Oregon Food Bank

Community Profile

County: Washington
City: Beaverton
Population: 545,000

Description

Sponsor: Oregon Food Bank
Supervisor: Megan Newell-Ching

Assignment: Oregon Food Bank’s (OFB) mission is to eliminate hunger and its root causes. Formed in 1982 as Oregon Food Share, the organization merged in 1988 with Interagency Food Bank to become Oregon Food Bank, a nonprofit, charitable organization that serves as the hub of the OFB Network, a statewide network of 20 Regional Food Banks (RFBs) – four are OFB branches – and over 900 agencies and programs serving Oregon and Clark County, WA.

The RARE participant placed with Oregon Food Bank will conduct a comprehensive inventory of regional food systems and resources in Washington County. The participant will examine local food self-sufficiency including local retail, livable wage farming, and local farmers markets. Additionally, the participant will work to form partnerships with the local farming and agricultural community as a means to increase involvement, and to increase the ability to produce and market locally grown products.

Meet Jessica Abad

Jessica received her Bachelor of Arts in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of Colorado, Boulder. After attaining her Bachelors Degree, Jessica served with Peace Corps in Senegal where she worked as an Agroforestry Extension Agent on an array of rural community development projects. Jessica hopes to use her RARE experience to further define her professional goals and interest. Following her year with the RARE Program, Jessica hopes to find work that will allow her to be involved with helping communities in America preserve their amenities and create more succinct practices to ensure our environment is conserved.