



**Kitsap
County**

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY
EXTENSION



KITSAP HARVEST

2020

BY THE NUMBERS

- Goal was to distribute 20K pounds of fresh produce. Results:
 - ⇒ 90,823 lbs total food items (bulk between May and October)
 - ⇒ 42 types of fresh fruit and veg = 34,617 lbs
 - ⇒ Other # 55,423 (protein, dairy, non-perishable/canned, bread)
 - ⇒ Distribution portfolio:
 - ◇ Grow A Row= 2,173 lbs
 - ◇ Gleaning= 6,801 lbs
 - ◇ Farms= 809 lbs
 - ◇ Foodbank Recovery= 74,636 lbs
- Distributed fresh produce to 50 outlets at 53 locations:
 - ⇒ Senior (13)
 - ⇒ Low income (11)
 - ⇒ Youth (6)
 - ⇒ Pantry (5)
 - ⇒ Recovery (5)
 - ⇒ Service centers (4)
 - ⇒ Shelter (3)
 - ⇒ Soup kitchen (3)
 - ⇒ Foodbank (3)

(more details in Impacts)

ISSUE

Equitable access to fresh nutritious foods and healthy activity is a public health concern locally as fresh food access is directly tied to overall health. In 2016, a work group determined that gleaning was the easiest and cheapest way to increase access to fresh food and better support community health. Kitsap County has 58% of adults and 26% of 10th graders that are overweight/obese. Only 1 in 5 youth report eating 5+ servings of fruit and veggies daily. Addressing food waste in Kitsap County through diverting fresh foods to food access organizations in need represents an opportunity to move the needle on food access issues. It is estimated that approximately 40% of food produced in the U.S. is thrown away, yet 1 in 8 Americans still struggle with hunger. Kitsap Harvest aims to increasing access to fresh food to address health outcomes and the connection between chronic diseases like diabetes and food related diseases.

Covid compounded inequity for the most vulnerable, making it a danger to leave their home, to shop, to visit foodbanks. Businesses closed, jobs were lost, and low-income communities had the least buffer to the effects. Kitsap Harvest was able to adapt quickly in response to the need through a partnership with CK Foodbank which allowed us to increase the variety of foods distributed, and increase consistency, becoming a dependable resource for those in need. We increased distributed of food by nearly 500%, offering non-perishables, protein, and starches in addition to healthy veggie and fruit boxes.

RESPONSE

The purposes for which Kitsap Harvest is organized are to:

- Promote equitable access to healthy food and reduce food waste in our community by collecting, harvesting, and distributing surplus fruits and vegetables that would otherwise go to waste.
- Inspire community connection, environmental stewardship, and deeper purpose through the sharing of work and food.
- Build bridges and create alliances with organizations that educate about the health, use, preservation, and production of food.



IMPACTS

More Food Distribution

- Consistently served 12 outlets (weekly or bi-weekly)
- Bi-weekly served 15 outlets. Focused on senior and low income housing
- Consistently served 30 outlets (10 or more visits in the year),
 - ⇒ Built on previous work with G2 and summer meals programs

Food collection

- Collected food from Food Bank Rescue sites, including: *Life Care Food Bank, SK Foodbank, CK Foodbank, Fishline Foodbank*
- Gleaned from 75 gardens/orchards: *54 sites, 60 gleans = 6,751 pounds (due to covid, we limited public participation and reduced target goal to 50)*
- Collected produce from 5 farmers: *6 farms, 26 donations = 809 pounds*
- Collected produce from 25 'grow a row' participants: *57 collection events, 17 participants, total 2,173 pounds*
- Received several unique 'one-off' food donations:
 - ⇒ *Frozen chickens for two weekly delivery occurrences provided by drivers*
 - ⇒ *Rice and beans from MOD Pizza*
 - ⇒ *Free food items via community movement brought from eastern WA*

Community building

- Partnered with at least one meal making program to have fruit made into edible products — *Gather Together Grow together, Gateway, apple pie making. Also partnered with Backpack Brigade, Peninsula Community Health, Little Blue Pantries, Kitsap Neighborhood Little Pantries, Westside Pantry.*
- Supported food preservation classes with prepared written materials sufficient for 200 attendees (drying, canning, pickling food.) — *121 visits to the preservation webpage for information on food preservation, Approx. 675 people reached with 5 recipes created and distributed to 14 sites using the most common gleaned foods in coordination with SNAP nutritional guidelines*
 - ⇒ *Increased community awareness to Kitsap Harvest activities — 1,777 people visited the Kitsap Harvest WSU website in 2020*
 - ⇒ *1,413 were unique visitors*
 - ⇒ *Connected with approx. 500 veggie starts and handed out to 50 people to increase Grow A Row awareness and participation*
- Had goal to lead 5 Experiential Gleans in 2020 — *Due to Covid, our program decided to withdraw this goal. We will re-evaluate for 2021 goal setting. We are dedicated in sharing the gleaning experience, and the social/mental benefit of organized activities while harvesting.*

Volunteer hours

- 4,878.5 hours of volunteer time in 2020 = A value of \$80,495.25

Capacity building

- Acquired refrigerated storage space (cold storage and/or truck) — *16ft IZUSU refrigerated truck, 2 - 24' Insulated CONEX, two coolbots, and two A/C units for instillation*
- Acquired dedicated sorting and staging location for produce — *(In progress - Peninsula Truck Lines)*
- 2020 Financials, Donations and Sponsorship —
 - ⇒ *Kaiser Permanente \$2,000, First Federal \$5,000, United Way \$500.*
 - ⇒ *Kitsap Great Give total \$4,576, 62 donors*
 - ⇒ *2,970 unique donor donations*