The South Sound Food System Network (SSFSN) is an amalgam of three coalitions that formed to promote slightly different causes within the South Sound food system. In 2016, the coalitions came together to form the most effective mutually beneficial collaborative yet.

Bringing together more than 50 diverse organizations and individuals, the SSFSN envisions a thriving South Sound food system where everyone in our community enjoys and values food that is healthy, nourishing, local, affordable, culturally appropriate, sustainably produced, and wisely managed.

The SSFSN leads our shared efforts for improving the South Sound food system.

Thurston County Asset Building Coalition's (TABC) Food Hub is a network of nonprofits, businesses, government agencies, community groups, coalitions, and individuals who connect partners and community resources. ABC seeks to encourage collaboration; address food insecurity; strengthen our local food economy; advance health priorities; and, influence a vital policy agenda among food system partners and others in ways that strengthen a path to prosperity for people with limited incomes.

Thurston Thrives’ Food Action Team is a county-wide initiative designed to engage the entire community in improving public health and safety. This effort takes a systems approach to identifying priority health outcomes and implementing cross-sector strategies to achieve these targets. The Food Action Team is one of eight teams that have been developed to align with the World Health Organization’s Social Determinants of Health model and has a core focus the food system’s impacts on human health.

Thurston Food System Council was established in 2012 as a key outcome of the 2011 South Sound Food Summit, in which community members and organizations connected for two days to deepen our understanding of the local food system and to begin developing some grassroots strategies for improving our local food shed. The Council was historically interested in the triple bottom line of the food system and its impacts on people, profit and the economy. The Council has been fully absorbed into the identity and operations of the SSFSN.

www.ssfoodsystemnetwork.org southsoundfood@gmail.com
November 2020

Dear Potential Vendor,

Working on the food system in isolation is impossible— that’s why three local coalitions came together in early 2016 to form the South Sound Food System Network (SSFSN). The SSFSN brings together more than 50 diverse organizations and individuals, including food producers, agriculture advocates, food security and non-profit organizations, public health advocates, teachers, students, elected officials, and community members from four counties. Our commonality is unwavering dedication to growing a vibrant local food system.

Over the past three years, SSFSN members have used the network to form strategic partnerships and share resources. We are asking local farmers, ranchers, food producers, restaurateurs, and vendors who source materials from local producers to join us as a vendor or exhibitor on **March 14th at the Lacey Community Center**. Please, come share your amazing products with our entire community!

**South Sound Food Summit 2020: Celebrating the Culture of Local Food**

Taking place at Lacey Community Center on March 14, 2020, the Food Summit will showcase local food producers, offer workshops on community gardens, creating flavorful meals on a tight food budget, preserving local foods, and more. Delicious local food will be served! We anticipate 300 people in attendance, including food producers, veterans, youth, seniors, limited income families, and elected officials.

Vendor spaces are located indoors (food trucks and beer/wine/cider/spirits providers will be outside) and will measure approximately 10‘x10‘. Electricity is not provided, though the venue is well lit. If you need it for the operation of your booth please make a note on your application and the vendor coordinator will contact you to discuss the situation further. You can register by mailing in the attached vendor form and application fee or you can register online at ssfoodsystemnetwork.org.

We look forward to growing a vibrant South Sound food system with you. If you have any questions, suggestions, or need more information about this collaborative endeavor, please do not hesitate to contact Maija at maijalee@hotmail.com. This should be a fun, food focused day for the entire community!

With gratitude and appreciation for your consideration,

South Sound Food System Network
Please send this completed form and YOUR CHECK to:

Thurston Thrives
809 Legion Way SE, STE. 304
Olympia, WA 98501

Vendor Questions? Contact Maija at maijalee@hotmail.com

www.ssfoodsystemnetwork.org  southsoundfood@gmail.com