



Inter-Faith Food Shuttle

F E E D | T E A C H | G R O W

We Feed, Teach & Grow.

The Food Shuttle recovers and distributes 6 million pounds of food per year, and teaches skills for self-sufficiency including culinary job skills, shopping and cooking healthy on a budget, and how to grow food.

OUR MISSION

Inter-Faith Food Shuttle pioneers innovative, transformative solutions designed to end hunger in our community.

Inter-Faith Food Shuttle is a nonpartisan, 501c3 non-profit organization and a member of the Feeding America National Network of Food Banks. As a Feeding America Food Bank, we recover and distribute food to our low-income neighbors, but we know putting food on a plate is not enough. We also provide programs designed to empower people with skills to meet their own food needs through culinary job training, beginner gardening, and cooking healthy on a budget. We **feed, teach, and grow** to create a hunger-free and healthy community.

WHO WE SERVE

North Carolina is the 8th hungriest state in the U.S. In our seven county service area alone, more than 260,000 people are food insecure and may not know where their next meal is coming from. The Food Shuttle operates in a seven county service area in central North Carolina, including: Wake, Durham, Johnston, Orange, Chatham, Nash and Edgecombe counties.

- 1 in 4 children in North Carolina is at risk for hunger
- Over [118,000](#) children applied to receive free or reduced lunch last year through our public schools in our seven service counties. That's almost 53% of school-aged children in these public school systems.
- 20% of North Carolina seniors face hunger, the 5th highest rate in the country

We believe **HUNGER IS UNACCEPTABLE!** On a deeper level, we believe the solutions to hunger are found in building a community food system that supports all of its residents with knowledge, skills, and access to healthy eating.

HOW WE SERVE

All of our programs seek to support low-income families living in food deserts without adequate access to nutritious food and without the income to purchase healthy meals. By partnering with churches and community housing, almost 7,000 people in low-income neighborhoods shop for free at 25 Mobile Markets right where they live. Volunteers deliver bags of fresh produce, some grown on our own farm, to almost 2,000 seniors. Almost 5,000 children receive nutritious meals through Backpack Buddies, School Pantries, and our food truck. All told, by partnering with 200 agencies, schools and community centers, almost 60,000 adults and children struggling with hunger receive healthy food on average every month. Additionally, more than 5,000 individuals participate in our cooking and gardening programs, strengthening their self-sufficiency, increasing their consumption of fresh produce, and becoming more food literate.

CULINARY JOB TRAINING PROGRAM (CJTP)

The Culinary Job Training Program* was established with a two-fold goal: to break the cycle of poverty by providing professional skills to adults in need of a living wage; and to provide fresh, healthy, prepared foods to Food Shuttle partner agencies and catering customers. Our Catering with a Cause service allows CJTP students and graduates a chance to cook professionally, and helps to make our culinary school self-sustaining.

CJTP is a full-time 11-week course combining classroom time with hands-on work in our commercial kitchen. Students gain skills and knowledge of:

- Food safety and sanitation
- Knife skills and familiarity with commercial equipment
- Culinary terminology
- Cooking techniques for sauces, meats, vegetables and baked goods
- Nutrition
- Life and employment skills
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Graduates exit the program with in-demand knowledge, including ServSafe Certification from the National Restaurant Association. Over 70% of graduates are employed within 18 months. Venues that have hired graduates include: Lucky 32 Southern Kitchen, Dickie's BBQ, Whole Foods, The Raleigh Times, Centerplate at the Raleigh Convention Center, Raleigh Country Club and NCSU Dining Services.

Individuals who are in need of additional training prior to outside employment can enter into our Internship Program. Interns earn income as they hone both cooking and job skills while preparing food for Food Shuttle agencies and catering customers.

**Our culinary job training program is currently not accepting new classes as we re-structure the program to better serve our students. We are currently running our Fostering Wellness Workforce Readiness Program, preparing youth aging out of the foster care system for the workforce.*

FOSTERING WELLNESS WORKFORCE READINESS PROGRAM

The Fostering Wellness Workforce Readiness Program is a 10-week program focusing on culinary training, employment skills and leadership opportunities for young people with a history of foster care in Durham, Orange, and Wake counties.

Requirements to Participate:

- 18-24 years old
- Referral from an agency
- History in foster care
- Interest in culinary and/or improving employment skills
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Fostering Wellness Collaborative Partners

- Life Skills
- Hope Center
- Dress For Success
- SAYSO (Strong Able Youth Speaking Out)
- United Way of the Greater Triangle
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Interested? Contact FosteringWellness@foodshuttle.org or (919) 390-1964 for more information.