

# Feeding Chittenden June 2021 Newsletter







### Feeding Chittenden's Food Access Center







We are transitioning from a food shelf to a Food Access Center, and here are some of the exciting steps we are making in that change!

We are working to increase access to healthy food in Chittenden County through an order-ahead system that will allow people to choose the grocery items that fit their need.

An order ahead system combined with increased deliveries throughout Chittenden County will reduce food waste, increase food accessibility, and minimize the stigma around food assistance.

Currently, Food Shelf visitors receive a pre-packaged selection of groceries available for curbside pick-up. The order-ahead system will help restore dignity and empowerment through choice, reduce waste by distributing only what people need, and lead to a better delivery of service for our visitors.

We are still in the pilot phase of the food access center initiative, but our delivery capacity and food options are expanding every day. We will continue to learn and grow through this phase in order to make this service available to everyone in Chittenden county experiencing food insecurity. Until that

time, the food shelf will remain open and operational (curbside grocery pick-ups are available every weekday from 10am to 3pm).

### **ACCESS CENTER GOALS**

- <u>Increase access to healthy food</u> through an online order-ahead system
- <u>Increase access to culturally appropriate food</u> for New American families
- Increase access to healthy food through expanding food delivery
- <u>Create a replicable model</u> that will help other food shelves promote better food equity, food justice, and higher nutritional standards

Our transition to a food access center is a major turning point in the ongoing fight against hunger in our community. For the first time, we are building a food system that champions choice and convenience, because that's what every family deserves. But we can't do this alone. You can help us with our transition to a food access center by donating today— Any amount makes a difference.









# More About the Order Ahead System

Learn more about our order ahead system in this NBC5 news clip!

Read the Article Here!



### **GARDEN UPDATE!**

Our brand new raised beds are looking beautiful. Angela has been working hard planting many vegetables for us to enjoy! Our garden will soon be home to a wide variety of vegetables for all kinds of diets, cultures, and lifestyles. The bed pictured to the right contains every kind of salad green you could want— spinach, kale, napa cabbage, green and red

cabbage, mixed mesclun greens, collard greens, and more! We can't wait to harvest and share these crops with our neighbors this summer.



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