



## JANUARY - JUNE 2023 IMPACT REPORT



The first half of 2023 has been full of successes and new beginnings as well as some challenges.

After being closed for over three years due to the pandemic, the FareStart Restaurant became available for private event rentals. This is the first step in bringing the community back to our flagship location at 7th and Virginia in downtown Seattle; this, in addition to our work at the FareStart Café, will help us build back our social enterprise businesses that not only serve as classrooms for our students but help us sustainably fund our mission and work.

We also expanded our national consulting social enterprise to support employers that want to successfully attract, retain and advance opportunity talent at their workplaces. This includes a new partnership with longtime supporter MOD Pizza. The end goal is to get more job seekers with barriers to employment on a pathway toward success.

In May, we said goodbye to several dedicated members of our staff. Most impacted were our prepared meals team, an area of work that has been reduced as pandemic-related emergency funding declined. This was an extremely difficult decision to make, and one that wouldn't have been made unless it was necessary to ensure FareStart retains its financial stability after a hard-hitting pandemic. We are now on track to produce the same number of meals as before the pandemic, about 900,000 meals annually.

These changes didn't affect our job training goals, however, and we remain on track to enroll over 300 adults and youth into our programs this year. The employer landscape has evolved over the past few years, and we are deploying new strategies to increase our job placement rate including expanded outreach.

As FareStart continues to reset and rebuild for its next 30 years, we were excited to welcome Patrick D'Amelio as our new CEO in May. Patrick has nearly 30 years of nonprofit executive experience advancing equity by expanding access and opportunity at education and human services organizations.



**“Perseverance was one of the words that they taught us at FareStart. For me, perseverance is not where you’re at, but where you’re going. And how important it is to keep fighting through whatever you’re going through.”**

- Charles, FareStart Program Graduate

## 2023 TO DATE

# 148

**adults and youth** enrolled in job training programs.

# 81

**individuals** graduated from job training programs.

# 52

**job placements** or promotions facilitated for students and graduates.

# 120

**mobile community market** events in South King County.

# 597,664

**meals** provided to mostly food-insecure communities.

# 100,380

**pounds of food** recovered, gleaned, redistributed or upcycled into meals.

# 23

**nonprofit organizations** impacted across the United States through consulting.

**“Coming into this program was a complete surprise. I was in a shelter at the time, going through probably one of the worst parts of my life. I subscribed to the program, had probably the best two months I’ve had in probably a year and a half. I’m still going through a lot, the Barista program helped me get through it. It gave me a purpose every day.”**

- FareStart Barista & Customer Service Program Graduate



## Join Us in Our Work

As we continue into the second half of 2023, evolving and growing our job training programs, reimagining social enterprise businesses and promoting food security, we are relying on partners, students, donors, volunteers, staff and other supporters to help us make the transition that will position us for growth and increased mission impact in a new, post-pandemic employment landscape.

Learn more by contacting us today at [info@farestart.org](mailto:info@farestart.org) or (206) 443-1233.