



Union Station Store Partners with Local Organization to Connect Food Resources Across Colorado



Alison Goodhart | Union Station Store Denver, CO

Allison has been a Whole Foods Market Team Member for 12 years and is currently a Store Support Team Leader at the Union Station Store. She believes it's important to **explore ways to help** your local community. "Everyone deserves **food that makes them feel better**, and it is definitely harder to find healthy food in many areas," Allison points out. After learning about Hunger Free Colorado at a store meeting several years ago, she started volunteering with them. This is the second year in a row she has successfully secured a Community First Grant for nonprofit. She would love to continue partnering with them for years to come because she **believes in their mission**.

Hunger Free Colorado hungerfreecolorado.org

Hunger Free Colorado connects Coloradans to food resources while **fueling change** in systems, policies and social views so that no one goes hungry. By leveraging **the power of collaboration, and innovation**, they eliminate barriers to affordable, nutritious food. The statewide organization aims to help ensure a sustainable flow of fresh, healthy produce from local growers to Coloradans facing barriers to healthy food. In 2018, they helped allocate assets in the state budget for the Food Pantry Assistance Grant Program, which provides funds to food pantries and food banks to purchase protein, produce and dairy **directly from Colorado farmers**. The Community First Grant will support a comprehensive evaluation of this program to assess its impact and efficacy in **increasing the availability of fresh food** across the state.



Whole Foods Market Team Members can nominate a local nonprofit increasing access to fresh, healthy food or nutrition education for a \$5,000 grant.

WholeCitiesFoundation.org



Union Station Store Partners with Denver's First Nonprofit Restaurant to Take Healthy Meals on the Road



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A Store Support Team Leader in Denver, Allison has been a Whole Foods Market Team Member for 12 years. She has lived in the area for 15 years, has grown to **love the community** and is eager to **meet the needs of her neighbors**. With its pay-what-you-can pricing, SAME Café offers an innovative way to address food access challenges by providing **delicious, healthy meals in a dignified manner** to everyone. After learning about the SAME Café, the first nonprofit restaurant in Denver, Alison was quick to nominate it for a Community First Grant and is eager to spread the word to her Whole Foods Market team and friends. She sees **opportunities** by volunteering, donating and, of course, visiting the café itself.

SAME Café soallmayeat.org

Denver's SAME (So All May Eat) Café is a donation-based, fair-exchange restaurant that serves healthy food to everyone, regardless of their ability to pay. With a mission to create community through healthy food access and honor the dignity of people from any socioeconomic background, the café offers a menu of mostly local, organic food and invites guests to volunteer time, give produce or donate money in exchange for their meal. The success of the café led to the SAME Food Truck, which takes their mission mobile, bringing healthy food to neighborhoods experiencing barriers to healthy food access while working with food organizations and social service agencies. The Whole Cities Foundation funding can help expand the reach of the SAME Café Food Truck to serve 7,500 meals in 2020.



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