

2025

Day 1

Concurrent AM

10:45 AM

Oct 22

Track C

Sustainable Solutions at Large Scale Events and Venues

Moderator: Anastasia Gramotneva

Erin Price

Speakers: Ashley Gladney
Alison Cove



NATIONAL
ZERO
WASTE
CONFERENCE





FOOD®

RECOVERY

NETWORK

FIGHTING WASTE. FEEDING PEOPLE.

Erin Price,

Director of Stakeholder Engagement / she, her, hers

As the Director of Stakeholder Engagement at Food Recovery Network, she helps over 100 food businesses donate surplus food, working towards a sustainable and equitable food system. Erin Price, a Virginia native near Washington, DC, earned her BS in Psychology from the University of Mary Washington in 2013 and a Master's in Public Administration from American University in 2017.

In her free time, Erin enjoys exploring farmers' markets, trying new recipes, and visiting National Parks.





About Us

The largest student-led movement reducing food waste and ending hunger in the U.S.

Food Recovery Network (FRN) unites 8,000+ college students, food suppliers, farmers, and local businesses across the U.S. in the fight against climate change and hunger by recovering surplus food from across the supply chain and donating it to local nonprofit organizations that feed people experiencing hunger.

On over 200 college campuses in 45 states!





We believe no one
should be hungry.

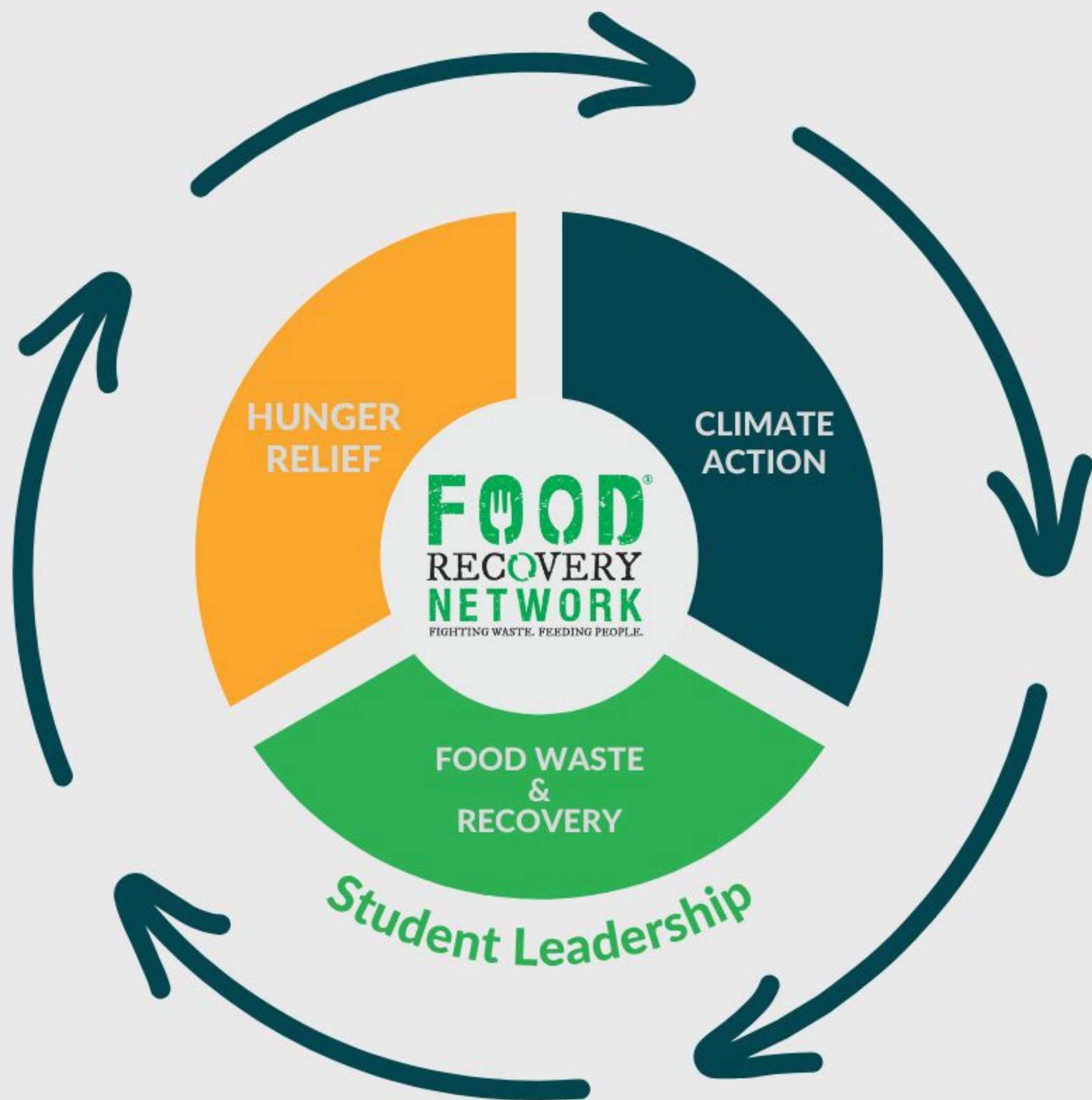
FOOD[®]
RECOVERY
NETWORK
FIGHTING WASTE. FEEDING PEOPLE.



We believe no good
food should go to waste.

FOOD[®]
RECOVERY
NETWORK
FIGHTING WASTE. FEEDING PEOPLE.

FRN's Mission Focus



Food Waste and Recovery

FRN unites 200 college student-led chapters and 100 food business partners to recover surplus food that would otherwise go to waste across the supply chain.

Hunger Relief

FRN increases access to nutritious foods to communities experiencing hunger through partnership with 330 local community organizations.

Climate Action

FRN combats climate change and promotes climate action by preventing food from going to waste in a landfill and emitting greenhouse gas emissions.

FRN's Programs

College Student Chapters

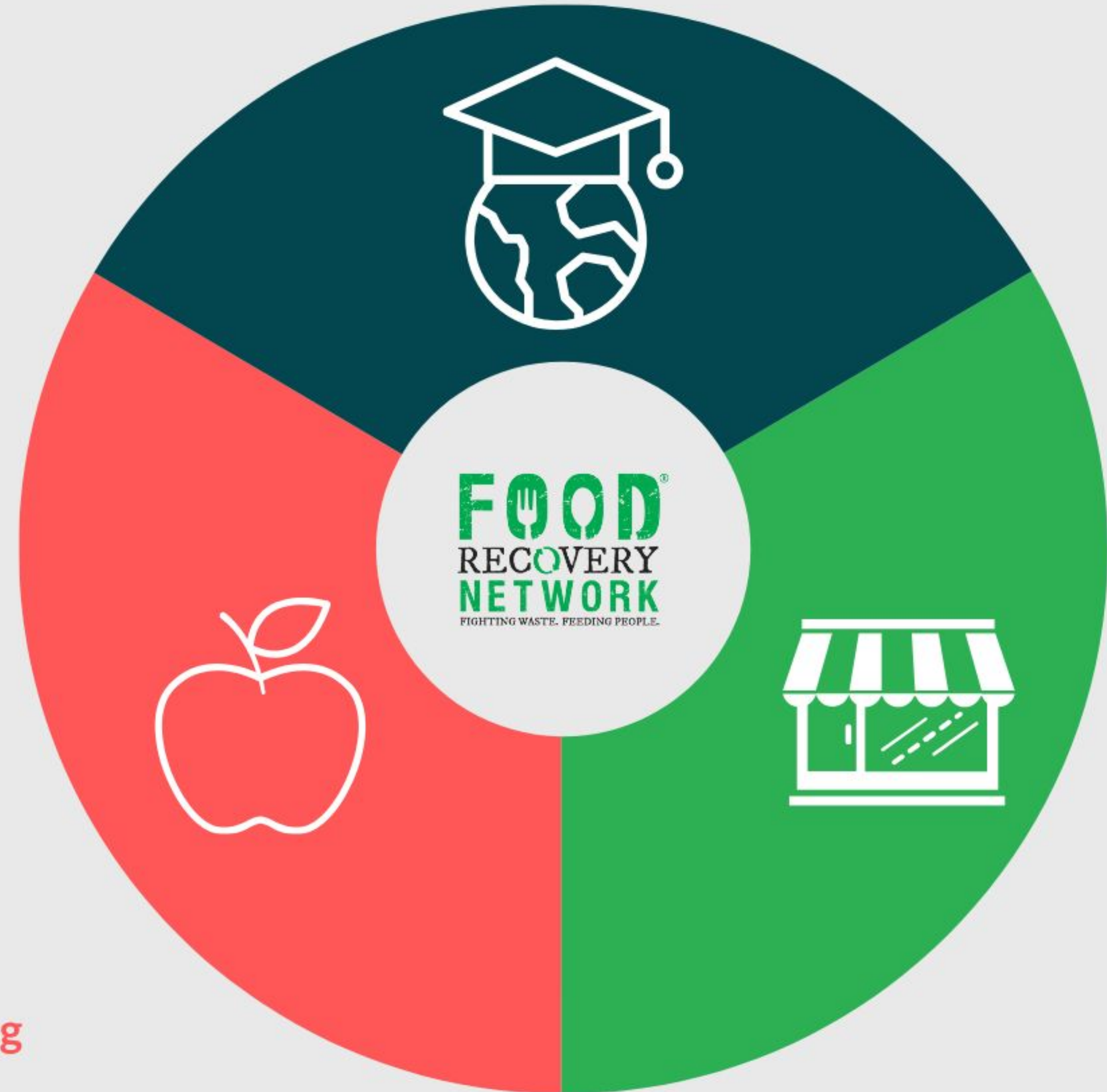
FRN mobilizes college students to recover and donate surplus food from their campuses, reduce CO2 emissions, and advocate for a more equitable food system.

Business & Event Food Recovery

FRN partners with businesses to implement food recovery programs for their events and daily operations to increase sustainability and community support.

Elementary School Produce Distribution

FRN distributes fresh surplus produce at Title 1 elementary schools to feed young children and families experiencing hunger, while supporting the farming community.





Redefine Sustainability

FRN's **Food Recovery Verified (FRV)** program mobilizes our network to recover edible surplus food from **food businesses and large-scale events** across the U.S.

We also **provide third-party verification** and help amplify the leadership of food businesses that are already donating their surplus food to hunger-fighting partners.



Event Partnership

Super Bowl 2025 with Hellmann's Mayonnaise



12,348
pounds of surplus
food recovered

10,290
meals donated

7.95
metric tons of
CO2 prevented

2
events

About the same size as
a full grown elephant

Enough to feed a
family of 6 for a year

The equivalent of
20,221 miles driven

Bullseye VIP Players
Tailgate & Guy Fieri's
Flavortown Tailgate



Event Partnership

Chainfest 2025 LA & NY

7,474
pounds of surplus
food recovered

6,228
meals donated

4.81
metric tons of
CO2 prevented

About the same size
as a full grown giraffe

Enough to feed 3
adults for an entire
year

The equivalent of
12,240 miles driven



FOOD
RECOVERY
NETWORK
FIGHTING WASTE. FEEDING PEOPLE.

Business Partnership: Strategic

Gaylord National Resort and Convention Center



GAYLORD HOTELS™



Read more about this partnership on our blog!

94,000
pounds recovered

60.50
tons of CO2 prevented

8
partners served

Pounds of surplus food recovered represents 78,333 meals provided

The equivalent of 14 passenger vehicles driven for one year

*ReFED Calculator

Gaylord National was able to support 8 hunger-fighting partners across Virginia & D.C.



Corporate Benefits to Food Recovery

- Enhanced tax deductions for eligible businesses
- Meet corporate social responsibility and sustainability goals
- Combat climate change and hunger at a local and national scale
- Market company leadership in sustainable business and event management







FOOD
RECOVERY
NETWORK
FIGHTING WASTE. FEEDING PEOPLE.



Thank You So Much!

Donate
and join the fight
to end food waste
and hunger.



SCAN TO DONATE



@foodrecovery



@FoodRecoveryNetwork



@food-recovery-network



@FRNnational



www.foodrecoverynetwork.org



FRV Event Partnerships

Annual event partnerships can be customized to fit your program needs

\$2,000+

\$12,000+

	Single Event	Multiple Events
FRN support to establish food recovery program with local hunger-fighting partner		
Access to FRV branding for use in marketing materials		
Recap email with metrics to highlight the impact of your program		
Annual partnership with FRN to include food recovery support for 2+ events		
On-the-ground food recovery support by FRN staff or students/ alumni for 1+ events		
Annual report to show the collective impact of the program and partnership over the year		
Quarterly marketing collateral (social media, blog, etc.) to showcase your business as a leader in sustainable events		



CHARLOTTE




Visit
Charlotte



Charlotte
FILM



NASCAR
HALL
OF FAME



Bojangles



Spectrum
CENTER

WHAT IS CHARLOTTE REGIONAL VISITOR AUTHORITY

SPECTRUM CENTER

- Spectrum Center is a winner of Front Office Sports Most Sustainable award.
- A focus on reduction of energy and waste
- Spectrum Center through partnerships have gotten our waste diversion to regularly sit around 76%





TRUE

TRUE ZERO WASTE

Spectrum Center is a TRUE Zero Waste Pre-certified Building

Zero waste is 90% or greater diversion rate for a continuous 12-month span.

By Pre-certifying Spectrum Center has committed to get to a 90% or greater diversion rate by 2027.

Innovation Barn Partnership

All Glass used at Bars at Spectrum Center went to Innovation Barn. This new program of Glass to Concrete has been able to turn the recycled glass into:

Plates

Candles

Vases

A table

And much more

Over 10 tons



Coke Consolidated

- As part of the Hornets partnership with Coke Consolidated, we began to recycle aluminum and plastic.
- Coke provided blue bins throughout the facility to help with this project.
- All aluminum and plastic went to R3cycle a local recycler in the Charlotte area.
- Recycled: Cans and Aluminum – 32,327.5 pounds



Questions



USEFUL[®]

NO PLASTIC. NO HASSLE.

NET ZERO WASTE CONFERENCE

About Me



Alison Cove

Founder and CEO of USEFULL

I'm avid lover of the outdoors, which set me on my mission to reduce plastic waste.

I created USEFULL to solve a personal dilemma; like many others, I love takeout food and drinks. But I *hate* the plastic packaging that often comes with it.

Now, we are helping institutions fight plastic waste at scale with an innovative reuse program, in place at campuses across the country.

I'm also...

Alison Cove

New Mom of Baby Riley



Plastic packaging is killing the planet.

Inside Climate News

Pulitzer Prize-winning, nonpartisan report
biggest crisis facing our planet.

Science

Diet for a Sick Planet: Studies Find More Plastic in Our Food and Bottled Water

Researchers find we can now wash down the microplastics in our
tofu, or steak, with a much larger quant
water than previously known.

Hazardous chemicals in recycled and reusable plastic food packaging

Published online by Cambridge University Press: 22 May 2023

SB SUSTAINABLE
BRANDS

CHANNELS ▾ EVENTS ▾ NETWORK ▾ RESOURCES

MATERIALS & PACKAGING

US Voters Support Policies That Reduce Single-Use Plastics

in lawmakers to continue
problematic plastics.

AP WORLD U.S. POLITICS SPORTS ENTE

Live updates: Tariffs Mardi Gras Elissa Slotkin Target stock Daylight saving

CLIMATE

The world is pumping out 57 million tons of plastic pollution a year

ARGUMENT An expert's point of view on a current event.

No, Recycling Won't Solve Our Plastic Problem

The world must come together to address the full life cycle of this ubiquitous material.

And it's making us sick, especially when paired with food.

NEWS | 06 March 2024

Landmark study links microplastics to serious health problems

People who had tiny plastic particles lodged in a key blood vessel were more likely to experience heart attack, stroke

By [Max Kozlov](#)



Plastics cause wide-ranging health issues from cancer to birth defects, landmark study finds

COOKING

Definitely Do Not Put Plastic in the Microwave

Experts say even if it claims to be "microwave-safe."

over life cycle - from
s 'deep societal injustices'

CNN Health Life, But Better Fitness Focus Sleep Mindfulness Relationships

Human brain samples contain an entire spoon's worth of nanoplastics, study says

By [Santee LaMotte](#), CNN

🕒 8 minute read · Updated 12:29 PM EST, Mon February 3, 2025

30 comments

Microplastics in the sea a growing threat to human health, United Nations warns

More than a quarter of fish in markets in Indonesia and California contain plastic particles

[Katie Forster](#) • Saturday 21 May 2016 15:43 BST • Comments



USEFULL facilitates reuse with 4 key capabilities



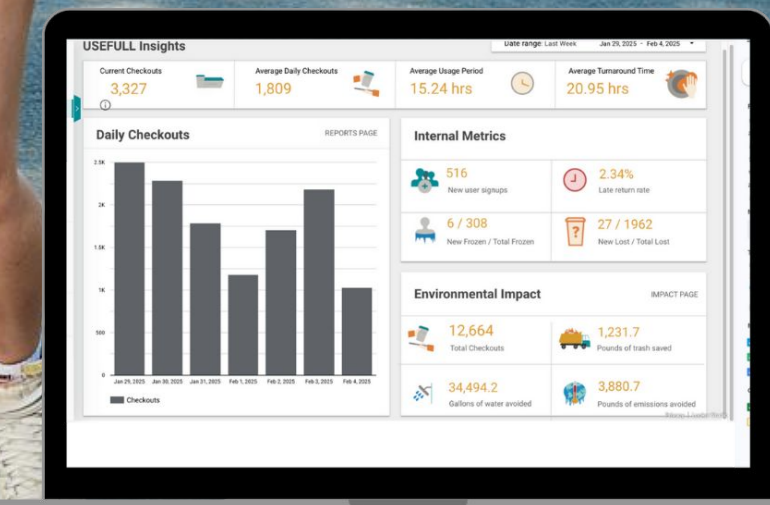
PLASTIC-FREE CONTAINERS



TRACKING TECHNOLOGY



INVENTORY MANAGEMENT



IMPACT REPORTING



It takes a lot of partnerships to make reuse happen.

ON CAMPUS



Campus



Food Services



Sustainability Office



Payment Partners




& OFF CAMPUS





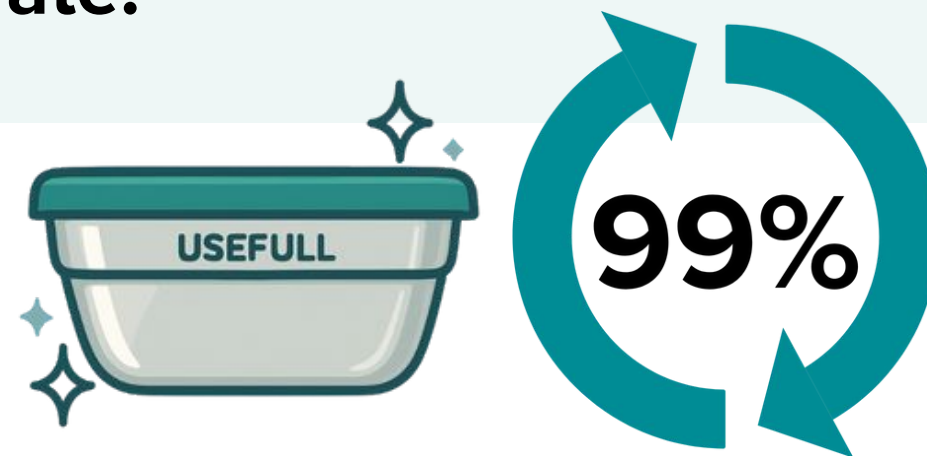


Tried plastic-based reuse for residential dining.


 Only 4% of containers remained after one year.

Switched to USEFULL plastic-free program.

Now containers circulate with a 99% return rate.



Tried plastic-based reuse for retail dining.

 Fewer than 1,000 container uses after a year with low return rates.

Switched to USEFULL plastic-free program.

Now seeing 140K checkouts a year.

