

Shared Use Kitchens for Food Entrepreneurs

Food Entrepreneur Workshops

Join us for our 2022 series of workshops to help Growers and Food Entrepreneurs learn the skills to help your business reach its next step!

ServSafe Food Protection Manager Course, May 12 - a national certification program for those working in food service, specifically managers and leaders. ServSafe teaches about foodborne illness, how to prevent it and how to train employees about the latest food safety issues. The ServSafe Manager course uses proven techniques, provides new Food & Drug Administration food code rules and content related to the food industry.

Branding Basics for Food-Based Businesses, May 20 - Whether you're a farmer, a food maker, or a restaurant owner, it's important to thoughtfully cultivate a recognizable brand, so your customers see you as more than just a commodity. Laurie Lonsdorf of SBDC will teach about the three components to developing a strong, identifiable brand and examples of effective branding!

How to be Loan Ready, July 22 - Learn what information lenders need to see for a successful loan application. Our good friend, Justin Haun of Lake Trust Credit Union, will provide essential tips that increase your chance of approval.

Find Registration and a full list of classes on our website; or for more information and to enroll, call Matt Jones at (517) 999-3921.

Great Room Rentals

After a long COVID Hiatus, we are once again offering our Great Room for rental for weekend gatherings and events. With a current capacity of 50 people, it makes a great space for business retreats, family gatherings, and small-scale productions. We have a variety of amenities available for rent in conjunction with the Great Room including:

- Commercial Kitchen Referrals to licensed on-site caterers
- Linen tablecloths and napkins Place settings (plates, cups, mugs, silverware)
- Long run or round tables Projector with screen

For more information regarding the availability, pricing, or rental policies, please reach out to the kitchens@allenneighborhoodcenter.org or (517) 999-3921.

Volunteer Information

ANC depends on hundreds of volunteers each year to make our programming a reality, and everyone has a way they can contribute. We have opportunities every weekday, in the morning and afternoon. Folks who are interested in joining us can help garden at Hunter Park, teach kiddos about fruits and veggies, hand out food to neighbors experiencing food insecurity, set up for our weekly Farmers Market, assist with our annual neighborhood canvass, and hand out copies of this very newsletter door-to-door. We're also excited to explore new ways that community members can use their skills to support our organization, so if you think there's a way you could help us reach more people, better support our neighbors, fundraise, anything really, reach out! Email volunteer@allenneighborhoodcenter.org with your thoughts, questions, and ideas.

We are specifically looking for more volunteer support with these programs:

- Hunter Park GardenHouse | Monday-Friday, 9:30 am - 12:00 pm
- Take Root Garden Club | Tuesdays, 4:30 pm - 5:30 pm
- Earth Day Landscaping at Allen Place | April 22nd, 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

To sign up to volunteer and to see the full list of potential opportunities, visit bit.ly/anc_volunteer

or scan this QR code with your smartphone's camera app:



Outreach & Engagement

Stop by the Outreach and Engagement Office at ANC with all your healthcare (Medicaid, Ingham Health Plan, ACA), housing, State Benefits, and other questions and/or concerns! We can enroll you or refer you to other agencies. We also have a community computer for your use.

¡Pase por la oficina de ANC donde podemos ayudarte a inscribirte en seguro de salud u otros beneficios, o ayudarte con preguntas y/o inquietudes! Podemos dirigirte a otras agencias. Además, tenemos una computadora comunitaria para su uso.

What is Ingham Health Plan?

IHP is basic healthcare coverage for Ingham County residents. You can only apply for IHP if you are ineligible for Medicaid or have a Medicaid, pending case. There are no premium costs, only a \$20 enrollment fee to IHP; and you only pay a small co-pay for most services.

IHP requires a Picture ID, Proof of Residency (license, ID, bill), and Proof of Income (paycheck stubs, unemployment, or other proofs) to enroll.

What is Medicaid?

Medicaid gives health coverage to people who have a limited income. Michigan has several different Medicaid programs, and you can see all of them on the Michigan Department of Community Health website.

Stop by our office at 1611 E Kalamazoo St, check out our website at <http://allenneighborhoodcenter.org>, email denise@allenneighborhoodcenter.org, or give us a call (517) 367-2468.

Our office hours are:

Monday - Thursdays / Lunes - Jueves
9 AM-5 PM

Walk-ins welcome! / Sin cita

Fridays / Viernes

By appointment only / Solo con cita

THE EASTSIDE NEIGHBOR

A periodic newsletter by Allen Neighborhood Center
1611 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48912
(517) 367-2468 www.allenneighborhoodcenter.org



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

After a months-long search, we are delighted to announce that **Joe Enerson** has been selected as the second Executive Director of Allen Neighborhood Center!

Back in February, the board began engaging with staff and neighbors to learn what qualities would be important to them as the search for Joan's successor began. The position was posted broadly and 41 people applied. Most were within the region, while some were from other parts of Michigan, and one was from west of the Rockies!

Through a series of interviews, the field was narrowed to two final candidates whose interviews were videotaped and shared with the entire board and staff who then provided input to the selection committee. In late July, Joe was enthusiastically appointed as ANC's Executive Director!

Our Communications and Volunteer Coordinator Zack Whaley sat down for a quick interview with Joe to talk about his plans to continue and build upon ANC's work. Read some snippets below or go to bit.ly/ancvids to watch the full interview.

Zack: What are you most looking forward to?

Joe: I'm looking forward to the transition from the creation of Allen Place to the reality of Allen Place. Learning how our programs integrate with our new neighbors and the establishments in Allen Place. I'm looking forward to the opening of ELFCO and the Ingham County Health Center.

Z: What are your goals for ANC over the next few months?

J: My middle-term vision for ANC includes activating the remaining vacant space within Allen Place. We will also be working to update and streamline our growing administrative operations. Long-term, ANC will continue to look to our neighbors to inform our programming. I expect affordable housing will continue to be a focus.

Z: What is something that you see as key to ANC's continued success?

J: ANC always does its best work when it is neighbor-, and neighborhood-driven. We will always engage our neighbors to understand their challenges and opportunities.

Join the ANC Family - Sign Up to Volunteer!

We're always in need of more neighbors who are willing to consistently dedicate their time to support our programming! We currently have weekly shift openings Monday through Friday. We're also working on streamlining group volunteer events to make it easier for anyone to participate - whether you're a group of 50 students or 5 friends from book club.

Sign up to volunteer plus receive regular email updates about volunteer opportunities and internships at bit.ly/anc_volunteer

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The Allen Farmers Market has taken over the block every Wednesday between 2:30 - 7p.m. with vendors inside the building, outdoors in the east parking lot as well as in the front of the building.

Visit us for your weekly grocery shopping for fresh produce from urban and small rural mid-Michigan farms, the highest quality meat, cheeses, breads, eggs, coffee, kombucha, and more.

Every Wednesday enjoy live entertainment, ready-to-eat dinner options inspired from different regions around the globe, and the opportunity to plan a dinner party at the market!

In addition to all the great produce vendors, we have unique dinner options for you. On any given Wednesday you can enjoy Teff-rific (Eritrean/Ethiopian Cuisine), El Burrito (Mexican), or Picnic Food Truck. You can also stop into the Rathbun Accelerator Kitchen to enjoy meals from Tantai (Peruvian) and Gogi 2 (Korean).

Recently, party hosts have provided market tokens for guests to use at their preferred vendor and enjoy the company of friends in their own private room. To plan your Dinner Party at the Market, call Jenny at 999-3911.

As a multi-modal market, you can transport by bike, bus, drive, pedicab or even make money by walking to the market! Our free pedicab service has been a hit with dropping folks off at their car or nearby home. Have you taken a ride yet?

Remember to visit our Market Bank to use your credit/debit card or SNAP/EBT card (plus Double Up Food Bucks). We also accept WTC and Senior Project Fresh coupons.

Beginning October 5, our Market hours will be 3 - 6:30 pm. Mark your calendar for every Wednesday, with our monthly summer festivals landing on the third Wednesday of every month.

For more information, subscribe for weekly Farmers Market updates or contact Jenny Wagemann at 517-999-3911 or jennyw@allenneighborhoodcenter.org.

Hunter Park GardenHouse

Hunter Park GardenHouse Workshops

Check out our last GardenHouse workshop of the season! All workshops have a \$15 suggested donation, though no one will be turned away due to non-payment. Workshops will be held 10am -12pm at the Hunter Park Pavilion. For more information, contact Kelsi Briana Smith at 517-999-3913.

Sept, 10, 2022: Basics of Food Preservation w/ Egypt Krohn
Register at bit.ly/driedfoods

NEW! Community Potluck for Gardeners

Join Hunter Park GardenHouse staff, community gardening experts, and neighboring gardeners to share food, swap stories, and ask questions. Bring something to pass (if you can) and invite a friend to come along!

When/Where: 6:30-8pm the 4th Thursday of the Month at the Hunter Park Pavilion

Dates: August 25, September 22

Visit The Free Native Seed Library!

Located at approx. 426 Clifford St, our "little free library" structure is full of native seeds collected, sorted, and packaged for neighbors by the GardenHouse team. We also have some seed starting supplies and resources on successfully starting native plants from seed. Let's naturalize Lansing, together!

Volunteer at the GardenHouse

We need your help! Please consider joining our team and becoming a GardenHouse volunteer! Volunteers help us tend our farm and community garden. To sign up for a shift, visit bit.ly/anc_volunteer.

Our fall schedule begins August 22:

- Mon: 9:30a-12p**
- Tues: 5p-7:30p**
- Wed: 9:30a-12p**
- Thurs: 5p-7:30p**
- Fri: 9:30a-12p**

Check Out Edible Park!

Edible Park is our free-to-all, you-pick community garden. Located in Hunter Park along the walking trail, our half acre site includes fruit trees, berry bushes, culinary herbs, and annual vegetables. Please stop by and take home some food!
Note: Garden areas within the fenced in portion of the park are not for public use



Sign up for a subscription to local food!

Allen Neighborhood Center's Veggie Box is a multi-farm CSA (community supported agriculture) program that unites dozens of growers to feed a common community - all of you! It's a subscription of local food that highlights crop diversity, minimized risks and burden, and a more cooperative feel. In addition to fresh, local produce, we also offer optional add-on items of other locally produced foods to further increase the diversity of items in your box. Veggie Box allows you to support dozens of local businesses all through one convenient program, lessens the distance your food has to travel to get to your table (in turn, lessening chance of contamination and reducing pollution), and creates opportunities for access to the good jobs and healthy foods our community needs.

A membership is \$322 for a 14-week season with add-on items available at an additional cost. We offer multiple payment options, including weekly SNAP payments. If you're experiencing hardships and need financial support to participate, please reach out to our Food Hub Manager, Kat Logan, and see if you qualify for our Subsidized Veggie Box program.



For more information about the upcoming season, visit:

allenneighborhoodcenter.org/veggie-box

Questions? Want to be put on the Fall waitlist? Contact Kat Logan at **517.999.3923** or

foodhub@allenneighborhoodcenter.org

Youth Programs

ANC is now recruiting for Youth Service Corps, a community service and gardening based program for ages 11 to 17! YSC members learn about local food systems, grow their own herbs and crops, and even prepare herbal tea blends for wholesale. During warm weather we'll be spending more time in the Hunter Park GardenHouse, and in the YSC garden plot in ANC's Edible Park. Our summer members will be learning to manage their own table at the Allen Farmers Market on Wednesdays as well. Local farmers and businesses also give tours and demonstrations for YSC members. Participants love the experience, and also earn gift cards for their service.

We only have 20 spaces at a time, so sign up while you can! To register your youth for YSC, contact Kelsi, our Educational Programs Coordinator, at 517-999-3913 or via her email and she will provide a registration form. Email the completed form to her at gardeningeducator@allenneighborhoodcenter.org, or stop by in person during our hours of operation.

Thank You and Good Luck!

We couldn't do our work without the support of AmeriCorps Members, interns, and volunteers. As the summer comes to an end we say goodbye to James Rawson and Mary Webby, AmeriCorps Members extraordinaire. Our summer interns and volunteers: Aeria Brown, Angela Oliver, Brian Mpolokeng, Courtney Crawford, Cassidy Curtiss, Em Stinson, Erin Vimr, Sarah Foreman, Rachel Klisz, Sidney Stewart, and Tony Cox. You were wonderful and will be missed by all of us!

Senior Discovery Group

The Senior Discovery Group is meeting in person every Wednesday morning, 10 am - noon. New this year we are asking that you **rsvp your attendance** by emailing Denise at denisep@allenneighborhoodcenter.org. We hope you join us for great conversation and pretty good coffee!

We are thrilled to announce our SDG Speaker Schedule for March and April!

- 8/31: **MI Milk Producers** | Mike Hedlund
- 9/7: **Arts & Crafts** | Jane Reiter
- 9/14: **East Lansing Parks & Rec** | Wendy Longpre
- 9/21: **MSU ISpeak** | TBD
- 9/28: **Sparrow, Healthy Cooking** | Tanya Liabenow
- 10/5: **Cooking for One** | Tammy Fletcher
- 10/12: **Polarity Therapy** | Catherine Nicolas
- 10/19: **MSU ISpeak** | TBD
- 10/26: **Cooking for One** | Tammy Fletcher
- 11/2: **Cooking for One** | Tammy Fletcher
- 11/7: **Cooking for One** | Tammy Fletcher
- 11/16: **MSU ISpeak** | TBD
- 11/23: **TBD**
- 11/30: **Cooking for One** | Tammy Fletcher
- 12/7: **Capitol Area Humane Society** | Lexi Ritenburgh
- 12/12: **Cooking for One** | Tammy Fletcher
- 12/19: **MSU ISpeak** | TBD