

VOTER GUIDE



EASTSIDE
FOOD CO-OP



Vote at eastsidefoodcoop.simplyvoting.com through October 23!

WHO CAN VOTE?

Anyone can vote who is a fully paid owner by the voting deadline: Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 6:30 pm.

ABOUT VOTING

The voting period concludes on October 23, 2018 at 6:30 pm. Voting will take place electronically and by paper ballot.

Ballots are only valid if they include the owner's name and owner number. You may mail in your ballot, drop it off in the store, or vote online. If an owner submits more than one ballot, then only the ballot entered first will be counted.

TO VOTE BY MAIL: Mark the ballot as directed. Affix a first-class stamp and mail your ballot. Mailed ballots must be postmarked no later than October 19, 2018.

TO VOTE IN THE STORE: You may drop off or fill out a paper ballot in the store and place it in the locked ballot box.

TO VOTE ONLINE: Go to eastsidefoodcoop.simplyvoting.com to enter the secure voting site. You will be asked to submit your Eastside owner number and the last name of the first person printed on your mailing label. Each owner number can be used only once. *You must be a fully paid owner by September 25, 2018 to vote online. Owners joining after September 25, 2018 must vote by paper ballot.

TO VOTE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING OCTOBER 23: You may vote at the Annual Meeting up until 6:30 pm. There will be staff available to assist you with both paper ballots and online voting.

All voting, including online voting from any venue, must be completed by Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 6:30 pm.

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

It's been a pleasure to serve Eastside Food Co-op as treasurer of the board of directors over the previous year, and as a director for almost all of the last decade. Over that time we have overcome many challenges and grown into an impressively successful organization with more than 6,000 active members. In order for the co-op to continue to grow and accept new owners it is necessary that we approve an increase in the amount of authorized capital stock. For this reason, the board of directors is recommending that the ownership vote Yes to the following change to the Articles of Incorporation.

Thank you for helping us keep Eastside Food Co-op a place where everyone is welcome!
George Fischer

There is one proposed change to the Articles of Incorporation.
Owners will vote Yes or No to the proposed change.

CURRENT LANGUAGE:

ARTICLE V. (CAPITAL)

Section 1. The amount of the authorized capital stock of the association shall be Four Million Dollars (\$4,000,000), and shall be divided into One Hundred Fifty Thousand (150,000) shares of Class A stock of the par value of Five Dollars (\$5.00) each, and One Hundred Fifty Thousand (150,000) shares of Class B stock of the par value of Five Dollars (\$5.00) each, and Four Thousand (4,000) shares of Class C stock of the par value of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) each, and Five Thousand (5,000) shares of Class D stock of the par value of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) each.

PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

(emphasis added to highlight changes)

ARTICLE V. (CAPITAL)

Section 1. The amount of the authorized capital stock of the association shall be ***Six Million Dollars (\$6,000,000)***, and shall be divided into ***Four Hundred Thousand (400,000)*** shares of Class A stock ***with a par value*** of Five Dollars (\$5.00) ***per share***, and ***Three Hundred Thousand (300,000)*** shares of Class B stock ***with a par value*** of Five Dollars (\$5.00) ***per share***, and Four Thousand (4,000) shares of Class C stock ***with a par value*** of Five Hundred Dollars (\$500.00) ***per share***, and Five Thousand (5,000) shares of Class D stock ***with a par value*** of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) ***per share***.

GET TO KNOW YOUR CANDIDATES

October 6 at Fair State Brewing Company from 1:00 - 3:00 pm!

Register at: boardcandidatemeetandgreet.eventbrite.com

We asked each candidate to answer the following five questions:

1. Why do you want to serve on the Eastside Food Co-op Board of Directors?
2. What kinds of skills, interests, and experience would you bring to the board?
3. Eastside Food Co-op is founded on the 7 International Cooperative Principles listed below and described more fully on page 4 of this packet. Please choose one of the principles and describe how you think the board can encourage and foster this in a cooperative:
 - Voluntary and open membership
 - Democratic member control
 - Member economic participation
 - Autonomy and independence
 - Education, training and information
 - Cooperation among cooperatives
 - Concern for community
4. Tell us your experience of working with fiduciary responsibilities for an organization.
5. Tell us your experience of collective decision-making.

Note: The candidate statements have not been edited in any way.

VOTING GUIDELINES

Vote for up to 5 candidates.

The three candidates who receive the highest number of votes will each be seated with a 3-year term.

The candidate who receives the 4th highest number of votes will be seated with a 2-year term.

The candidate who receives the 5th highest number of votes will be seated with a 1-year term.

2018 ANNUAL MEETING

DETAILS

Tuesday, October 23, 2018

5:30 - 8:00 pm

301 on Main (Ukrainian Event Center)

301 NE Main Street

Minneapolis, MN 55413

RSVP

RSVP by Monday, October 22, 2018 at:

efcannualmeeting.eventbrite.com

You may also visit the Customer Service desk, call 612-788-0950, or email customerservice@eastsidefood.coop.

AGENDA

5:30 pm — Registration and dinner

6:30 pm — Election voting ends

6:30 pm — Call to order business meeting

7:00 pm — Union steward panel

The Annual Meeting is open to all owners. There is no fee to attend the meeting.

Childcare will be provided. Please register for childcare when you RSVP.

SEEDLINGS PROGRAM

Eastside Food Co-op's Seedlings program makes it simple for shoppers to support organizations making a positive impact in our community! Shoppers make small donations at the register which add up to meaningful contributions to nonprofit organizations whose work aligns with our store's mission. Last year, Eastside shoppers raised an impressive \$25,351.38 for area nonprofits through our Seedlings program.



We invite nonprofit organizations to submit applications for our Seedlings programs each summer, and – new this year – co-op owners will help us choose the 2019 Seedlings recipients in the annual election. Twelve local nonprofit organizations doing great work in the food access, agriculture and environmental sectors submitted applications. Read on to learn more about this year's applicants!

VOTE FOR UP TO FOUR SEEDLINGS APPLICANTS

2019 Seedlings recipients will be announced in the Winter 2019 issue of The Carrot, published in January.



Jennifer Anderson

Senior Financial Analyst
Ecolab, Inc.

1. I am proud to be a member of the Eastside Food Co-op and agree with its purpose and driving principles, part of which is to support the co-op as an active member. My education and experience is in accounting and finance, and I thought these could be beneficial skillsets to support the board's decision making.
2. I went to school (the U) for accounting and marketing, am an active CPA, and have had the opportunity to work for a variety of large and small companies in accounting, finance, project management, and process improvement roles (including an accounting role for a large local co-op). I've served as the treasurer on boards of organizations before, having to manage the different needs of membership and fairly represent the perspectives in the decision-making process. Before getting my CPA, I worked at a grocery store for 6 years, so I can also appreciate the day-to-day logistics and potential challenges of the business.
3. Democratic Member Control is one of the 7 International Cooperative Principles, and important to keep in mind as a board of director. Each director has a duty to act in the interest of the membership as a whole. As Eastside grows, it is increasingly important to continue driving towards the goals the co-op was founded upon, providing an honest and values-driven resource for the NE neighborhood.
4. I've served on the board of a large organization before, and it involved actively participating in discussions and decision-making to fairly address the interests of each facet of the organization. I value different perspectives and think it is important to understand all arguments and prioritize the community's values above all individual interests.
5. I've been a member of a lot of different teams and organizations (from sports teams to professional organizations), all of which have required collective decision-making and balancing different individuals' opinions. Being able to facilitate constructive conversations has helped my teams collectively determine the best steps to accomplishing our goals.



Thomas Dambrine

Restaurant and Foodservice
Executive

1. When I started shopping at Eastside, right after the expansion, I started to educate myself on the cooperative principles that Eastside follows, and found that they matched the values I had grown to embrace over my years working in the food 'industry'. I know the challenges to a healthy and equitable food system, and believe that Eastside not only allows me to purchase the food I want for me and family, and support the good food movement, it can also be a powerful community actor.
2. I am a believer in measuring business decisions through a triple bottom line -- not just profit, but also people and planet. Thanks to my past work with Appetite For Change, a North Minneapolis nonprofit, I'm also passionate about equity and social justice as it relates to food. I obtain satisfaction from identifying issues, creating plans in a collaborative manner, working as a team to achieve the plan's objectives, and then tracking its impact and learning from any mistakes.
3. Although the 7 principles are interconnected, I believe "Education, Training, and Information" is the foundation of them all, as well as the best way to grow the co-op's reach and impact further. Board members have a duty to educate themselves on all issues related to the co-op's goals. Co-op staff have to be able to benefit from training so that they can share their knowledge with shoppers. It is also critical for the community to know the impact of their shopping at the co-op. The board can encourage and foster this by identifying educational needs, enabling staff training, as well as being active as ambassadors of the co-op to the community at large.
4. As part of the leadership team of several organizations, I have been trusted to make decisions not only financial but also operational, legal as well as people-related. My experience with budgeting, forecasting and understanding return on investment will be helpful, and I always want to ensure that the financial, operational and ethical impact of each decision is well understood, and how they match the co-op's Vision.
5. I currently serve as the elected President of my volunteer homeowners-managed townhome association, where I see my role as a leader and facilitator. We encourage participation in all meetings by all stakeholders, then before a vote is taken by board members, a respectful discussion takes place and all voices are heard. We then do our best to communicate to our constituency, and welcome all feedback.



Andy Emerson

Operations Manager
VStar Entertainment Group

1. As a newer resident to the NE Minneapolis neighborhood (MN born and raised), I wanted to find a way to invest into the great community I live and what better way than with the Co-op! I've been interested in food systems, their relationship to the environment and Co-ops since joining my first Co-op 5 years ago. I see the Board of Directors as a great way for me to use skills to invest into the community and help grow the Co-op to better serving its diverse membership.
2. I have a diverse background ranging from a degree in political science, a career in family entertainment, a love for community, a knack for travel, and an urge to always do my best. I can think critically about issues while keeping the owners in mind, as well as use my experience in entertainment to push for activity that helps build community.
3. Through creating and fostering policies which promote education and training of the community, the board is helping to share information that will help create a stronger co-op. Personally I changed many habits when I became educated on food, my habits, and the overall impact on the environment. By educating the community of the benefits of healthy eating, reduced waste, and communal cooperation the co-op will see an increase in participation both in shopping habits and membership.
4. Prior to moving back to Minneapolis, I traveled the US with a dinosaur exhibit as the Tour Manager. During this time, I was responsible for the day to day financial operations of a \$5million a year business as well as the well being of 10 employees including transportation, lodging, and work life. This taught me to do my best whether it's for your staff or your financial responsibilities.
5. At my current employer, VStar Entertainment, I work with others to take quality entertainment events from concept to conclusion. This process involves groups of 10+ parties representing different needs working together to reach an outcome that fulfills their needs while providing a quality customer experience. If I've learned anything, it is that teamwork and cooperation is critical to the overall success of any organization.



Kerri Neitzel

Incumbent
Paralegal
Ecolab, Inc.

1. I am honored to have served on Eastside Food Co-op's (EFC) board since November of 2015. I am the current board secretary and am seeking reelection. I reside in the Audobon Park with my family and shop regularly at the co-op. I consider EFC an important community asset. I am excited about EFC's future and hope to continue to contribute to the board's work.
2. I am employed as a paralegal in the law department of a global, Minnesota based company. In my position, I focus on employment and benefits law and bring knowledge of employee relations, human resources and the law. My co-op experience includes serving on EFC's board for the past three years, including serving as current secretary and current chair of the board development committee and past vice president. I have also participated on the policy governance and engagement committees. I shop regularly at EFC and enjoy visiting other co-ops. I have attended several educational conferences pertaining to co-ops to further my knowledge and am committed to the mission of EFC.
3. Cooperative Principle #1 regarding Voluntary and Open Membership states: "Cooperatives are voluntary organizations, open to all persons able to use their services and willing to accept the responsibilities of membership, without gender, social, political, racial, or religious discrimination." To be true to principle 1, we must welcome new voices and ideas and foster the free exchange of differing opinions and ideas within our co-op community and on the board. I believe it is critical to EFC's future and that we will be most innovative and forward-thinking when we have a board representing a wide range of perspectives reflective of our entire membership. Furthermore, each of our members has their own unique motivation for choosing to participate in the co-op along with a personal viewpoint of what EFC means to them and what they hope for the future. I hope to be a continued part of EFC's strategic visioning process seeking to understand the unique motivations, viewpoints and dreams of our membership as we create our shared vision for EFC's future.
4. As a board member of EFC, I have committed to uphold my fiduciary duty, including the duty of loyalty and care, to EFC and to operate in the best interest of EFC at all times. This also means representing the diverse needs of our collective membership as a whole. I'm excited to continue EFC's strategic visioning process as we continue to develop a deeper understanding of what unites us as a co-op and create our shared vision for our future.
5. In my time on the board, we have faced several complex decisions as a group. While we used to have used different approaches to the decision-making process in each situation, it is ultimately the full participation of each individual board member committed to the best interest of the co-op that allows us to make the best decision for EFC as a board. I will continue to honor the integrity of the board's group decision making process for each decision that we reach as a group.



Amanda Degener

Owner
Cave Paper, Inc.

1. I am deeply committed to the cooperative model as an alternative to the corporate structure. I have lived in NE neighborhood since 1988 and I bought a membership to Eastside before we opened. There are opportunities to get involved at Eastside and I invited Kevin Brown to give a presentation about B corps. The board meetings I have attended have been productive and fun and I would enjoy working with these people well into the future.
2. I seem to be successful at getting people involved and feeling they are contributing to the whole. I have worked with over 120 interns in the last 24 years. I am a good communicator having worked with a variety of people and taught in a variety of situations. I have been running a small business called Cave Paper for the past 24 years. I am responsible for the day-to-day with interns and staff. It has been necessary to develop financial savvy, customer relations, and develop an ability to understand leases/landlords. Beginning from nothing and creating a product line and a group of regular clients also teaches skills that are too numerous to write down.
3. Democratic member control seems to be at the heart of co-ops influencing education, concern for community, independence and economics. Regular discussions and openness assures that co-ops function fairly. Owners need to have access to information so they can make informed voting decisions. Of course owners and workers have different responsibilities; within the co-op there are different jobs and skills so individuals must exercise their authority. Where the democracy lies is that each owner, as a person, is of equal value. Encouraging everyone's participation is essential for the health of the co-op. It takes time, but the reality of this inter-dependence is what is so necessary on this planet at this time.
4. I am the proprietor of 24 year-old successful "S" corporation with a modest annual income of 80K. I understand payroll, double entry bookkeeping and Quickbooks. Having served on other boards I know I must do my homework, come to meetings prepared, ask a few questions (but not too many) and be a quick learner.
5. Collective decision-making is at the heart of collaboration. I seek collaboration because a third thing is created that could not happen from individuals working alone. My experience as the founder of the "co-op" at Minnesota Center for Book Arts included writing policy and presenting it to the board of directors. I am currently getting a lot of experience with collective decision-making. As Cave Paper's owner I have chosen to transition it from a sole proprietorship to a worker-owned cooperative. I will vote with my individual conviction, yet am willing to support the decision of the Board in a spirit of cooperation.



Tom Dunnwald

Incumbent
Attorney
State of Minnesota

1. In 2016 EFC owners voted either to remain independent or consolidate with the Wedge and Linden Hills. That 2016 board initiative came just at the completion of EFC's expansion into our present building. The issue of independence triggered five board member resignations that year: three members opposed to the decision to endorse consolidation and two more resigned following the vote to remain independent. It turned out that the board had pursued consolidation as the only option and had not prepared a 'Plan B' - an alternative business plan and strategy for continuing as an independent co-op. Two years out we are now in the midst of completing that long term strategy for EFC - our Plan B: "Cooperative corporations [quoting Board member George Fisher] are the only effective hack of capitalism." Co-ops serve several bottom lines, not just monetary profits, which is the basis for the advertising tagline "the Co-op Difference". But it is not just an advertising phrase, the alternative food choices we see today in every grocery store are the result of the concerted effort of hundreds of small co-op groceries like ours - imitation is the highest form of flattery. But our competitors do not operate as cooperative capitalists do: open and voluntary membership, democratic control- 1 share/1 vote, concern for community, and autonomy and independence. I came on the Board a second time running in favor of independence and I am seeking another term because I want to help complete our in-progress strategic plan.
2. I grew up in Waterville, Minnesota where my dad was a large animal veterinarian. My going off to college coincided with the shift in American Agriculture to "Get Big or Get Out" and the beginning of the second wave of Food Cooperatives. My wife Sonja, daughter Clara and I arrived in North East in 2002 in time for kindergarten and just before the opening of EFC.
3. EastSide exemplifies the co-op principles of open, democratic membership, autonomy and concern for community. We actively work to further Principle Six (cooperation among cooperatives) and the food system education of our community and owners.
- 4,5. I am an attorney by profession and over the years have chaired the Minnesota Clean Water Action Board, served on the North East Community Development Corporation Board, served a prior stint on the EFC Board and currently serve on the North East Arts District Board.

YOUTH FARM

**Serving Hawthorne,
North Minneapolis**

Youth Farm uses food as a catalyst for social change, community engagement and leadership development - food is their tool to change the world. Youth Farm cultivates leadership for more than 700 youth with year-round programming focused on planting, growing, preparing and distributing the food they grow. Youth Farm's mission is simple: they farm to grow.

Youth Farm brings quality food to urban neighborhoods and explores culinary traditions from around the world. Youth cook and distribute a combined 5,000-10,000 pounds of fresh, local produce grown on 17 urban farm plots totaling almost three acres. Youth Farm is building a youth-led food movement by increasing food production and leaders' capacity for growing, cooking, eating and sharing healthy food in their own urban communities.

LAND STEWARDSHIP PROJECT

**Serving Powderhorn Park,
South Minneapolis**

The Land Stewardship Project (LSP) is a membership-based organization that aims to foster an ethic of stewardship for farmland, to promote sustainable agriculture and to develop healthy communities. They're dedicated to creating change in our food and farming system. LSP's work has a broad and deep impact, from new farmer training and local organizing to federal policy and community-based food systems development.

LSP works to train and support early farmers through their Farm Beginnings Program. LSP promotes environmentally-beneficial farming methods through our farmer-to-farmer Soil Builder's Network, which brings farmers together to learn soil-healthy farming practices. LSP also organizes with local residents to protect their communities from environmental threats like factory farms and frack sand mines.

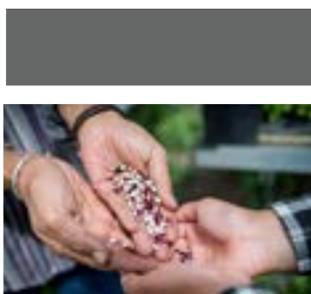
THE SHERIDAN STORY

**Serving Northeast
Minneapolis**

The Sheridan Story's Weekend Food Program provides five-pound bags of wholesome food each Friday to children utilizing school meal programs. Last year, these bags helped eliminate the weekend food gap for more than 5,000 children from 192 schools in the metro area.

The Sheridan Story team sources an increasing variety of nutritious, substantive food - rather than single-serve or snack food items - to ensure the children and families served by the program are nourished in a robust and culturally appropriate way.

More than 200,000 children in the state face food insecurity. This year The Sheridan Story hopes to partner with 220 schools in the Twin Cities to serve 7,700 children and their families.



DREAM OF WILD HEALTH

Serving Phillips, South Minneapolis

Dream of Wild Health restores health and well-being in the Native American community by recovering cultural knowledge of and access to healthy indigenous food. They do this through farm production, providing educational programs for Native youth and families in gardening and creating opportunities for youth employment and leadership. They own a 10-acre organic farm in Hugo, MN and maintain presence in the Phillips neighborhood.

Dream of Wild Health supports healthy food access through two farm markets, a 35-member CSA program, and donations. Their farm and programs serve over 5,500 people each year. They work with Native people to recover traditional relationships with indigenous plants and medicines through programs that engage youth and families directly with the Earth. Rebuilding this sacred relationship helps Native people reconnect with their culture, develop pride in their accomplishments, and improve physical and spiritual health.

SNO COMMUNITY GARDEN

Serving Northeast Minneapolis

The SNO Community Garden is made up of volunteers dedicated to fighting child hunger by harvesting and growing fresh organic produce for the Sheridan Story Food Bank. The garden has children's plots and neighborhood plots to engage, encourage, and teach community about positive social and environmental impacts.

SNO Community Garden provides 11 plots that are rented to neighborhood gardeners and three plots sponsored by The Sheridan Community Garden for the members of the Islamic Community Center, including a garden plot for the young children enrolled in weekend classes. Another plot is dedicated to growing fresh produce for the Sheridan Story. Over 30 volunteers help grow, maintain, and harvest produce. In peak harvest season they provide free organic produce to 20-30 families in need each week!

TWIN CITIES FOOD JUSTICE

Serving Northeast Minneapolis

TC Food Justice has been improving food insecure individuals' access to fresh, nutritious food in Minneapolis since March 2016. TC Food Justice partners with co-ops, grocery stores, and farmers markets to redistribute their unsalable foods to local hunger relief organizations. They focus on providing vegetables, fruits, and nutrient-rich breads, as these fresh food options are often challenging for hunger relief organizations to consistently source for their clients.

TC Food Justice identifies businesses interested in donating rather than discarding excess produce, partners with nearby hunger relief organizations to plan weekly produce drop-offs, and coordinates volunteers to collect and deliver food by bike or car. All deliveries operate free of cost to donor and recipient organizations. In their efforts to reduce food waste, they have diverted more than 56,000 pounds of produce from being discarded.



APPETITE FOR CHANGE

Serving North Minneapolis

Founded in 2011, Appetite For Change uses food to build health, wealth and social change. Their vision is a local, equitable food system that supports economic wealth and physical health for residents of North Minneapolis.

Appetite For Change advances Eastside Food Co-op's priorities for food access and agriculture. Their programs include community cooking workshops focused on nutrition and connection. Youth and community members tend their seven urban garden plots and the produce they grow is sold through the West Broadway Farmer's Market, which Appetite For Change operates. Produce is also used to prepare meals at Breaking Bread Café, their social enterprise restaurant that serves healthy meals and encourages community dialogue about food.

OPEN ARMS OF MINNESOTA

Serving the Greater Minneapolis Metro Area

Open Arms of Minnesota grows, cooks and delivers free, nutritious meals to people living with life-threatening illnesses in the Twin Cities. Founded in 1986, Open Arms believes that food is medicine, and their work matters to the health outcomes of neighbors facing a health crisis. With 7,300+ volunteers, they'll serve 600,000+ medically-tailored, made-from-scratch meals this year to people living with life-threatening illnesses as well as their caregivers and dependent children.

While there are no income requirements to receive Open Arms' service, 80% of their clients and their families live on incomes which fall 200% below the Federal Poverty Guideline and only 20% of Open Arms clients have private health insurance. Many of their clients are at a significant disadvantage to accessing nutritious, fresh food due to lack of nearby access to healthy, unprocessed foods and immobility caused by illness or age.

SUSTAINABLE FARMING ASSOCIATION

Serving Fulton Neighborhood, South Minneapolis

Sustainable Farming Association of Minnesota (SFA) is a grassroots membership organization dedicated to sustainable production of our food and fiber that works to restore soil health and protect our air, land and water. SFA promotes the production and distribution of safe, healthy, nutritious food, supporting consumers, family farmers and the communities dependent upon them.

SFA teaches farmers how to work with nature, not against it, to achieve their farm goals while producing nutritious food for Minnesota communities. Agriculture is always evolving, and SFA works to identify trends and ways farmers in Minnesota's unique climate and ecosystems can also evolve to produce more food on smaller footprints while also providing farmers additional revenue streams.



EASTSIDE MEALS ON WHEELS

Serving NE Mpls, SE Mpls, and St. Anthony

Eastside Meals on Wheels provides nutritious hot meals to isolated neighbors in Northeast and Southeast Minneapolis and St. Anthony Village. Generous community volunteers deliver between 120-160 meals per day, with an average of 250 volunteer drivers per month – that’s more than 28,000 meals delivered to our neighbors each year.

Serving our community since 1973, Eastside Meals on Wheels ensures that isolated neighbors enjoy at least one healthy meal per day. Isolated neighbors, especially seniors, are healthier and remain independent longer with home delivered meals. Meals on Wheels recipients report fewer hospital visits and remain in their own homes much longer than isolated individuals who do not receive meals.

NORTHEAST FARMER’S MARKET

Serving Northeast Minneapolis

The Northeast Farmers Market is dedicated to bringing local and organic food choices into the community and focuses on sustainability and building a zero-waste environment. The Northeast Farmers Market adds to the livability of the neighborhood by providing a welcoming and accessible community and gathering place.

They contribute to the success of local growers and producers and foster sustainability in the Northeast community. The market is a place to help build relationships with growers, meat producers, neighborhood associations and organizations. The Northeast Farmers Market makes quality food and experiences available to people of all ages, ethnicities, and socio-economic positions.

THE FOOD GROUP

Serving Northeast Minneapolis

The Food Group distributes fresh produce, healthy staples, and culturally specific foods to 170+ local food shelf partners and, ultimately, community members experiencing hunger. Their land-based Farmer Education Program provides education in organic vegetable production for beginning farmers from historically underrepresented communities. Beginning farmers in the program learn to grow organic specialty crops and are educated in vital topics such as organic certification and record-keeping, business planning, and marketing.

The Food Group staff is committed to ensuring every element of the program is welcoming, inclusive and supports farmers in achieving their goals. Many participants have previous farming experience in their country of origin but aren’t familiar with the climate, markets, regulations, and other elements of managing a farm in the Midwest. Others are making their first foray into independent organic farming.





TO VOTE:

www.eastsidefoodcoop.simplyvoting.com

TO RSVP FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING:

www.efcannualmeeting.eventbrite.com

VISION:

Eastside Food Co-op is at the forefront of a prosperous and fair cooperative economy. We provide access to healthy food, foster positive environmental impacts, cultivate a thriving community in our neighborhood, and educate members for a sustainable future.

