Community Food Systems

VISION: We envision communities across Oregon and SW Washington where citizens are empowered and actively engaged across sectors to attain personal and community food security.

To work toward this vision we use **3** **primary APPROACHES:**

1. Community Foods Organizing using the FEAST

Oregon Food Bank's Community FEAST (*Food, Education, Agriculture, Solutions, Together*) program provides a menu of community organizing methods to help communities mobilize around improving their local food systems. As the program grows, our focus is increasingly on developing and supporting a network of food systems advocates and organizers actively engaged in improving their own communities around Oregon and beyond.
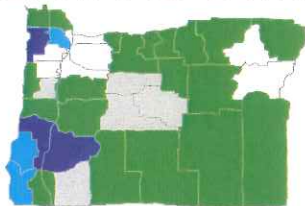
OUTCOMES have included:

new farm-to-school partnerships • new farmers' markets • increased awareness of food insecurity • new organizations and coalitions formed to work on food systems projects • new food donors for food bank agencies • increased community engagement

- 50+ Events, 1500 + citizens engaged
- More than 30% of participants are food producers
- Model being replicated in 6 states
- Nationally recognized by Feeding America with the 2013 LEAD Innovation Award

2. RARE Community Food Assessment Partnership

Resource Assistance for Rural Environments

RARE

Since 2008, OFB has partnered with the RARE (Resource Assistance for Rural Environments) AmeriCorps program administered through the University of Oregon's Community Service Center to place participants in rural communities around the state. RARE members placed in collaboration with OFB have focused on completion of local food system assessments (CFA) and planning.

Complete Current Planned 13-14

14 assessments completed by 2013, covering 21 Oregon counties • 7 Local Food Resource Guides
80+ Rural Grocery Store Surveys • More than 1000 community members engaged

3. Food Systems Networking

Oregon Food Bank plays a key role in the local and national Community Food Security movement as both a convener of partners, and as an innovator of new approaches to community food systems work.

25+ active partnerships • Social Media presence and facilitation of listserv with 400+ members