



# FOOD RESCUE OVERVIEW

## Food Rescue 101

Food rescue is the process of collecting donated food from restaurants, caterers, and other food service providers, and distributing that food to people in need through local social service organizations. In the food business, predicting exact levels of demand can be a challenge. As a result, there is often safe, prepared food left unsold at the end of a shift, event, or work day. Such food can be put to good use through a food rescue program, which manages the pickup of donated food and distribution to agencies that serve people who are food insecure. Eat Greater Des Moines' vision is to continue and expand the partnership between public and private organizations in Central Iowa by collecting and diverting edible, but not sellable, food products that are currently being landfilled.

## Get Involved!

To achieve Eat Greater Des Moines' goal of providing access to healthy food for all Iowans with a focus on those within Central Iowa, we all must work together. Getting involved as a donor can take many shapes and forms.

### Ask: Inquire about food rescue opportunities:

- At my workplace
- At a catered event
- When I see excess, edible food at an event, grocer, etc.

### Advocate: Promote food rescue:

- Implement a food rescue policy at my workplace
- Encourage friends and family to engage in food rescue

### Contribute:

- Time as a volunteer driver or food rescue advocate
- Money to EGDM to continue organizing, promoting and making food rescue easier for donors and recipients

## Did you know?

**40%** of food goes uneaten

**1 IN 5 IOWA CHILDREN** do not have enough to eat

**1 IN 8 IOWANS** are food insecure

## ChowBank app



The ChowBank app makes it easy for donors who have food, and recipient charities who need food, to find each other, all while tracking the impact of food rescue at a community level. ChowBank will allow donors (those with food) to easily find a recipient partner by creating an alert detailing the type and quantity of food, and their ability to deliver. Non-profit agencies who match the donor requirements will receive a notification of the opportunity and may accept food donations through the application. The ChowBank app is available for download in the iTunes and Android app stores.