

"Compassion through food...it's as alive today as it was 25 years ago. FareStart has stood the test of time. Congratulations to the staff, students and supporters of FareStart for keeping the flame alive and changing lives." —Chef David Lee, FareStart Founder

Our Story

In 1988, David Lee, chef and entrepreneur, recognized a need to serve Seattle's homeless and disadvantaged populations with nutritious and culturally appropriate food. To that end, Lee founded Common Meals (later renamed FareStart), a for-profit business.

Lee recognized in those early days that food was an extraordinarily powerful and uniting tool through which individuals could transform their lives. Over the past 25 years, FareStart has provided opportunities for 8,000 people to transform their lives, while also serving 9 million meals to disadvantaged men, women, and children. **Thank you for helping to make those transformations possible!**

