

Food Rescue Innovation Grant Information Session 3/14/2024



Questions & Answers

1. Q. What type of data would be valuable from the receiving partners?
 - A. All projects must measure their impact on reducing food waste. In addition, it will be helpful to see both quantitative and qualitative data that speaks to your specific project and its outcomes. For instance, quantitative data could include a baseline of pounds of food donated and ongoing tracking to show how that baseline changes over the grant period. Qualitative data could show the percentage of donations that align with the hunger relief organization's preference and needs. This could include feedback from the consumers of this donated food. Both are helpful and speak to the impact of the project.
2. Q. Can we rescue food at farmers markets in Seattle even though the food was grown at farms outside of Seattle?
 - A. Yes. This demonstrates a strong connection to reducing food waste going into Seattle's waste stream. The Seattle farmers markets are businesses with unsold, edible food; and residents of Seattle would benefit from this food.
3. Q. If we are already doing pickups, can this be included as a part of our project?
 - A. The grant funds should not be used for ongoing operating expenses to sustain activities at their current food rescue levels. However, the grant funds could be used to scale up the number of pickups you are doing.
4. Q. Is there any preference given for multiple agencies that agree to partner on this grant application?
 - A. Projects that include multiple agencies or partners may show a higher likelihood of meeting grant project requirements; specifically, it could help the application with meeting at least 2 of the 3 priorities that are required: innovation, scale of potential impact, and economic equity. For instance, multiple agencies coming together may speak to innovation to test or expand new approaches or technologies for distributing edible, unsold food from businesses. It may also speak to the scale of potential impact if it enables the solution to be replicated by multiple types of entities beyond the participating parties. Multiple project partners may also highlight equity with projects involving economic opportunities and participation by people, non-profit organizations, and businesses representing frontline community members.
5. Q. Are projects that harvest and rescue produce from backyard gardens and orchards (instead of rescued food from local businesses) eligible?
 - A. No, this grant is focused on reducing food waste coming from Seattle businesses.
6. Q. Should this be targeting smaller, local businesses rather than large chain stores?
 - A. We welcome ideas that incorporate smaller local businesses as well as those that involve large chain stores; both are great!