



FACT SHEET

FareStart is a real solution to some of our society's most pressing challenges—homelessness, joblessness, poverty and hunger. Our model works because we are both an effective social service provider and a thriving social enterprise.

People in poverty struggle to escape the cycle they are in and often face additional compounding barriers to getting and keeping a job. At FareStart, we help people overcome those barriers by teaching them work and life skills they need to succeed in the foodservice industry and in life.

Through our restaurants, cafes, catering and programs that provide meals to social services, shelters and schools, participants in our programs get practical work experience while giving back to their community.

By investing in people and building community, we transform homelessness, hunger and poverty into human potential.

Job Training Programs

We have four foodservice training programs in the Seattle area:

- **Adult Culinary Program** combines hands-on culinary training with classroom instruction, individual case management, life skills coaching and job placement services for adults 18 and older. The 16-week program provides the tools, training and support to put graduates on the path to employment.
- **Youth & Young Adult Barista Program** runs in partnership with YouthCare and is built around the needs of young people 16-24 who are street-involved. The program teaches barista and customer service skills through classroom instruction, job-readiness training, on-the-job experience and job placement support.
- **Youth Culinary Program** for youth 16-21 currently enrolled in Seattle Public Schools Interagency Academy or Nova High School. This program provides hands-on training focused on culinary arts, customer service, life skills, job-readiness training, on-the-job experience and job placement support, while youth earn school credit toward high school graduation.
- **Foodservice Apprenticeship Program** for individuals 18 and older with foodservice work experience. This program is designed to help foodservice workers develop the higher skills they need to advance in the foodservice industry and toward a living wage.

Catalyst Kitchens: In 2010, FareStart launched Catalyst Kitchens to share its unique business model to nonprofit organizations across North America. Through consulting and a network of more than 80 members, Catalyst Kitchens impacts the way organizations operate to help them be more efficient, to drive profit that fuels job-training programs and apply best practices in client case management, life skills offerings and high-quality on-the-job training programs.

Venues

Our Seattle restaurants and cafes offer excellent food along with a meaningful dining experience. Here, our students and apprentices get real-world job experience, while revenue from the venues help fund our programs.

FareStart Restaurant

Our flagship restaurant, which is open weekdays for lunch, is award-winning for both the quality of its cuisine and the impact of its mission. Each Thursday, we host Guest Chef Night, where guests enjoy a three-course gourmet meal prepared by a different guest chef from the community.

Downtown: 700 Virginia St.

Rise

A café that offers coffee tea and other beverages including nitro cold brewed coffee and kombucha. We also offer a variety of breakfast and lunch options, including soup, salad, sandwiches and pizza.

South Lake Union: 399 Fairview Ave N – In the lobby of Amazon's Houdini North

FareStart Café at Pacific Tower

The FareStart Café offers espresso drinks and light meals in the Pacific Tower Building, which is a hub for organizations creating social impact.

Beacon Hill: 1200 12th Ave S

Catering & Events

From gorgeous weddings to inspiring company gatherings, our team can create a memorable and meaningful event for you. We offer exquisite cuisine and exclusive venues, such as the Panoramic Room on Beacon Hill, the FareStart Restaurant in downtown Seattle, Maslow's in South Lake Union, or at the location of your choice. We can assist you with everything from a sit-down meal or a buffet to boxed lunches for your gathering.

Community & School Meals

Continuing and celebrating FareStart's founding mission to serve healthful meals to those who need them, our Community Meals Program provides tasty and nutritious meals for homeless shelters, low-income childcare centers and schools around the Seattle area - 365 days a year. Since 1992, we have prepared more than 10.7 million meals, each made by our students, from scratch, with the freshest possible ingredients.

Our Impact

FareStart has been helping people transform their lives through food for over 25 years – one person, one job and one community at a time.

Outcomes for FareStart's Seattle programs in 2018:

- **1,253** individuals were provided with intake services and/or referrals for basic needs.
- **502** individuals enrolled in FareStart's programs and received case management, housing, life skills, and job training.
- **251** individuals graduated from the FareStart's training programs.
- **91% of adult graduates** were hired within 90 days of graduation.
- **65 youth graduates** from both FareStart's Youth Barista and Youth Culinary Programs were placed in jobs.
- **858,000 meals** were provided to low-income or homeless children and adults through our Community & School Meals kitchens.

Recognitions & Awards

- For a ninth consecutive year, FareStart has a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator, outperforming most other charities in America. (Only 2% of organizations received at least nine consecutive 4-star evaluations.)
- **Better Business Bureau** Accredited Charity
- 2011 **James Beard Foundation** Humanitarian of the Year Award

Boiler Plate

About FareStart:

FareStart is a James Beard Award-winning nonprofit organization that empowers adults and young people experiencing poverty and homelessness through job training and employment in the foodservice industry. FareStart operates social enterprise businesses that provides hands on training in a real world setting while providing revenue for its programs. Since 1992, FareStart has provided opportunities for over 10,000 adults and youth, while serving over 10.7 million meals to Seattle area schools, homeless shelters, and healthcare facilities. Over ninety-percent of adults who graduate from FareStart gain employment within 90 days of graduation. For more information, visit farestart.org.

Please direct all media inquiries (including interview requests or photographs of staff or students) to:
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