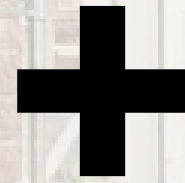






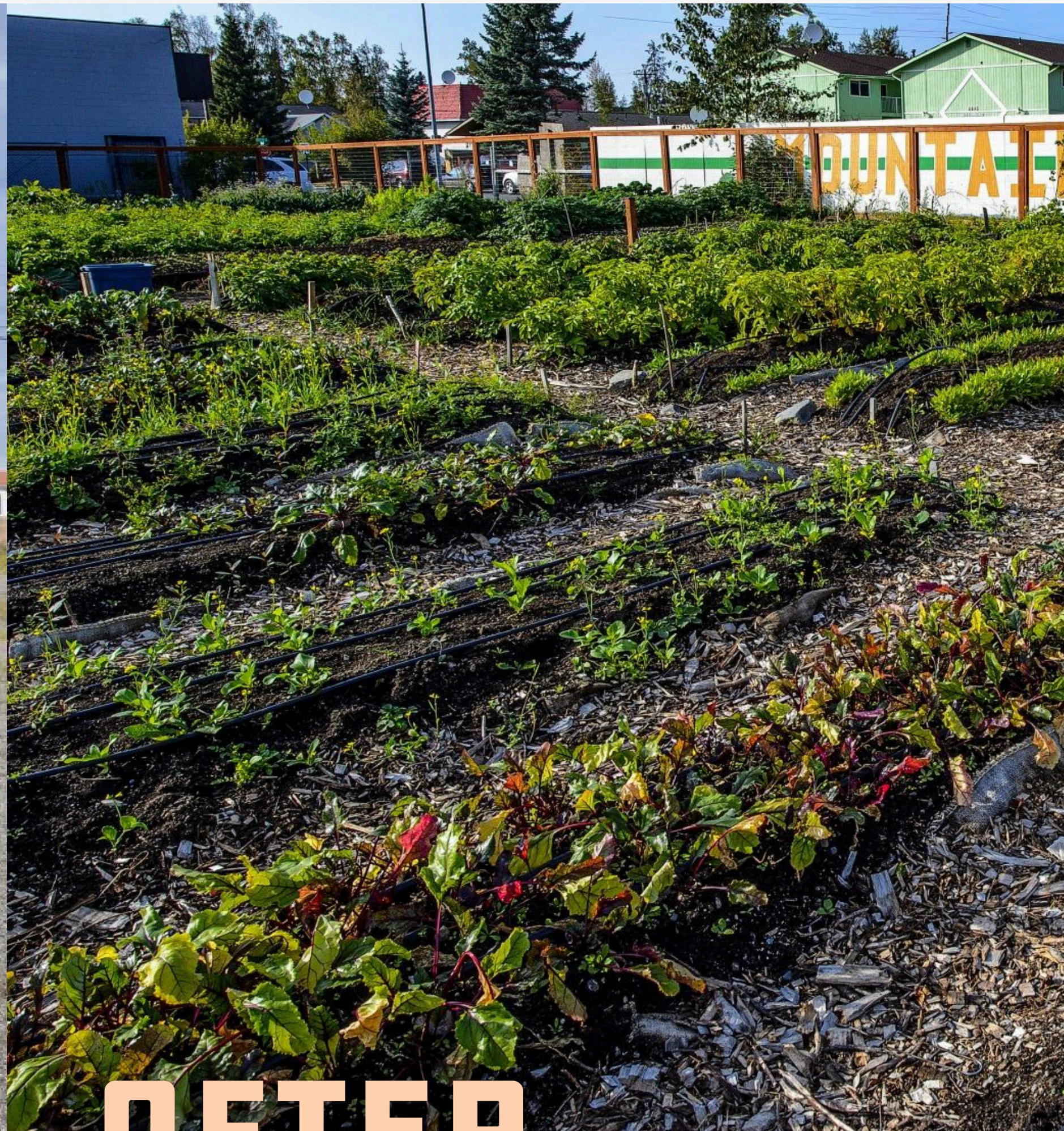
Catholic
Social Services



Anchorage
Community
Land Trust



BEFORE



AFTER



**GROW NORTH
FARM TODAY**

ANCHORAGE HEALTH DEPARTMENT'S FRESH BUCKS PROGRAM

GET AN EXTRA \$50 FOR BUYING FRUITS & VEGGIES

We're offering an extra \$50 in Fresh Bucks for Municipality of Anchorage WIC and SNAP families to buy fruits and vegetables at authorized farmer's markets! Just stop by our booth with your SNAP or WIC card to collect your Fresh Bucks coupons once a week. This offer is available until funds run out, so don't miss out!



GROW NORTH FARM

3601 Mountain View Dr,

AUGUST 8, 15, 22, 29

4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.



MULDOON FARMERS MARKET

1301 Muldoon Rd,

AUGUST 10, 17, 24, 31

9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.



This institution is an equal opportunity provider

- Funded by the Alcohol Tax
- Raised nearly \$20,000 in sales for Grow North Farm farmers in 2023
- Generates 2 for 1 benefit

THANK YOU!



Anchorage
Community
Land Trust

**SHARED COMMERCIAL
KITCHEN INCUBATOR**

STATE PLANNING EFFORTS



FOOD SYSTEM INFRASTRUCTURE RECOMMENDATIONS

INVEST IN INFRASTRUCTURE

Without infrastructure, there is only a certain amount of growth in food production Alaska will realize.

STORAGE
Cold, dry, frozen storage facilities would assist in increased production and extending availability to products. Rural communities need temperature-controlled storage facilities to improve access to fresh foods.

PROCESSING/MANUFACTURING FACILITIES
A facility that processes meat and veggies to a prepackaged, ready-to-go meal will be more enticing to many consumers and provide more Alaska Grown food year-round. Also, this could provide ready-to-go meals for institutions and local, healthy foods with a longer storage life and easier shipping to rural communities.

SHARED KITCHEN INFRASTRUCTURE
Investment into community buildings with rentable kitchen space that includes manufacturing equipment, cold and dry storage, and public-facing retail to create entrepreneurial opportunities.

POULTRY
Egg and meat chicken production would provide quick turnaround proteins developed in-state. Poultry farmers rely heavily on USPS to get chicks. Incentives for building infrastructure around in-state hatcheries and poultry processing units would increase the production of healthy foods.

IMPORTING LIVESTOCK
High fees for federal veterinary inspections of imported livestock is a barrier to significant increases in livestock in Alaska. Establish a fund to help with vet fees for 2021/2022 imports and encourage USDA to find lower-cost methods for inspections.

INCREASED ACCESS TO BROADBAND/POWER
Many rural areas in the state (even on the road system) do not have 3-phase power, or reliable access to internet/cell coverage. Alternatives to these are more expensive (generators, satellite phones, etc.). Expanding sustainable power infrastructure will lower expenses for farmers.

FOOD SYSTEM WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Many farmers and fishers depend on seasonal workers from outside the state, who often leave with new skill sets. Processors and value-added manufacturing require specialized skills, which tend to be acquired by on-the-job training. Partnering with educational institutions to build programs that meet the needs of our Alaskan food system, we can create career pathways and a long-term workforce.

TRANSPORTATION

Alaska is a large state, and it is inefficient for every sector of our food system to have to transport everything (supplies, products, etc.). There are also big problems with transportation to the off-road communities.

ON-ROAD SYSTEM
Coordination with existing companies with temperature-controlled trucks—i.e., fish processing facilities. Explore what's available and how to better utilize it. Develop a rail system.

OFF-ROAD SYSTEM
Need to continue to be able to transport food around the state while also expanding local production/harvesting in communities. Continue funding for ferries, bypass mail, etc., and other systems crucial for distributing food to rural communities. Consider supplemental transportation funding to food banks to help equitably distribute nutritious food throughout the state.

LOCAL FOODS PURCHASING PROGRAMS
Guaranteed markets will give farmers security in expanding operations and will help address the heightened levels of hunger Alaska has seen in the past year.

LOCAL FOOD TO FOOD BANKS
Funding program for Food Banks to purchase local foods and distribute to families in need.

INSTITUTIONAL PURCHASING
Get the Product Preference Program working for local food purchases

INCENTIVE PROGRAMS FOR LOW-INCOME ALASKANS TO SHOP AT FARMERS MARKETS, FARMSTANDS, FOOD HUBS:
"Double bucks" program for SNAP, WIC or voucher system similar to senior farmers market coupons



2021 Alaska Food Security Investment Recommendations

Created June 2021 by the AFPC Advocacy & Policy Committee. We acknowledge that this does not represent the voices of all food and agriculture-related organizations and individuals.

Alaska has endless opportunities to improve food security and diversify the economy with some assistance and resources put towards strengthening our food system, from production to distribution to consumption.

The facts around food security in Alaska are concerning:

- Alaska imports roughly 95% of food purchased (\$1.9 billion leaving the state)
- We have a 3- to 5-day supply of most foods in grocery stores
- 1 in 7 Alaskans are food insecure, including 1 in 5 kids (pre-pandemic)

Alaska needs more in-state food production. Through increasing infrastructure and developing markets, agriculture could be a key player in building a stronger, more sustainable future for Alaska. A robust food system would increase access to fresh, local, healthy foods, create new economic opportunities, and ensure that we are equipped to handle whatever the future holds.

The American Rescue Plan Act provides a unique opportunity to strengthen Alaska's food system, which will have tremendous positive impact in both the short and long term. The organizations listed at the top of this page have collaborated to create some broad recommendations and highlight some timely opportunities. Cost estimates/suggested funding levels have been included, as well as examples of organizations with existing experience in facilitating programs in those areas. Note, this is not a complete list and there are many food-focused organizations doing great work around the state.

Local Foods Purchasing Programs
Guaranteed markets will give farmers security in expanding operations, and will help address the heightened levels of hunger Alaska has seen in the past year.

- Local Food to Food Banks: funding program for Food Banks to purchase local foods (agriculture products, fish, value-added, etc.) and distribute to families in need. Example partner: Food Bank of Alaska
- Institutional Purchasing: get the Product Preference Program working for local food purchases. Hubs: "double bucks" program for SNAP, WIC or voucher system similar to senior farmers market coupons. Example partner: Alaska Farmers Market Association.

Suggested funding level: \$3-5 million.

WHY SHARED COMMERCIAL KITCHENS?

Shared kitchen formats



Food incubator components





EGYPTIAN KITCHEN

AUTHENTIC EGYPTIAN CUISINE

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA



RASHA ABDULAZIZ

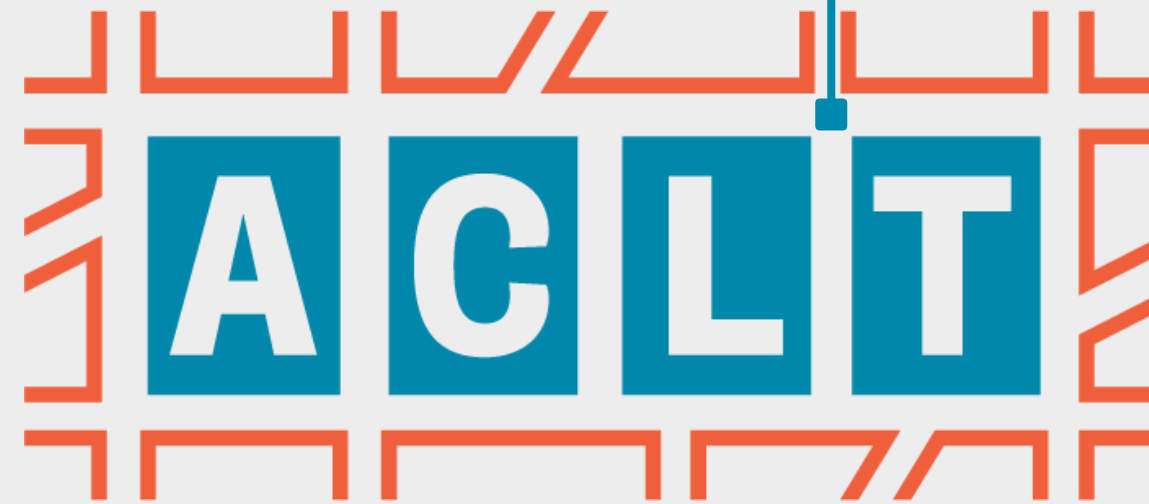
FOUNDER AND OWNER

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QUESTIONS?



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