

MISSION

The Night Market is an environmentally sustainable community-based initiative that recovers excess food, both cooked and non-perishable, and directly redistributes it in a stigma-free environment.

CORE VALUES

1. **Environmental sustainability:** we are committed to disengage from practices that harm our communities and our planet in order to work toward a healthier future for all.
2. **Inclusivity:** we will not discriminate based on age, race, color, gender, gender expression, sexuality, ability or economic status in our activities. These include our food distribution events, where we will not require proof of need to participate.
3. **Equity and justice,:** We are committed to promoting food justice, environmental justice, social justice, and all other forms of justice in our community dismantling the systems of oppression that drive inequity in our society.
4. **Community and collaboration:** we integrate our organization and its activities into the local network of individuals, entities and agencies focused on mutual aid in our community. We will also share our knowledge freely in order to work together towards a more sustainable and equitable future.
5. **Learning and humility:** we are committed to keeping our minds and hearts open and to engage in a constant learning/unlearning process to better take care of each other and our community.
6. **Working with joy:** "All of our work for change can be rooted in the comfort and joy of being connected to one another, accompanying one another, and inspired by each other." (paraphrased from Mutual Aid, Dean Spade 2020)

GOALS

1. **Decrease food waste**
2. **Increase stigma-free food security**
3. **Promoting environmental sustainability**
4. **Building and empowering community**
5. **Bringing awareness and educating about food waste, food insecurity and sustainability.**

The aim of our organization is to ignite a movement of environmentally sustainable and inclusive food waste recovery and redistribution that can be replicated anywhere, empowering communities to close the gap between food waste and food insecurity.

We lower the barriers involved in both food donation and collection, creating radically accessible community-level food redistribution networks. In contrast to other food recovery organizations, we do not require proof of need for community members to receive food donations, thus reducing social stigma and barriers associated with food access. The goal is to encourage people to view collecting excess food as a positive experience and to reduce the stigma around food insecurity, all while dramatically increasing access. The food recoveries we perform are fully sustainable as we use bike carts for cargo and transportation and compostable waxed carton boxes for packaging. In this way, we also bring environmental awareness to the issues associated with food waste and transportation. Operating at a hyperlocal scale, we are able to recover and quickly redistribute nutritious food that might be beneath the quantity threshold for larger organizations.

EXAMPLES OF MISSION STATEMENTS FROM SIMILAR ORGS:

- Old Night Market Mission statement:

The Davis Night Market recovers food that would otherwise go to waste from Davis restaurants, bakeries and grocery stores, and make it available for anyone in need. Whenever possible, we minimize our carbon footprint by picking up the food by bicycle, instead of cars. Currently, 85% of our pick-ups are made by

bikes with adapted bike trailers. Our Health & Safety permit allows us to deliver prepackaged food to the general public.

- From Left Lovers, our parent non-profit:

Mission: Left Lovers' mission is to encourage sustainability, food access, and reduction of food waste.

Objectives: Left Lovers is organized exclusively for public, charitable, and educational purposes. The organization will work to unite the communities where it is present and create a food sharing program to help fight hunger and reduce food waste within surrounding communities, and aid sustainability efforts. We will collaborate with partner organizations to achieve any of our missions of sustainability, food access, and reduction of food waste. We will also commit to educating the public and promoting the exchange of ideas and best practices related food waste, hunger, and sustainability.

- From TC Food Justice: <https://www.tcfoodjustice.org/what-we-do>

(1) improving health through increased access to nutrient rich food, especially among food insecure individuals,

(2) creating conditions for health and economic equity in the neighborhoods we serve,

(3) executing our work with environmentally sustainable mechanisms, and

(4) engaging the Twin Cities community in the issues of food waste, food insecurity and hunger.

- From Extrafood: <https://extrafood.org/extrafood-community/mission-and-values>

Connection.

Our relationships with each other and our partners are of the highest importance to us: ExtraFood is food recovery with "the human touch."

Collaboration.

We continually integrate our organization into Marin's network of volunteers, businesses, governments and social service agencies, creating a growing community of collaborative partners.

Food Justice and Antiracism.

Everyone in our community should have the food they need. And, food justice is racial justice: We stand for full racial equality and the dismantling of structural racism in all of our society's institutions.

Service.

We bring an intention to serve to everyone in the ExtraFood community: the hungry, the organizations that feed them, our food donors, our supporting partners, our financial donors, and each other.

Learning.

As a learning organization, we strive to continually improve our program: to become more attuned to our recipients' needs, to be more responsive to our food donors, and to manage our organization more effectively.

Integrity.

We hold ourselves to the highest ethical standards. We work with everyone in the ExtraFood community in the spirit of mutually respectful collaboration. And we follow through on the commitments we make to our partners and to each other.

Impact.

Through direct service and advocacy, we fill a gap in the county's food system, serving children, seniors, and families in need, and reducing food waste and resulting greenhouse gas emissions.

Fun: We enjoy and celebrate our work, our successes, and our bonds with each other.

- from Black Earth Farms <https://www.blackearthfarms.com/>

Our long term mission is to have a sovereign land base where we can create community, steward land in relationship with our ancestors, and organize and exchange knowledge to dismantle oppressive forces.