



## GET FOOD SMART TN QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER December 2022 Edition



Hi friends,

Can you believe we are just a week away from 2023-a new year?! This year we have seen so much growth in the food waste space and increased collaboration amongst organizations and businesses to not only reduce food waste, but also fight food insecurity. We are so thankful for all of the work you are doing and continue to see the impact you make in Tennessee!

Thanks,

Ashley Cabrera

### UPCOMING EVENTS



#### Food Waste Prevention Week

*April 10-16, 2023*

Florida and other states will be hosting a week to highlight food waste and the ways to combat it.

[More Info](http://www.foodwaste preventionweek.com)



Pick TN Conference

*February 16-18, 2023*



Tennessee's 2nd annual Food Waste Awareness Week will be April 10-16th, 2023! We are so excited to engage with Tennesseans on topics around food waste reduction, recovery, and diversion. We are also expanding upon Bread to Tap events from our inaugural year. Keep an eye out for more information to come on our [Get Food Smart TN website](#), and [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) accounts.

WE'RE LOOKING FOR PARTNERS!



HELP US PROMOTE AND ENGAGE IN FOOD WASTE AWARENESS WEEK BY BECOMING A FOOD HERO PARTNER!

If you are interested in becoming a Partner, click on this image to fill out the form or reach out to Ashley Cabrera at [ashley.cabrera2@tn.gov](mailto:ashley.cabrera2@tn.gov) for more information.



The Pick TN Conference provides educational programming and networking in a collaborative environment which fosters growth to sustain agriculture.

[Register Here](#)



## 2023 ReFED Food Waste Solutions Summit

**May 16-18, 2023**

Presented by ReFED, the Food Waste Solutions Summit is the premier food waste event of the year, bringing together food businesses, funders, solution providers, innovators, policymakers, nonprofits, and more to drive the adoption of solutions to reach our collective goal of a 50% reduction in food waste by 2030.

[Register Here](#)

**FUNDING OPPORTUNITY**

We are busy planning for our 2nd Annual Food Waste Awareness Week (April 10-16, 2023) and are looking for restaurants, organizations, and other businesses to partner with us during the week!

As a partner, you will help us spread the word about food waste reduction, recovery, and diversion during the week, using a Partnership Toolkit that we will share with you a few months before the week.

If you have questions, please contact Kelsey Davis (kelsey.davis@tn.gov). To become a Partner, click on the link below to fill out a short form.

[Become a Partner!](#)



### USDA Farm to School Grant Program

USDA's Farm to School grants are a way to help state, regional, and local organizations as they initiate, expand, and institutionalize farm to school efforts.

[Read More](#)

### FOOD WASTE RECIPE



1 Roasted Chicken, 3  
Different Meals



Store tomatoes, bananas, and avocados on the counter separately. These foods can cause other produce to ripen faster.



## PARTICIPANT SPOTLIGHT

### Regional-Interfaith Association

The Regional Inter-Faith Association (RIFA) has been leading the fight against hunger in Jackson, TN since 1976. In Jackson, 1 out of 5 people are food insecure and 18.9 percent of people in Madison County live below the poverty level, which is higher than the 15 percent US average. What started as a food resource for the community, evolved into a thrift store,

community soup kitchen, snack backpack ministry, food bank, and a food co-op.

[READ MORE](#)



## PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

### Tennessee Department of Agriculture

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture's (TDA) mission is to serve, support, and promote agriculture and forestry. They have made a positive impact on the local food system through many of their initiatives, including the Local Food Purchase Cooperative Agreement Program, Pick Tennessee Products, and support of projects through the Specialty Crop Block Grant.

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