FareStart remains constant in pursuing our mission to transform lives, nourish communities and disrupt poverty through food, life skills and job training.

Over the first half of 2022, we have stayed the course with our successful virtual programming for both adults and youth. We have also continued to prepare and deliver hundreds of thousands of meals to food insecure communities across the Seattle area. As the Catalyst Kitchens Membership Network transitions to becoming its own self-sustaining organization, FareStart’s consulting team has continued to work with nonprofit organizations across the country to help develop and grow their own job training social enterprise programs in their respective communities.

Like many organizations, we have been challenged by Omicron, staffing shortages and supply chain problems. Our teams are working to creatively mitigate these issues to ensure we can continue to deliver on FareStart’s mission.

In the second half of the year, FareStart continues to be hard at work. After two-plus years of virtual-only training, our first cohort of students are returning to FareStart’s kitchens and facilities this summer. Staff is excited about on-the-job training and working alongside students to feed our community again. This is also peak season for our mobile community market. As inflation climbs and children lose access to school meals, the community market will be a lifeline to many.

Thank you for your ongoing support and partnership, which helps us realize our mission and create transformational change.

“Thanks to the FareStart virtual program; they not only helped me write and refine my resume and cover letter, they also kept a roof over my head,” says Jack, a graduate of the virtual program.
2022 TO DATE

153 adults and youth enrolled in virtual job training programs.

827,882 meals provided to people experiencing hunger and food insecurity.

80 individuals graduated from virtual job training programs.

110,112 pounds of food gleaned, recovered and upcycled into meals, reducing food waste.

41 job placements or promotions facilitated for students and graduates.

22 nonprofit organizations across the country supported through consulting.

“I live off a meager amount of money, so come near the end of the month ... I don’t have any food,” says Michael, a resident of Plymouth Housing. They’re something I actually survive on.”

FareStart relies on donations, partnerships and volunteerism to keep our programs running. This generous support is the backbone that allows us to realize our mission. The need remains high as we continue to navigate and recover from the pandemic and rebuild and recreate our social enterprise businesses.