Delivering locally-grown food to food pantries and schools with “Cool Pup” trailers.

How did it start?
Local non-profit and for-profit groups had an interest in hauling small shipments of fresh produce from farms to food pantries and schools. Refrigerated storage and hauling on this small scale is critical because shipment amounts are modest, and they need to be delivered inexpensively.

How do we do this work?
This innovative Farm to Food Pantry / Farm to School program pays local growers for produce and provides a micro-scale delivery system to food pantries and schools. The “Cool Pups” are small enough to pull behind a volunteer’s vehicle when the trailer is loaded.

Too much produce for a standard car!

Participating farmers:
Betteridge Farm
Colville Corn Maze
Front Porch Farm
Garden of Eaton
Kowitz Farms
Meadow Lark Farm
Rollo Riordan
Simple Gifts Farm
Sweet Meadows Ranch

Funding, organization and planning:

509-684-2588 | Nils Johnson | www.newhungercoalition.org

a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit with 15 food banks and 9 community partners working to end hunger.
Local Farms to Local Families

Food insecure people value and want more fresh produce...
School kitchen managers would buy more if supplies exist...
We have designed the infrastructure so volunteers can do the delivery...
and farmers in our area already have the ability, skill and desire to grow it!

It’s all about leverages!

**Our micro-scale infrastructure**
(CoolPup trailers and data management tools):
- Designed for our scale
- Cost effective for supplying produce

**Economic Development with Farm to Food Pantry contract dollars:**
- Pays for our micro-scale infrastructure to be in place
- Enhances relationship with farmers & other growers
- Provides critical funding to small farmers in key make-or-break scenarios
  - Early in the season when costs are high but revenue isn’t yet coming in
  - When bumper crops appear and there’s no market for them elsewhere
  - Using an actual Stevens County example, a $500 contract paid at planting time is BIG MONEY to a farmer who’s supporting their family on $10k per year

**The result: LEVERAGES!**
- Our infrastructure is in place and already moving produce:
  - Additional donations by farmers already growing on contract
  - Donations by individual gardeners with excess
  - Shared by food pantries who have more of a produce than they can use.
- We pay **high-end wholesale prices** to farmers based on 50% of farmers market retail (pricelist average: $1.91/lb)
- BUT… with all the leverages, our average price paid for produce is only $0.33 per lb – which is a very good value

CoolPup trailers are designed so that volunteers can use them safely and effectively for only the cost of mileage.

In 2016, we delivered
16,693 lbs. to food pantries +
515 lbs. to schools =
17,208 pounds

South Stevens County Loop
3.05 hour drive time without stops, can deliver/back haul to seven foodbanks.