



A Fully Nourished Community

Strategic Plan 2018

Dear friends,

Food, resources and faith to build a stronger community is what The River has offered the community for the past twelve years and what we will continue to offer until we achieve our vision of a fully nourished community. Humans require sustenance in body, mind and spirit to be fully nourished. People also require stable households in which to move, grow, and thrive. We will continue to stretch ourselves to provide healthy and nutritious food to anyone who needs it, while setting the table for onsite collaborative programming that addresses four areas of household stability – food, housing, health, and work/life. The hopes, dreams and aspirations of the community and the family that make up The River are represented here as our mission, vision, core values and guiding principles.

Our year-long planning process, based in appreciative inquiry, included the voices of hundreds of individuals representing all stakeholder groups; clients, volunteers, donors, board, staff, community partners, community members and community leaders.

We invite you to join us in making our shared vision a reality.

Handwritten signatures of Charles P. McLimans and Jennifer Zisser in blue ink.

Charles P. McLimans and Jennifer Zisser
President/CEO and Board Chair



MISSION

What We Do

Food, resources and faith to build a stronger community.

VISION

What We Reach For

A fully nourished community.

CORE VALUES

What Motivates Us

Respect
Compassion
Community
Caring
Generosity



Guiding Principles

We Believe...

in a foundation of faith and place faith at the center of everything we do.

that food is a right and not a privilege.

in nourishing our community in body, mind and spirit.

in creating a servant-hearted community and that the opportunity to serve is a gift.

in abundance, all is given to us as gift, and through the beauty of sharing all will have enough.

in a culture of philanthropy, and through the generous sharing of our gifts and talents we build up one another and our community.

by working together we will end hunger and build a stronger community.



Aspiration | *Be an enhanced builder of community, extending our core values, working collaboratively to achieve a vision where everyone is nourished in body, mind and spirit.*

GOAL | Be a leader in ending hunger and promoting household stability through a client-centered approach and innovative engagement with our community.

GOAL | Refocus, reframe and refresh our brand to create greater community awareness of our mission, vision, core values and enhanced role.

Community Builder



Services

Aspiration | *Grow as the leading direct provider of healthy and nutritious resources for food insecure households throughout Dane County, and collaborate to promote household stability, addressing the root causes of food insecurity.*

GOAL | Stabilize, strengthen and enhance our food supply chain.

GOAL | Establish onsite partnerships and programs focusing on four sectors of household stability:
Food, Housing, Health, and Work/Life.



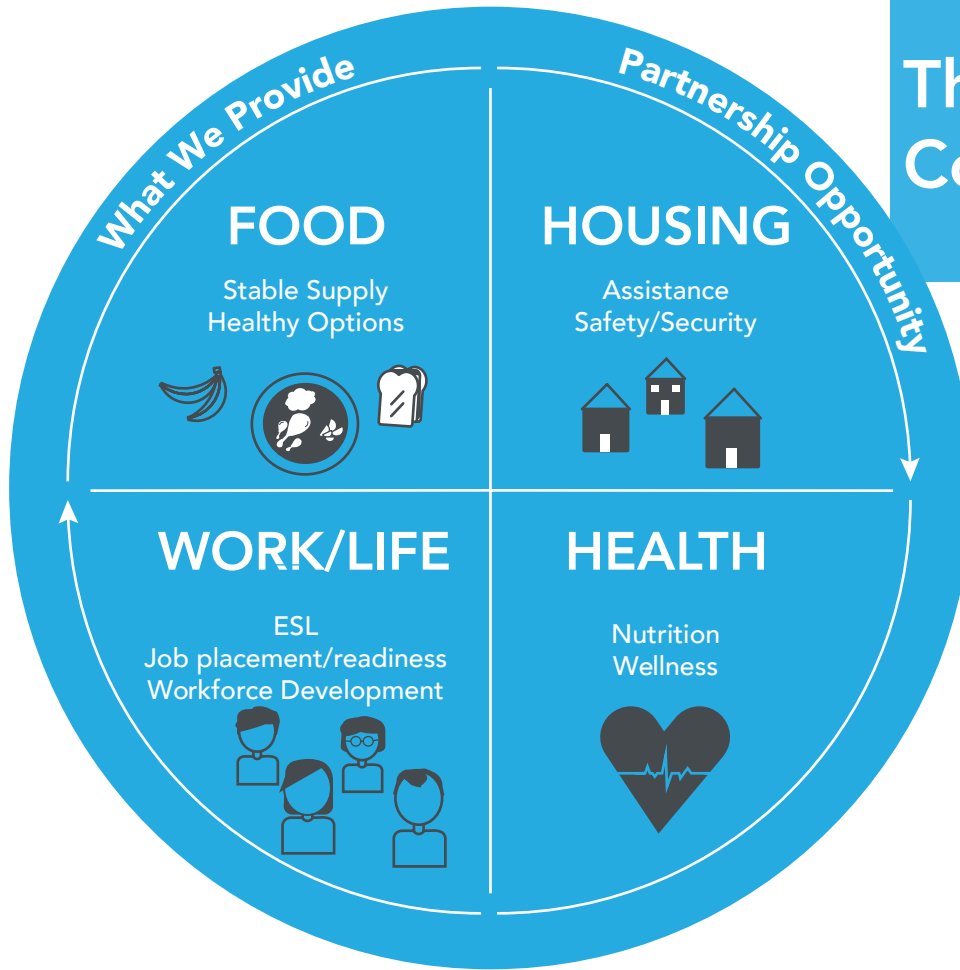
The River Community Services

Holistic Services Philosophy

People require sustenance in body, mind and spirit to be fully nourished. People also require stable households in which to move, grow, and thrive.

*We will continue to stretch ourselves to provide healthy and nutritious food to anyone who needs it, while setting the table for onsite collaborative programming that addresses four areas of household stability – **food, housing, health, and work/life.***

We will leverage our strengths and the strengths of community partners to advance this vision.



Facilities & Environment



Aspiration | *Create best in class operations and a holistic service hub that reflects and embodies The River's Mission, Vision and Values.*

GOAL | Engage a facilities committee of subject matter experts, volunteers, and clients who will advise, research, plan and acquire a new facility.

GOAL | Optimize and enhance the welcoming nature of the current facility through expanded hours, enhanced flow and modeling of our Core Values.

GOAL | Become a holistic service hub.

GOAL | Extend our care for community to care for the earth and environment.



Engagement

Aspiration | *Become the organization of choice for volunteers, donors and employees championing nourishment and household stability.*

GOAL | Create an organizational culture and environment that embodies our Core Values.

GOAL | Elevate as a leading organization of choice for individuals and families to volunteer their time and talents.

GOAL | Be one of the leading charities within Dane County.



Core Values

Respect

Valuing each other as we value ourselves through listening, example, collaboration and trust.

Compassion

Nourishing and serving with loving hearts for one another.

Community

Embracing togetherness through sharing, caring, loving and accountability to each other.

Caring

Kindness displayed with affection and love, expecting neither reward nor recognition.

Generosity

Embracing all with resources, community and compassion.

Food, resources and faith to build a stronger community.

The River has a tremendous history and track record of success in building community and stretching ourselves to respond to the evolving needs of our community. Through our combined services we touch the lives of over 1,000 families each week who trust us and rely on us. They walk with us as we respond to the changing needs of our community, and are guided by our shared values of respect, compassion, community, caring and generosity.





The River

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Volunteer. Donate. Support.



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