

Problem: The healing power of food and community is not widely recognized.

- People facing a health crisis are often unable to source and prepare nourishing meals.
- People facing a health crisis often feel isolated due to a lack of mobility and social connections, diminishing an overall sense of wellbeing.
- People in a health crisis are not often supported with good nutrition and wellness practices.

For more information on Food is Medicine, please visit: www.fimcoalition.org www.ceresproject.org

Logic Model: Healthy Meals Program-- Nourishing Neighbors

INPUTS

Investment:

- Board governance
- Staff resources
- Affiliation memberships
- Annual RDN review
- Volunteer time
- Mentor training
- Kitchen facility & equipment
- Farm & gardens
- Food & packaging
- Wellness education
- Volunteer recognition
- Environmental education
- 13000 lb produce

OUTPUTS

Activities:

- Cooking in safe, clean kitchen
- Consuming whole food as medicine
- Working in teams to prepare meals
- Learning about organic food and gardening through guided experimentation
- Connecting to client through deliveries & client care team
- Intergenerational connections
- Creating welcoming, electronic-free space
- Sharing knowledge and experience
- Crafting seasonal meal plans
- Using educational activities to overcome literacy and language barriers

Annual Outputs:

- 35,000 healthy, organic meals prepared and delivered
- 225 NEW Books distributed
- 225 Nourishing Communities cookbooks distributed
- 118 low-income families
- 441 volunteers
- **3500** cards
- Phone calls

IMPACTS & OUTCOMES

Short-term Impacts:

- Increased consumption of healthy food & decreased consumption of processed food by clients
- Clients experience elevated sense of connection, knowing they are cared for
- Clients feel increased competence in kitchen
- Clients learn to appreciate flavors and textures of whole foods
- Clients have greater understanding of impact of their daily nutritional and wellness practices

Long-term Outcomes:

- Clients complete 12 weeks of healthy meals program
- Clients demonstrate understanding of how food impacts overall health and that food is medicine
- Clients adopt daily health and wellness strategies
- Clients experience social connections that promote sense of wellbeing
- HM builds healthy communities to nourish with love
- Lowered healthcare costs
- HM empowers commuities to improve their health through food is medicine
- HM publishes research identifying positive health impact of healthy meals program

FACTORS

Assumptions:

- Funding is available
- Volunteers are highly appreciated and treated well
- Clients are nourished with love
- Meals are made from high-quality, organic ingredients that are essential to the healing process
- Diversity, equity, and inclusion are incorporated into a loving and welcoming environment

External Influences:

- Program funding is competitive
- · Volunteers managing work, home, and school schedules
- Physically able to work in kitchen, farm, or deliveries
- · Inflation and market fluctuations
- · Availability of organic ingredients
- Transportation for volunteers can be challenging
- Cultural, literacy, and language barriers