



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Overcoming Language Barriers
- Co-op Highlights
- CPP Updates
- Get Involved!
- End of Year Giving

THIRD QUARTER IMPACT REPORT



Food Value
\$369,099



Pounds Distributed
191,243 LBS



Number of Meals
159,369

A SEAT AT THE TABLE



Dear Urban Recipe Community,

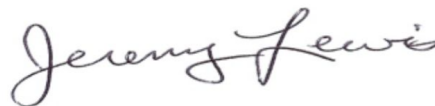
Getting a seat at the table is not always a given. Whether in the families we grow up with, the communities where we live, or in our professional lives, being able to pull up a chair can take time.

At Urban Recipe, we work hard to remember that every seat around our table is filled with unique voices, experiences, and ideas that contribute to Urban Recipe's mission. This newsletter serves as a reminder of the importance of engaging with the resources and opportunities available within our community. By taking advantage of the seats at the table—whether through collaboration, sharing knowledge, or participating in discussions—we not only nourish ourselves, but also strengthen our communities.

Together, we can ensure that everyone's perspective is valued and that our collective efforts lead to lasting change in our neighborhoods. Let's embrace these opportunities to connect, learn, and grow, making the most of the vibrant community we are building together. It is hard work, but it is so important and I am so thankful to be in this work with you!

Happy reading!

Warm regards,



Jeremy Lewis
Executive Director
Urban Recipe



Members of St. Anne's Co-op

LANGUAGE BARRIERS AND RELATIONSHIPS

Urban Recipe's ten unique food co-ops in Atlanta serve members with diverse demographics. Members range in age from young families to seniors. Some come to co-op on breaks between work and after-school pickup, while for others, co-op is their only outing from home all week. Our members come from varied ethnic backgrounds, filling our co-ops with conversations from many different languages, including English, Spanish, Burmese, Pashto, Russian, and Amharic, among others. The language differences present a unique opportunity for members to build relationships, problem solve, and grow in community as they strive to allow all members to wholly participate.



One of our co-ops, Lake Forest, is made up of primarily Spanish-speaking members. The co-op president, Heidi, also acts as a translator, assisting with orientation of new co-op members and facilitating discussions among members who cannot communicate with each other. She, and others, have stepped up to ensure everyone is welcome and involved.



Lake Forest President, Heidi, communicates with her fellow co-op members.

At another co-op, housed at the International Community School, members must communicate across four or five languages. Some weeks this is simple, as a few co-op members have offered to help with translation. Other weeks, if those members are absent, the rest of the co-op must learn to convey ideas and problem solve without being able to speak to each other clearly.

It's truly inspiring watching these members care for each other well, listening patiently (and sometimes in frustration), but always attempting

to understand people who differ from themselves. It takes courage to approach others with such care, but is ultimately a gift to provide each person a seat at the table.

It is a beautiful reminder of what co-ops are about. Urban Recipe food co-ops are about more than food. The model is focused not on being the most efficient source of food distribution, but on building relationships in tandem with providing food security.

Co-ops are successful if they are built on community and the dignity of every member. We are proud to watch our members rise to that standard at every meeting.



CREATING SUSTAINED SUPPORT

In 1991, when the first Urban Recipe co-op was launched, it was simply called the "Georgia Avenue Food Cooperative." Now, with 10 co-ops operating, we look back with gratitude at our growth, but also the impact of our two longest-standing co-ops: Co-op 1 and Co-op 2.

These two co-ops have each existed for over 30 years, and are a testament to what our food co-op model is about: regular, sustained support. Some of the members of Co-op 1 and Co-op 2 have been active members for over two decades, coming bi-weekly to Urban Recipe to participate in their co-op meetings and receive food. They have been able to rely on



Ms. Lucille has been a member of Co-op 1 since the first meeting in 1991.

the consistent support of Urban Recipe as a source of food and community.

That is really what co-ops are about: allowing people to find food security in a sustained, consistent way. We are excited to continue to pour into our 10 existing co-ops in the coming years, providing a seat at the table for our members and creating a reality of food security in their lives.



Ms. Lucille at a co-op meeting at Georgia Avenue Church

EXPANDING THE TABLE THROUGH CPP

Urban Recipe's Cooperative Pathway Program (CPP) allows other organizations to participate in our approach to food security. It exists to aid others in starting co-ops in their community. This is a significant undertaking, requiring time and resources from partner organizations.

This year, we have launched two co-ops through CPP, but that does not tell the story of the commitment, training, and dedication that was put into these co-ops before they started. Currently, we have one organization working through CPP. They have been collaborating with organizations in their community to rally funds and support the launch. They have shadowed Urban Recipe co-ops and talked extensively with our team to understand what it takes to run a co-op. They have started training. They are committed to not only open a co-op, but to keep it

open for a minimum of 3 years, ensuring that stability is offered to their co-op members that will come to rely on the food they provide. Soon they will prepare for launch, finally getting to meet the families they have poured their time, funds, and hearts into!

Opening a co-op is an undertaking, but we are so grateful for partners who step up to the plate and make space in their organizations to serve their neighbors.



Day One of CPP training

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?



JOIN A CO-OP

Anyone who is in need of food and support is welcome to join a co-op. Contact us today to get information about orientation.



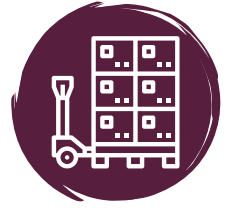
DONATE

We rely on donations to continue operations. You can support us monthly, one-time or through your company!



HOST A DRIVE

While our partnership with the Atlanta Community Food Bank is where we get most of our food and non-food items, we always are seeking home goods!



VOLUNTEER

Volunteer sessions are available multiple times a week! Sign up or email us to pick another time to sign up your group.



BE PART OF THE RECIPE FOR FOOD SECURITY

Food co-ops change lives. Members report an increase not only in food security, but also in a sense of togetherness and community.

You can change the lives of the 1,000+ people receiving food bi-weekly by ensuring we have funds to stock and operate co-ops. **Increase your giving today.**



CPP APPLICATIONS ARE OPEN

We are seeking applicants for our Cooperative Pathway Program (CPP)! Are you interested in learning more about hosting a co-op? Apply today to receive all the tools and resources you need to support sustained, dignified food security in your community.

Apply online or direct your questions to Jeremy at info@urbanrecipe.org