still make a donation online [here](#) and don't forget to

save the date for next year's event on October 26, 2024.



Empty Bowls Is Almost Here!

Last chance to attend an EFN event in 2023

EFN has one more event in store this year, and it's a community favorite: Empty Bowls! At Empty Bowls, guests shop a beautiful selection of handmade bowls. Every piece is crafted by a local artist, using clay, wood, or glass, and these beautiful creations make excellent holiday gifts! Because our amazing artists donate their work, every dollar of your purchase supports EFN's work feeding neighbors in need!

In addition to shopping for beautiful bowls, you can enjoy hot soup donated by local restaurants, cast a vote in the first ever Community Soup Choice Awards, and learn more about EFN's work and mission. We hope to see you there!

Thank you for all of your support for the Building For The Future Campaign.

We cannot wait to celebrate the next phase with you!

We are expecting the new warehouse to be finished in February 2024.

Keep an eye out for news on ribbon cutting and tours of the new warehouse in 2024.



CHARLES WRIGHT ACADEMY

7723 CHAMBERS CREEK RD W, TACOMA, WA 98467

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18TH, 1:00PM – 3:00PM

Building For The Future

Catch-Up on EFN's Construction

We are getting closer to the finished building and we are excited to share the progress! Plumbing inspection and installment are finished. The foundation and loading dock footing have been built, with a whopping 45 concrete trucks pouring cement last month! The metal building frame is being erected. It's only a matter of months before the outer façade is complete. *Check out photos below!*

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From The Fields

Updates From Mother Earth Farm



Bit by bit, we're wrapping things up at the farm. We've been clearing out plants from the field and vines from the high tunnels to make way for the winter crops that will feed our communities for the next four months. Those crops include cabbage, kohlrabi, mustard greens, kale, beets, carrots, collard greens, pac choi, celery, napa cabbage, and chard. Other crops like garlic and long-season cabbage will be put into the ground within the next two weeks and harvested in the late spring and early summer.

The farm team is continually thinking ahead two to three months to monitor crop progress and determine the best time to harvest in these colder months. As we progress into the fall season, we also look back to this past summer and thank our 2023 Seasonal Farm Associates Alysha, Io, and Noah! We had such a blast working with you all and cannot wait to see what you grow in the future!

November Break Bags

We are packing 2,000 Break Bags!

Each fall, winter, and spring break, EFN's Break Bags Program assembles and distributes 2,000 bags of nutritious and kid-friendly food to students on free and reduced-cost lunch. This program is in partnership with St. Leo's Food Connection and Clover Park School District.

Thank you to the volunteers from Coordinated Care, Heritage Bank, Little Church on the Prairie, Rotary 8, and Sunrise Rotary for coming to pack these fall Break Bags!



These bags will go out to students in the Tacoma and Clover Park School Districts to enjoy over their fall break. Thank you to everyone that donated

kid-friendly items to include in this year's Break Bags!

Join The EFN Team

Help Make A Difference In Pierce County

EFN has impactful positions open as we prepare for expansion!

Volunteer Coordinator

Recruits, trains, and manages the volunteer base. This position is also responsible for the management and oversight of more than 100 Food and Fund Drives in Pierce County that benefit EFN each year.

Delivery Driver/ Warehouse Associate

Deliver product to sites, help site volunteers and personnel offload product, obtain signatures on delivery receipts, pick up donations as assigned, build orders for food pantry, collaborating with the warehouse team for proper accountability of product per inventory guidelines.

Order Fulfillment Specialist

Develops and maintains quality control programs to ensure each inventory adjustment is consistent, provides consultation to company leadership and teams regarding inventory processes, controls, and advancements, etc.

Positions and Applications

More open positions at EFN coming soon!

