

DORCHESTER FOOD CO-OP COMMUNITY

WHAT IS THE DORCHESTER COMMUNITY FOOD CO-OP?

The Dorchester Community Food Co-op will be a community-owned food store that will provide healthy, local and natural food for Dorchester and the surrounding communities.



Dorchester Food Co-op supporters at My Dorchester Night

WHAT IS A CO-OP?

A co-op is a member-owned, member-controlled business that operates for the benefit of the community.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

- Individuals or families make a small investment of \$100-\$200 to become member-owners of the Dorchester Community Food Co-op. (this membership equity can be paid over time.)
- Every member has one vote.
- Every member can run for the Board of Directors.
- The store will be open for **ALL** to shop.

TIMELINE

Over the next year, locations will be researched, neighborhood residents will be surveyed, and a feasibility study will be completed. Your help and input will move this process forward! The co-op needs 500 members-owners to break ground.

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THE CO-OP IS COMMITTED TO:

INCLUSIVITY: The co-op will celebrate the diversity of our neighborhoods and reach out to the different ethnic groups, age range, and mixed income groups that make up our community.

HEALTHY FOOD: Access to healthy, affordable, and nutritious food is essential to creating a healthy community.

BUILDING COMMUNITY: The coop will serve as a dynamic space to bring people together.

SUSTAINABILITY: Social, economic and environmental sustainability are the cornerstones of the co-op business model.

NEW ECONOMIC MODEL: An economy controlled by its local residents provides stability.

YOUTH: Engaging our youth is important for building our future.

JOBS FOR OUR COMMUNITY: Money spent in our community creates more local jobs and supports the Dorchester economy.

WHY SHOULD I JOIN?

- Year round access to high quality healthy food.
- Share in the ownership of the business.
- If the coop does well, profits are returned to the owners in the form of dividends.
- Put your money where your values are.
- The co-op will have membership specials.
- The coop needs YOU!

CAN I HELP?

YES! YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

- Pledge to become a member-owner.
- Volunteer to help organize the co-op.
- Contribute your ideas to the development of the co-op.
- Invite your neighbors over to hear about the co-op.
- Become a "Co-op Ambassador" - together we can build a membership that reflects our community.

For more info, contact silverman.jen@gmail.com