

Queenstogether.org, IG: @qns_together, Queens Together on Facebook
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Queens Together (QT) was formed mid March 2020 in response to the COVID crisis. We have raised over \$25,000 and helped deliver almost 22,000 meals and grocery care bags. These items fall into two categories.

1. Items purchased, with donor funding, from the QT network of participating restaurants, commercial kitchens and suppliers. Delivered to people's homes, facilities, group settings, hospitals and military medical personnel.
2. QT creating and facilitating "last mile" systems and connections. Helping organizations get groceries and prepared meals to their recipients. Current client: Brighter Bites. Connecting City Harvest produce to families across Western Queens. This is an ongoing program.

Our mission Reimagining our local food industry as the catalyst for nourishing our communities in crisis.

Our Vision We believe a food secure future starts with what we do today. Our "Plate it Forward" initiative puts this idea into action with grassroots support for neighborhood food businesses who in turn provide nutritious meals to people in need.

Our Work We create, implement and manage novel "Last mile" systems that address unprecedented hunger and harm to local economies. We do this by using our roots in the food business and history of community activism to see issues on the ground and activate solutions that:

- Provide income to food businesses, their workers and others in the community
- Build partnerships with local organizations and volunteer networks
- Deliver meals for people facing food insecurity across Queens

Queens Together is looking for help and support with the following.

- Email blasts, phone calls and conversations directing people to Queenstogether.org. We need donations, volunteers, restaurants and organizations to work with and support us.
- Current meal system. Purchase a \$20 family meal tray (8 portions per tray) from a QT restaurant or kitchen. Delivery to families, group homes, Seniors, etc. Minimum order is 25 pans (\$500). This locks in a real profit for the restaurant. We need support and funding. The system is up and running.
- "Soup kitchen initiative". Provide designated restaurants and commercial kitchens fresh produce and other ingredients to produce prepared meals to families, group homes, Seniors, etc. Labor costs will be as little as \$1 per meal. We need support and funding. The system is being tested.
- "Food pantry supply chain". Reimagining local supermarkets and markets as pass through wholesale systems for getting pantry staples to the families facing food and economic scarcity. The system is designed and ready to go.

Please let us know how Queens Together can work with you on your next food mission.

- Jonathan Forgash, Co-founder Queens Together