



Glastonbury Store Continues Partnership with Cultural Center to Provide Fresh Food Access on Hartford Streets



Tom Neal | Glastonbury Store Glastonbury, CT

Tom is a Store Team Leader and has been with Whole Foods Market for nearly 30 years. He has been **actively working** to get healthy food to underserved areas of Hartford by advancing the store's partnership with Charter Oak Cultural Center and through his own **personal commitment**. Tom has worked as a liaison between the store and the nonprofit on the Eats of the Street program and has been serving on the board of directors for several years. He hopes the store's relationship with Charter Oak Cultural Center will not only help bring healthy food to people in Hartford who might otherwise not have it, but also teach Team Members about food insecurity issues and **inspire them make a difference**.

Charter Oak Cultural Center charteroakcenter.org

Charter Oak Cultural Center, a vibrant multi-cultural arts center, fosters social justice through the arts. Through one of its programs, Eats of the Street, it places **large pots filled with organic vegetable plants** throughout Hartford. Members of the community who are experiencing homelessness are hired and trained to tend the pots, as well as supervise the program, and **local artists volunteer** to transform the pots into public art. The **vegetables are free** to anyone. The group has more than 30 pots tended by gardeners, and the 2019 Community First Grant will fund three additional pots for an entire growing season and contribute towards funding a fourth. Partnerships like this work towards building a **better world** in which **fresh, healthy foods are accessible** to all.



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