

Food For Thought

Our Director of Programs Introduces New Partners

Hello EFN community! My name is Sam Cook, and I'm EFN's Director of Programs. I'm excited to share with you about the new Partner Programs in our network. Over the summer, we onboarded four new partners who are each reaching underserved communities and addressing gaps in the emergency food system in Pierce County.

- A Common Thread (ACT) operates mobile food pantries to increase access to farm fresh produce, with a focus on seniors to support their independence and nutrition.
- Feeding Feasible Feasts (FFF) offers community food distribution; partnering with numerous early childhood education centers all over Pierce County to get families easy access to food.
- The Prison Scholar Fund (PSF) supports individuals exiting the justice system by connecting them with food assistance, education, and resources to navigate the digital world. With support from EFN, PSF is proud to offer food home delivery to all community members.
- Finally, the Multicultural Child and Family Hope Center (MCFHC) operates a food pantry on Sundays, a time slot not widely available in our network making food accessible to working individuals and families who cannot visit a food pantry during the weekdays.

If you'd like to learn more about our network or our new partners, visit our website at efoodnet.org. Consider passing along this page to someone you know to provide them with a guide on how to find food assistance! Thank you for supporting Emergency Food Network and our neighbors in need.

Kindly,
Sam Cook
Director of Programs

EFN EVENTS

Last Brewers Night of the Season

September 6 • 5:30PM-7:30PM

Abundance Dinner and Auction

October 28 • 6:00PM-10:00PM

Empty Bowls

November 18 • 1:00PM-3:00PM

FIND MORE INFORMATION HERE!

Break Bags Food Drives

Help Us Collect 8,000 of Each Item for Students in Pierce County!

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 Connection and allows EFN buys lots of the bulk staples that fill each Break Bag.



As this event approaches, we are seeking your help to collect these kid-friendly items. Students need items they can eat and prepare while their parents are at work: **applesauce pouches, granola bars, cereal cups, and cracker sandwiches**. We suggest each group focus their efforts on one of these items (of any brand). You might set a goal for your food drive of 500, 1,000 or 2,000+ of an item, (our goal is to collect 8,000 of each item together).

We need to collect all donations by September 29th.

Register Your Food Drive

Donations can be brought to EFN's Warehouse

(3318 92nd St S, Lakewood, WA 98499) anytime Monday-Friday 8AM-4PM.

Questions? Please contact Caroline@efoodnet.org or call (253) 584- 1040.

Partner Program Highlight

Orting Food Bank



When the City of Orting needed access to food, community members from the Orting Christian Church responded. What started as a feeding program from a small trailer in 2007 has become an establishment that now has a walk-in freezer and cooler space.

Orting Food Bank (OFB) continues to adapt as the demand for food increases. For example, in the past, they would normally serve about 350 families per month. However, that number has more than doubled in the past month. Despite their small volunteer base of 35 and staff team of 2, Orting Food Bank has served all of these families and even taken on the task of running a summer lunch program for children under 18 that will provide lunches every weekday through September 1, 2023.

Read full article [here](#).

Building For The Future

Catch-Up on EFN's Construction

Thanks to our generous donors and additional support from foundation partners, we've reached our campaign goal! Not only does this signal the beginning of constructing the new warehouse, but it also enables us to make key investments on our overall campus, supporting our work in the future.



The existing structure has come down and demolition was finished at the beginning of August. Here are some things to be aware of as you visit or drive by EFN this fall. Ground preparation, followed by digging and laying foundation work which includes plumbing, power, and sewage is soon to be underway. There will be large trucks and heavy equipment moving around the parking lot, limiting visibility. Extra safety precautions such as temporary fencing have been installed but please practice extra vigilance when looking for pedestrians and large vehicles when visiting EFN.

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.

Join The EFN Team

Help Make A Difference In Pierce County

EFN has impactful positions open as we prepare for expansion!

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!

