Increasing health equity with Denver neighborhoods.
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DFR + 2017 = IMPRESSIVE NUMBERS

A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear DFR Community,

This year I have thought a lot about numbers. They are everywhere and affect our work as an organization a great deal. Numbers help Denver Food Rescue stay active and accountable. In 2017 we improved our evaluation practices, which allows us to label our activities with some increasingly nifty numbers: in 2017 we rescued over 500,000 pounds of food, worth almost $2 million. We provided this food to more than 36,000 participants across 16 No Cost Grocery Programs. Note that the 36,000 people make up more than 15% of the 200,000 low- and moderate income people who live in low-access areas. Volunteers logged more than 13,000 hours, and we raised over $275,000.

These numbers are impressive, but they don’t tell the whole story. Too often, environmental and social change-making is equated to numbers like these. Feeling the pressure to prove value to funders, nonprofits too often prioritize the conjuring of statistics, quantifications, and evaluations, sometimes at the expense of the organization’s mission itself.

Of course, these numbers do not do justice to that which they represent. Dollars are not dollars but hard earned money given by our funders, who invest in the health of their neighbors. Program participants are not just food recipients but unique people, families, and neighborhoods, all doing their very best to make their communities healthier. Hours are not hours but a gift of precious time from our volunteers, who sacrifice their weekends and their warmth (in winter months) to advance our mission. While useful, a number is just a number, and DFR is not made of numbers, but people.

My hope for 2018 is that we are able to think beyond the numbers and see what’s really happening: we’re building a Denver in which all people collaborate to build food systems that benefit the health of those who live here. In that sense there’s really only one number that matters: the number of people in our community, like you. DFR is not an organization of stuff. We have little facilities, little money, and little equipment, but we have big ideas, big potential, and big friendships. We are a large community of people all interested in health equity, food waste, and food security. We are nothing more than who we are.

Ever thankful for you being a big part of who we are,

Turner Wyatt
OUR PROGRAMS

PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS
This year DFR increased access to healthy food in 16 communities with help from our No Cost Grocery Program partners. We launched 4 new No Cost Grocery Programs in 2017. **36,166 total individuals** were supplied with fresh whole produce - 9,972 of which were unduplicated participants. This saved residents in our partnered neighborhoods **$1.9 million in grocery savings!** 80% of our recipients surveyed DO NOT utilize other free food sources.

**What** | **we do**
--- | ---

The DFR No Cost Grocery Program (NCGP) model exists to serve otherwise overlooked neighborhoods with a realization that income is inversely proportional to consumption of fresh fruits and vegetables. Often low-income communities exhibit diet related diseases that can be avoided by increased consumption of fresh produce.

**Why** | **we do it**
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for a full description of our values please visit [www.denverfoodrescue.org/about/](http://www.denverfoodrescue.org/about/)

**Health equity**
At DFR we believe that health is a right that should be enjoyed by everyone.

**Food security**
Each individual deserves to have control of their own food situation.

**Integration of feedback**
Lasting solutions will only be formed through consistent and authentic engagement with people who are experiencing the issues we exist to address.

**Thank You** | **to Our Donors**
--- | ---

**Rescue Stats**

**Types of Food Rescued**

- Produce 80.5%
- Dairy 9%
- Baked Goods 3.6%
- Non-Perishable 1.1%
- Frozen Goods <1%
- Meat <1%

**Fresh Prepared Goods** 4.3%

- **516,021 lbs** total food rescued

- **80.5%** Produce

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Food Rescued</th>
<th>% of Total</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Produce</td>
<td>80.5%</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Frozen Goods</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
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<td>Meat</td>
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**Types of Food Rescued**

- Farmers Markets: 30,124 lbs rescued
- Grocery Stores: 198,032.62 lbs rescued
- Wholesale Distributors: 252,278.1 lbs rescued
- Small Markets: 9,043.45 lbs rescued

**Thank You to Our Donors**

**Farmers Markets: 30,124 lbs rescued**
32nd Street Highlands Farmers Market, City Park Esplanade Farmers Market, South Pearl Farmers Market, Union Station Farmers Market and Stapleton Farmers Market

**Grocery Stores: 198,032.62 lbs rescued**
Natural Grocers, Sprouts Farmers Market, Whole Foods Market, Trader Joe’s, Save-A-Lot

**Wholesale Distributors: 252,278.1 lbs rescued**
5280 Produce, Albert’s Organics, Colo-Pac, Fresh Pack Produce, The Fresh Guys, UNFI, Food Maven, Mile Hi

**Small Markets: 9,043.45 lbs rescued**
Asia Mart, Carneceria Jerezana, Downing Super, Family Asia Mart, Karen Mart, Longmont Packing Co, Mountain Fresh Market, NOOCH I Vegan Market, Pacific Mercantile, Green Seed, Local(ish) Market, Pig Train, ACME

**Community Organizations: 11,103.35 lbs rescued**
Grow Local Colorado, Metro Caring, GrowHaus, Eat Five, Denver Urban Gardens, Fresh Food Connect

**Restaurants/Commercial Kitchens/Caterers: 15,439 lbs rescued**
Asia Mart, Carneceria Jerezana, Downing Super, Family Asia Mart, Karen Mart, Longmont Packing Co, Mountain Fresh Market, NOOCH I Vegan Market, Pacific Mercantile, Green Seed, Local(ish) Market, Pig Train, ACME
## OUR PROGRAMS

### COMMUNITY FOCUS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Neighborhoods</th>
<th>&amp; NCGP Partners</th>
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<td>Elyria-Swansea</td>
<td>BirdSeed Collective</td>
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<td>The Growhaus</td>
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<td>Park Hill Boys &amp; Girls Club</td>
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<td>Clayton Early Learning Center</td>
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<td>Heart &amp; Hand Center for Youth &amp; their Families</td>
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<td>Project Worthmore</td>
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<td>KIPP College Prep</td>
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<td>Maxwell Elementary</td>
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<td>Academy 360</td>
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<td>Sun Valley Youth Center</td>
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<td>Denver Housing Authority</td>
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<td>The Westside Clinic</td>
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<td>Earthlinks</td>
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<td>Globeville</td>
<td>Thomas Bean Tower</td>
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<td>Park Hill</td>
<td>Street Fraternity</td>
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<td>Clayton</td>
<td>Sister Gardens</td>
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<td>Five Points</td>
<td>Ricardo Flores Magón Academy</td>
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<td>Aurora</td>
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<td>Montbello</td>
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<td>Sun Valley</td>
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<td>East Colfax</td>
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<td>Berkeley</td>
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<td>Chaffee Park</td>
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<td>Skyland</td>
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<td>Lincoln Park</td>
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### NEW NCGPs IN 2017

**Berkeley:** Ricardo Flores Magón Academy

**Community/NCGP Partner Info:**

The Ricardo Flores Magón Academy prepares kindergarten through eighth grade students from a multitude of communities in Metro Denver for success in high school and graduation from college. In an academically rigorous environment, students will master the core subjects maximizing their knowledge in math, reading, and writing.

Ricardo Flores Magón was a man that used his mind from an early age, attending university, studying law, becoming a noted journalist. Magón used the power of literacy – spoken and written – to save the Mexican people from the oppressive dictatorship of Porfirio Díaz and is recognized as the key figure that started the Mexican Revolution to liberate the Mexican people. With the inspiration of Magón, students at the Academy will be encouraged to move beyond the restrictions of the limited circumstances into which they may have been born, while never needing to choose to leave behind their cultural heritage as they prepare for high school, college, and beyond.

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**"While watching parents’ faces, you can almost see the burden of worry being lifted off their faces."** Not only does this program provide food, it also provides community. Families gathered around the tables of food, talking and sharing part of their lives with one another. I am very grateful to be apart of the very powerful No Cost Grocery Program that DFR offers.

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*Desta Huff*

First Grade Teacher
Chaffee Park: Sister Gardens at Aria

Community/NCGP Partners Info:
Chaffee Park is a neighborhood resides in the area known to many as North Denver. It was platted in 1946 and mostly completed by 1949. It’s named after Jerome B. Chaffee one of the founders of the City of Denver. Chaffee Park, along with the Regis neighborhood, are the north Denver neighborhoods that border the adjacent areas of Southeast Arvada and Twin Lakes. In the year 2000, the racial breakdown was 31.44% White, 0.91% African American, 64.13% Hispanic or Latino, 0.91% Native American, and 0.94% Asian.

Sister Gardens at Aria is an 1 1/2 acre veggie, herb, and flower farm supported by a collaborative grant between Groundwork Denver, Aria, Regis University and the Cultivate Health Program. Through sustainable growing practices they grow food for community. They host agricultural classes, workshops, farm stands, volunteer days, and community events.

This program began when the Ricardo Flores Magon Academy went on hiatus for summer vacation. However its success and dedication from volunteers at Sister Gardens allowed the program to become permanent throughout the year!

NEW

This program is changing lives. I have watched as our community comes together around food. I am a farmer, and I am passionate about people having access to food. This partnership with Denver Food Rescue has created a beautiful bridge between our farm neighbors and even the food that is being grown here at Sister Gardens. We host a pay what you can farm stand and the attendance from the Grocery Program has increased attendance to our farm stand. Folks have come out during the holidays, the camaraderie is amazing, volunteers came out with hot cocoa for recipients at the Christmas distribution and one participant even brought knitted hats as gifts that she has made herself.

Fatuma Emmad
Farm Manager
Our Programs

East Colfax: Street Fraternity

NCGP/Community Info:
This Denver neighborhood is unique in that it contains a large population of refugee families from Myanmar, Syria, Congo, Burundi, Liberia, and Afghanistan among others.

The Street Fraternity is a brotherhood of men who welcome and are committed to a diversity of experiences, ages, ethnicities, histories, national origins, citizenship statuses, opinions, martial statuses, sexual orientations, disabilities, arrest records, religions, political affiliations, and other protected classes as required by law.

All of their participants, employees, and volunteers actively support this inclusiveness & diversity statement. They have chosen to include only males as participants in order to focus their learning, resources and achievements on the unique needs and attributes of young men. They welcome women’s involvement as parents, on our Advisory Team and Board, and within their partner agencies.

This program began as a meeting of the minds between Denver Food Rescue and Community Outreach Coordinator of Place Bridge Academy, Akudo Nwokeukwu. Through her connection to community and passion to increase healthy food access to the families they serve, we were introduced to the amazing organization that is Street Fraternity. The program began in November of 2017 and occurs every Thursday serving an average of 50 families per week.

Five Points: Thomas Bean Towers

NCGP/Community Info:
Five Points is one of Denver, Colorado’s oldest neighborhoods. The five points in the district name are the vertices formed where four streets meet: 26th Avenue, 27th Street, Washington Street, and Welton Street. Five Points was the shortened name for the streetcar stop at this intersection. Known as the “Harlem of the West”, it became a predominantly African American neighborhood in Denver because discriminatory home sale laws in other neighborhoods forbade black people from settling in them. From the 1920s to the 1950s the community thrived with a rich mix of business and commerce along the Welton Corridor offering the neighborhood butcher, real estate companies, drug stores, religious organizations, tailors, restaurants, barbers and many other main street services. Welton Street was also home to over fifty bars and clubs, where jazz musicians such as Billie Holiday, Duke Ellington, Miles Davis, Nat King Cole, Count Basie, Dizzy Gillespie and others performed. Black performers that other hotels in Denver would not accommodate stayed at the Rossonian Hotel, built in 1912, and performed there, making it a famous music venue.

The Thomas Bean Towers is one of Denver Housing Authorities Affordable Housing properties specifically serving our senior population. This program occurs Sunday mornings and began in November of 2017.
MORE PROGRAM IMPACT STORIES

THE GROWHAUS

“Mostly from what I have heard is many community members are saving money by coming to this program and this helps them with their budget, especially when the struggle is real with very little jobs during the winter and having children at home - this program helps them a lot. Also the cooking part is interesting to see what you could make with different fruits and veggies and combine everything - it’s simple! The community is very grateful and would happily utilize even more food donated weekly.”

Alicia Perez
Resident Promotora

CLAYTON EARLY LEARNING

“The No Cost Grocery program has greatly impacted families served by Clayton Early Learning. Most of our families struggle with food insecurity and have a lack of access to fresh and healthy food options. The No Cost Grocery Program has provided these families with a reliable source to access healthy foods. This program has also exposed families and their children to foods they would not have had an opportunity to try. While working the distribution table, I have seen families connect by sharing different recipes or methods to prepare different fruits and vegetables. The No Cost Grocery Program is an excellent community partnership for Clayton Early Learning.”

Colleen Karberg
Educator

PROJECT WORTHMORE

“Partnering with Denver Food Rescue has helped us to ensure that refugees in the Denver area have access to fresh, healthful foods. The consistent work of DFR and its volunteers has helped make the transition out of food insecurity possible for hundreds of families working to rebuild their lives in America.”

Erika Bodor
Director of Operations
# FRESH FOOD CONNECT

Fresh Food Connect utilizes technology to solve two problems - excess produce in backyard/community gardens, and food insecurity. Founded in 2015 by Groundwork Denver, Denver Urban Gardens (DUG) and Denver Food Rescue (DFR), local gardeners schedule a pickup using the FFC Web App, then the FFC team picks up the produce via bicycle and shares it with community based organizations in neighborhoods facing food insecurity.

## 2017 IMPACT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>D + CS</th>
<th>2 CITIES</th>
<th>30 YOUTH</th>
<th>4,000 LBS</th>
<th>130+ GARDENERS</th>
<th>9 ZIP CODES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>where app is available (Denver and Colorado Springs)</td>
<td>engaged in collection and distribution of produce</td>
<td>of locally grown produce distributed to food insecure communities</td>
<td>signed up to donate their backyard bounty</td>
<td>receiving produce donations (5 new zip codes in 2017)</td>
<td></td>
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### DENVER

**Operated by** Groundwork Denver, DUG & DFR

- **1,994 pounds of produce donated** by 85 gardeners in 5 zip codes: 80205, 80207, 80220, 80210 & 80203
- **Produce shared with the community through:**
  - Youth run “pay-what-you-want” farm stand
  - Harvest Shares & other community events
  - DFR No Cost Grocery Programs
- **18 youth employees engaged** in donation pickups, marketing and farm stand operations from July-October

### COLORADO SPRINGS

**Operated by** Colorado Springs Food Rescue

- **1,868 pounds of produce donated** by 46 gardeners in 4 zip codes: 80904, 80907, 80903, 80905
- **Produce shared directly with community members through CSFR No Cost Grocery Programs**
- **19 Community Prep School students** spent July-October engaged in programming, earning credits towards their diplomas.
DFR relies on our extraordinary volunteers to help with all aspects of our programming. From rescuing food to volunteering at our NCGPs and maintaining bicycle trailers to help spread the word about DFR. **In 2017 our volunteers provided $318,648 worth of assistance to DFR by volunteering 13,200 hours.** Thank you volunteers for making Denver Food Rescue’s vision a reality.

**Volunteer Stats**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Volunteer</strong></th>
<th><strong>Stats</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>516,021 lbs of food rescued and re-distributed in 2017</td>
<td>1,193,019 lbs of food re-distributed all time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5,500 hours of food rescue</td>
<td>1,000 hours of program support via events, fundraising, and garage maintenance</td>
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<tr>
<td>700 intern hours</td>
<td>6,000 volunteer hours at NCGPs for food distribution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13,200 volunteer hours</td>
<td>5,500 hours of food rescue</td>
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<tr>
<td>121 volunteers completed a food rescue shift in 2017</td>
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</table>
The Food Rescue Ride is our un-gala and serves as our biggest fundraiser of the year! 2017’s was our 3rd year hosting this event. After enjoying breakfast and coffee on the reservoir, riders dressed as their favorite fruit or veggie pedaled through Cherry Creek State Park on a 15 or 30 mile path. Some participants braved the trailer pull ride option with 100 pounds of garden soil stacked on their bicycle trailer. The ride ends with lunch, drinks, prizes, and games and a stronger, more unified food rescue community.

110 cyclists

372 individual donors to cyclists’ fundraising pages

57 businesses provided support & sponsorships

$37,000 raised (supporting rescue of 74,000 lbs of food & $259,000 in grocery savings for community partners)

Food Rescue Ride 2018

August 25
2018

A ride for healthy food access

Join us Next Year!
4th Annual FRR on August 25th

Register at foodrescueride.org
NEW IN 2017

ABARROTES BONDADOSA

In 2017, DFR’s social enterprise went from concept to launch. After two years of research, development, and fundraising, we are proud of what this project has become, and excited for what the future holds!

Abarrotes Bondadosa (formerly Goodness Groceries) hires local community members to deliver fresh groceries + name-brand goods to your door via electric powered tricycles. Folks can order in English or Spanish, online or by telephone. There is a full inventory of products available via our partnership with Save-A-Lot stores. Abarrotes Bondadosa takes payment at the time of delivery by cash, check, credit or debit card, and SNAP.

Abarrotes Bondadosa supports the whole community by providing easy, affordable and reliable access to groceries and goods. Community members who are underserved by public transportation or nearby grocery stores, those who find themselves without time to go grocery shopping, and those looking for an easier way to get groceries and other goods will find AB to be a convenient, helpful alternative to conventional shopping.

2017 Accomplishments:
- DFR reached the minimum viable product fundraising goal
- DFR hires Ricardo Rocha as CEO
- Ricardo develops the online ordering platform, check out www.bondadosa.org!
- Abarrotes Bondadosa becomes an LLC, wholly owned by DFR
- Ricardo builds his team, hiring a Delivery Agent, Inventory Manager, and Communications Director
- Abarrotes Bondadosa began delivering to customers in 80221, 80211, 80205, 80216
- 2017 came to a close with sales higher than projected

2018 Goals:
- Secure an electric vehicle to expand deliveries throughout Denver
- Hire more delivery agents, part of a goal to hire individuals with barriers to employment
NEW IN 2017

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

Did you know Denver Food Rescue’s Board of Directors is a non fundraising board but rather a board comprised of residents of our NCGP neighborhood partners? In 2017 we launched the Leadership Circle, a volunteer fundraising board focused on increasing the financial sustainability of Denver Food Rescue.

From April until December 2017, 12 Leadership Circle members raised $5,000 for DFR’s general operating budget. Members can choose however they’d like to fundraise. From brewery percent nights to home dinners and raffle events or dance parties - they sky’s the limit! If you are interested in joining please contact our development and marketing coordinator, amy@denverfoodrescue.org.

DFR FRIEND +1 EVENTS & OFFICE LUNCHES

This year we started quarterly events for DFR members (monthly financial donors at any amount!), volunteers, and their friends. We breakfasted it up at Snooze, learned from food system and bike transportation city employees while dining and drinking at Syntax Physic Opera, feasted on a “food waste” dinner made by Johnson & Wales culinary students hosted at Vickers Boys & Girls Club, and battled it out trivia style with food & bike themed questions. We hope these special events unite our member and volunteer base while adding new support for our mission.

We also kicked off a biweekly office tour & rescued lunch to get to know our community better and learn from them! Interested in coming? Contact our development & marketing coordinator for the invite.
FINANCIALS

Major Contributors: In 2016 and 2017

City and County of Denver, Office of Economic Development
Negley Flinn Charitable Foundation
Gary Community Investments (matching grant)
Colorado Fresh Food Financing Fund
Rose Community Foundation
Melvin and Elaine Wolf Foundation
Whole Cities Foundation
Whole Foods Market
Denver Foundation
Taddonio Family Foundation
City of Denver, Dept. of Environment and Health
Presbyterian Mission
Kenneth King Foundation
Impact100 - to fund a collaborative project, Fresh Food Connect
Private Family Foundation
PCL Construction
Works of Kindness Foundation
Anschutz Family Foundation

In-Kind Donations

2017 In-Kind:
Donated food: estimated total $1,890,000.00
Volunteer time: estimated value $318,648.00
Brownstein Hyatt Farber Schreck, LLP $30,000.00

2016 In-Kind
Donated food: estimated total $774,000.00

2017 Expenses ($243,837)
Admin (7%)
*including in-kind = 1%
Programming (93%)
*including in-kind = 99%

2017 Income ($275,478)
Corporate Donations (2%)
Monthly Donations (13%)
Indiv. Contributions (15%)
Other (8%)
Events (14%)
Government Contracts (26%)
Foundations (22%)
GET INVOLVED

Goals & What You Can Do

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<tr>
<th>Goals for 2018</th>
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<tr>
<td>Co-create</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rescue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Create</td>
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<tr>
<td>Strengthen</td>
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What You Can Do

Donate:
Your donation goes a long way for a lean organization like DFR. If you would like to contribute, please donate online or contact our development coordinator.

Donate online at our Colorado Gives Day profile here: https://www.coloradogives.org/DenverFoodRescue/overview

Or write a check to “Denver Food Rescue” here:
Denver Food Rescue
PO Box 18890 Denver, CO 80218

We love partnering with like minded businesses for in-kind donations and sponsorships for events. Please contact Amy, our development & marketing coordinator at amy@denverfoodrescue.org for more info.

We also are always welcoming new food donors! Interested? Contact our operations director Emily at emily@denverfoodrescue.org to get started.
GET INVOLVED

What You Can Do

Food Rescue Volunteer:
We rescue and distribute food 7 days a week, 365 days a year. A food rescue shift only takes about two hours of your time once a week and can be done by bike or car. If you’re interested in helping out shoot us an email at info@denverfoodrescue.org.

Other Volunteer Opportunities:
We can always use more help on the back end of things. Whatever skills you have to contribute, we could use, including graphic design, grant writing, networking, event planning, fundraising through our Leadership Circle board, etc.

Shoot us an email!

Staff:
Turner Wyatt, Executive Director
turner@denverfoodrescue.org

Neambe Leadon, Program Director
neambe@denverfoodrescue.org

Emily Olsen, Operations Director
emily@denverfoodrescue.org

Amy Moore-Shipley, Development & Marketing Coordinator
amy@denverfoodrescue.org

Wish List:
- Business Support
- Food Rescue Ride Sponsors
- Leadership Circle members
- Food Rescue Ride Riders
- Board of Director committee members
- Produce donors
- Volunteers
- Abarrotes Bondadosa customers