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FOURTH QUARTER IMPACT REPORT



Food Value
\$332,365



Pounds Distributed
172,210 LBS



Number of Meals
143,508

A RECIPE BUILT WITH COMMUNITY AND COLLABORATION



Dear Friends,

If you've ever baked from scratch, you know that every good recipe starts with the same foundation—flour, eggs, sugar, maybe a little salt. But what makes each baked good unique isn't just the base recipe—it's the variations, the personal touches, the way it all comes together in the hands of the baker.

That's exactly how we see our co-ops at Urban Recipe. Each one is built on the same foundation: intentionally designed community-driven food cooperatives prioritizing equitable food access, relationship building, and participation in decision-making. But no two co-ops are exactly alike. They take on the character of the people who make them what they are—the members, the coordinator, the neighborhoods they call home.

And that's what makes this work so special. We're all part of something bigger, creating lasting change together. But at the same time, each co-op has its own unique flavor, shaped by the people who gather around the table.

So here's to another season of baking something meaningful—together.

With gratitude,

Jeremy Lewis
Executive Director
Urban Recipe



**DID YOU READ
OUR ANNUAL
IMPACT REPORT?**

Find it online at
urbanrecipe.org/impact

CO-OP STEERING COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

An essential pillar in our co-op model is active participation. Every co-op member serves their fellow co-op members as they are able, from helping unload the truck, to sorting produce, to greeting members. On top of these responsibilities, every co-op is supported by a steering committee comprised of their own members, elected by the group to help lead, guide and support the co-op.

Starting off 2025, two of our co-ops, Co-op 1 and St. Anne's, are holding elections. The available positions are president, vice president, secretary, and vice secretary, and each person holds office for a cycle of two years. Members volunteer or are nominated to run for office.



Co-op 1 members cast their votes.

CO-OP 1'S ELECTION

Co-op 1 is our oldest co-op, and some of its members have been around Urban Recipe since 1991. They have a very evolved steering committee, and every member in the co-op can see the impact that leadership has on setting the tone of the co-op.

Every person running this year can see how their skills can help benefit the co-op. The members want to contribute and help change the way things are done and support the organization and structure of the co-op. It takes courage to step up and offer yourself to your community and we are proud of so many members of Co-op 1 doing just that.

ST. ANNE'S ELECTION

At St. Anne's Co-op, this will be their second election. In their first two years of leadership, the St. Anne's steering committee has stepped up not only to help run the co-op, but also to help support translation for its members. St. Anne's is our largest bilingual co-op, filled with English and Spanish speaking families alike. We have staff prepared to communicate with all of our members, but the communication skills of the steering committee have played a major positive role in the growth and welcome atmosphere of the co-op.

Moving into this second election and a change of leadership, we are excited to see how the new steering committee will choose to continue to support their fellow co-op members, through organization, leadership and communication.



St. Anne's Co-op former president, Silverio, leads the distribution.

Though elections in co-ops are sometimes difficult, every co-op member grows in community and reliance on one another. It's an opportunity for relationships to thrive and people to take hold of their lives and make an impact. We are excited for these and all of our steering committees as they continue to take ownership of their talents and act as stewards to their neighbors.

CPP GROWTH IN 2025

2025 is starting off strong with our Cooperative Pathway Program (CPP). Designed to expand the co-op model to more communities in need, we have already launched and transitioned 4 co-ops through the full training program since it officially started in 2023. In January, we wrapped up two new CPP training sessions, including a satellite location with Shareable in Rome, GA. Their co-op is slated to launch before the end of spring!



Jamillah leads CPP Training at Decatur First United Methodist.

Decatur First United Methodist also sent more volunteers through training in preparation for another co-op launch in March, this time right down the street at a senior high-rise facility. Having launched our Intown Cares co-op at a different senior facility, Cathedral Towers, in 2024, we are excited to grow in a different resident-based capacity to serve even more seniors.

FUTURE LEADERS

Some of the students in our most recent CPP class were not new to Urban Recipe. We just graduated two co-op members, preparing them to eventually become co-op coordinators or coordinator substitutes. They followed after one of our former South Atlanta co-op members, Juicyy McKee, who went through CPP training in 2023 to learn how to coordinate a co-op.



Juicyy coordinates the Haven Co-op

Juicyy's transition to the coordinator role was a result of hard work and dedication. She joined as a member in 2018, simply seeking community and food support, and after 4 years was elected as the co-op's steering committee Secretary. Over her time in co-op, she grew as a leader, developed more strategies in mediating conflict, and learned more administrative skills in her secretarial role.

In 2023, she was invited to attend CPP training. She spent hours in preparation, learning the ins and outs of co-op organization after having been a member herself. She has been coordinating the Haven co-op for over a year now, and also coordinates Co-op 2. In late 2024, she made the decision to leave South Atlanta co-op and accepted the job of coordinating her former co-op as well.

Juicyy's success has been a launching pad for other co-op members. Each member brings their unique skills and talents to the table, and we are excited to have these women ready to serve the greater Urban Recipe model.

**Interested in our Cooperative Pathway Program?
Learn more about how to apply on our website at:
urbanrecipe.org/cooperative-pathway-training-program**



Save the Date for Urban Recipe's 6th Annual



Please join us as we celebrate our growth over the last year, and give gratitude to those who helped us along the way, including you!

Wahoo! Grill
1042 W College Ave
Decatur, GA 30030

VIP Reception: 4-5 PM
Main Event: 5-7 PM

COMMUNITY. FOOD. DRINK. & LIVE MUSIC

Tickets on sale soon!

Be notified of ticket sales by visiting:
urbanrecipe.org/tummy-and-soul



DONOR SPOTLIGHT

"We are proud supporters of Urban Recipe because of the important role Jeremy and his staff play in the food ministry between our church, Saint Luke's Presbyterian, and Dodd Sterling United Methodist Church.

This ministry, which provides food to hundreds of families every two weeks, would not be possible without a reliable source of affordable food plus the infrastructure and volunteers to get it delivered to the people who need it. It is a wonderful partnership."
- Tony and Maria Barnhart



Photo L to R: Rev. Kevvin Hankins, Tony and Maria Barnhart, Dwayne Keith

Please consider sharing your testimonial with others so we can continue in our mission! Contact: mandashankel@urbanrecipe.org

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.