

SALVATION FARMS

OUR MISSION: TO BUILD INCREASED RESILIENCE IN VERMONT'S FOOD SYSTEM THROUGH AGRICULTURAL SURPLUS MANAGEMENT

NORTHEAST VERMONT FOOD VISION 2021-2025

OUR VISION FOR NORTHEAST VERMONT:

TO CONNECT LOCAL FARMS TO LOCAL PEOPLE BY ESTABLISHING PARTNERSHIPS AND LEVERAGING RESOURCES THAT MODEL SURPLUS CROP MANAGEMENT TO ADDRESS COMMUNITY FOOD SECURITY AND EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE NORTHEAST REGION OF VERMONT



REGIONS

Northeast Vermont = Lamoille Valley & the Northeast Kingdom

Lamoille Valley = Lamoille County reaching into Orleans, Caledonia & Washington Counties

Northeast Kingdom (NEK) = Orleans, Caledonia & Essex Counties



MODELING REGIONAL FARM SURPLUS MANAGEMENT

PARTNERED STAKEHOLDERS WILL RAISE THE AWARENESS AND VISIBILITY OF A MORE CONNECTED, RESOURCEFUL, AND RESILIENT LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM THAT USES WHAT IT PRODUCES TO FEED ITSELF

Salvation Farms will align cross-sector partner interest with existing or new supply chain resources, resulting in the increased use of farm surplus produce in Vermont's Northeast region. In doing so, the impact of this regional model for using more of the food produced in the region to feed those living in the region will be measured and evaluated, sharing both successes and challenges widely.

The region will witness an increase in:

- 1) surplus crop volumes leaving farms for institutional and charitable food outlets;
- 2) consumption of local produce;
- 3) consumer awareness of the region's farms;
- 4) financial benefit to farms;
- 5) employable workforce; and
- 6) individuals moving into stable employment.

Pairing physical resources with logistical coordination, food hub operations will exist to serve the above stated goals through the following activities: gleaning, linking the food system, and workforce development.





GLEANNING

ONE GLEANNING PROGRAM SERVING VERMONT'S NORTHEAST KINGDOM (NEK) WILL BE ESTABLISHED

Through supporting NEK partners, Salvation Farms will provide their expertise to help establish a gleaning program to serve the NEK of Vermont.

This program will work collaboratively with and compliment Lamoille Valley Gleaning to deepen the impact of gleaning in Northeastern Vermont.

The NEK Gleaning program will provide gleaning services to the region's farms, engage diverse community volunteers, and build a network of community based food programs to receive NEK gleanings.

NEK Gleaning will join and benefit from its membership in and the resources of the Vermont Gleaning Collective - a state-wide partnership of autonomous, community-based programs that glean and work in solidarity to support farmers, residents, and the food system.



LINKING THE FOOD SYSTEM

PRODUCERS, PROCESSORS, AND DISTRIBUTORS ARE CONNECTED TO CREATE A MORE LOCAL, RESILIENT FOOD SYSTEM

Through partner collaboration and input, Salvation Farms will identify existing infrastructure, resources, and gaps in Northeast Vermont's food system to respond to the region's farm surplus crops.

Resources in the region will be cataloged and mapped, including food processing facilities, food storage locations, and produce distributors/haulers serving the region.

Through using the inventory of resources and a network of collaborative partnership, Salvation Farms will help move volumes of surplus produce needing aggregating, cleaning, processing, packaging, storing, and distribution through existing channels by providing logistical coordination.

Salvation Farms will help establish new resources and links where there are gaps. A stronger, more localized supply chain that responds to and makes available surplus farm produce to multiple market channels, including institutions and charitable food sites, will result.



WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

THE WORKFORCE IS ABLE TO SUPPORT THEMSELVES AND THE LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM BECAUSE FOOD SECTOR OPPORTUNITIES FOR EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION EXIST

Through cross-sector collaborative partnerships, Salvation Farms will help establish two dynamic employment training programs for people who live in Vermont's Northeast region.

Training preference will be paid to individuals who may otherwise have barriers to employment and/or are incarcerated and focus on a myriad of skills transferable to many food, manufacturing, and supply chain professions.

Success will result from collaboration with state agencies, economic development offices and diverse business partners and from employer commitments to second chance hiring

Wrap-around services coupled with pathways to stable employment will bolster individual and community sustainability and wellness, supporting the vitality and connectivity of the local food sector.

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