

Second Bite

Food Programs Tasmania

SHARING STORIES - LOCAL ACTION ON FOOD SECURITY

Determinant of food security:

Food supply

Sub-determinant:

Access to local affordable food

Location & year:

Statewide, 2012/2013

Story tellers:

Pat Burton, Food Program Manager

Aaron Kropf, Acting State Manager



Summary/Description

Second Bite is an Emergency Food Relief organisation, dedicated to rescuing and redistributing surplus fresh food to people in need.

Through the Food Programs Tasmania project, Second Bite has expanded its operations by opening new food hubs in areas of need, including Kingborough, Huonville, Sorrell, Launceston, and Georgetown.

Second Bite also delivered an education program for recipient agencies called 'Fresh NED'. This program helps staff and volunteers from Community Food Programs to understand the challenges of food insecurity, and the importance of good nutrition and food safety for their clients.

Since the project began in 2012, Second Bite has run Fresh NED training with 47 staff and volunteers from 29 agencies. They have also trained 6 Tas-based facilitators, who will be able to continue running Fresh NED training in the future.

Benefits and achievements

Since the start of the Food Programs Tasmania project, demand for Second Bite's services has increased, and they have started working with more services to ensure food is delivered to people in need.

Second Bite is now able to get fresh fruit and vegetables to people in need across the North of the state, from St Helens to Burnie. They have also built stronger connections with growers in the North of the state, which has helped with donations of surplus products.

"We wouldn't be able to sustain what we do without food from the North of the state."

Aaron Kropf

The Fresh NED training program has been received very positively – staff and volunteers who have attended the sessions say that less food is being wasted by their services, and they have a greater understanding of how food insecurity can affect their clients.

"It's one thing to get the food out to people in need, but it's also about support and education".

Pat Burton

Challenges

As a non-government organisation, the biggest challenge for Second Bite during the Food Programs Tasmania project was being able to meet the growing need for emergency food relief in the community.

To address this challenge, Second Bite focusses on building sustainability into their work.

Training and education programs such as Fresh NED are designed to support recipient agencies to gradually decrease their clients' reliance on emergency food relief.

As the Food Programs Tasmania project has allowed Second Bite to increase its supply of emergency food relief to the North and North East of the state, a new challenge will arise as the funding finishes, as Second Bite will keep working to meet the demands of Tasmanians in need.

Promotion

Through the Food Programs Tasmanian project, Second Bite has continued to work with their partners to strengthen existing relationships in the sector.

The project has also helped Second Bite to build new relationships with organisations in Launceston.

"We've been working to raise awareness in the community about what we do – and we're confident that we do it well"

Aaron Kropf

Funding

The Second Bite Food Programs Tasmania project is an initiative of the Food For All Tasmanians Fund. A number of organisations have worked alongside Second Bite to support the project, including the Salvation Army, PCYC, Centacare, Launceston City Mission, Launceston Benevolent Society, and the Door of Hope Church Launceston.

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Information was compiled by **Population Health (DHHS)** in partnership with this initiative and the Department of Premier and Cabinet.

