



**Food Secure North Canterbury**  
**2 YEAR PLAN**

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**“Nourished and Empowered Communities”**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<b>Page</b>
Executive Summary	3
Key Priorities	4
Increase food access	5 - 7
Education & skill sharing	8 -10
Raise awareness & involve/engage communities	11-13
Policy & planning	14 -16
Capacity & capability through collaboration	17-19
In Summary	20 - 21

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Food Secure North Canterbury governance group was born out of the local food and budgeting forum.

For the last ten years in North Canterbury the foodbanks have been meeting to work collaboratively for the benefit of the district.

During the COVID event of 2020 this collaborative partnership was critical in taking care of the food needs of the most vulnerable in our community.

When the funding rounds were released for creating food secure communities, this group supported by the Waimakariri District Council and Social Services Waimakariri, applied for those funds knowing that the existing collaboration could extend and develop its work to a wider purpose for our community.

The governance group was then chosen strategically to look at food security in our region. Represented on the governance group is Satisfy Food Rescue, Kaiapoi Food Forest, Kaiapoi Community Garden, Oxford Community Trust, Kaiapoi Community Support (representing the four local food banks), Waimakariri District Council, Hurunui District Council, and Social Services Waimakariri.

Each member of the group brings specific skills and experience that enhance the work of Food Secure North Canterbury.

We have had a very busy first six months. From a governance perspective our initial focus has been to establish our systems and process to ensure sustainability.

## **Our Mission**

*"To pioneer change that enables our communities to be food secure through education, innovation and collaboration."*

Members of the governance group have been involved in local evaluation training and organising a recent community wide collaboration forum, funded by Rata foundation. We are committed to establishing this work and engaging multiple avenues to do so.

To that end, we have developed Terms of Reference for the governance group, a strong financial process for partner organisations and we are also in the process of logo/brand development.

This group together determined our five strategic priorities and then we have built on them through a number of engagement opportunities for our community.

We recently held our Food Secure Forum which engaged the wider community and gleaned a huge amount of ideas that we have subsequently incorporated into this plan.

# Key Priorities



Increase food access



Education and skill sharing



Raise awareness and involve/engage communities



Policy and planning



Capacity and capability through collaboration



# Increase food access

## Strategic Priorities

1. Increased community food spaces
2. Enabling community participation
3. Creative opportunities



## Increased community food spaces

Goal	Action	Timeframe
Accessible free fresh food in every neighbourhood	Development of more food forests, community gardens.	2 years
Community Gardens at 3 levels:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. At home growing, supported by voluntary know how showing how to do and staying in touch</li> <li>2. Establishes local community sized gardens. Work done by a number of people rostered on but overseen by one person who organises plantings, harvesting and weeding etc</li> <li>3. Commercial size allotments, where produce is planted and harvested in large quantities, different skill set needed</li> </ol>	Implementation 1 year Establishment 2 years

## Enabling community participation

Goal	Action	Timeframe
Multiple community hubs which give people access to skill sharing and food that create social enterprise opportunities.	Establishment of the Kaiapoi Community Hub in a manner that makes the model replicable	2 years
Land / Lifestyle block owners donating land for use for growing food e.g. cash crops or fruit trees in planters and sharing resources.  <u>Note:</u> see appendixes for what is already happening.	Map and engage various groups in this space and develop a specific process for them to use  Eg. Reward program/membership group/database	1 year
Food Truck – to take food to people who do not want to use a food bank	Scope the need and plan the project. Then acquire funding. (this dovetails into the mobile food kitchen in our education section)	1 year



## Creative opportunities

Goal	Action	Timeframe
Buy one – Give one – My food basket – delivered. Promotion / Fundraiser	Research this as an opportunity in how it can be developed through local producers.	2 years
Meat – approach hunting groups, butcheries, abattoirs to collaborate a meat/protein source	Map and research potential collaborators and develop processes.	1 year
Special hunting/ fishing days for the community food supply	Work with local groups to design a “community fishing day”	1 year
Pet lamb donations – give an urban family the chance to raise a lamb and then process it for food	Map possible collaborators/ farmers groups and design process	1 year





# Education and skill sharing

## Strategic Priorities

1. Growing food
2. Preparing food
3. Alternative Opportunities in education



## Growing food

Goal	Action	Timeframe
Our community is fully educated and aware of how to grow their own food.	Development of an action plan alongside key partners. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Community gardens</li> <li>- Food forests</li> <li>- Gardens in schools</li> <li>- Planter box project</li> </ul>	1 year
Educate food producers / brands about food waste and how they can re-direct food waste	Develop an education program with stakeholders of our food rescue partners	1 year
Well-resourced program	Infrastructure (buildings, shaded education areas) is purchased/developed to support this	2 year



## Preparing food

Goal	Action	Timeframe
Our community is fully educated and aware of how to prepare food.	Development of an action plan alongside key partners. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Educators- classes on how to grow, how to cook with, how to preserve or freeze</li> <li>- Garden to table</li> <li>- List of local halls that could be used for cooking, ham making, education classes.</li> <li>- Skill-sharing</li> </ul>	2 year
Well- resourced program	Infrastructure (buildings, facilities) Mobile kitchen facility to visit schools etc	2 year



## Alternative Opportunities in education

Goal	Action	Timeframe
Introduce alternative garden options	Development of workshops e.g. hydroponics, aquaponics, permaculture, companion planting those people in rentals – mobile gardens/orchards	1 year
NZQA accredited adult education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Research courses currently available</li> <li>- Engage expertise to help us design courses appropriate for our community:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o At community hub or food forest</li> <li>o At community gardens for their volunteers</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	2 year





# Raise awareness and involve/engage communities

## Strategic Priorities

1. Develop marketing plan
2. Volunteer Engagement
3. Visible Presence



## Develop a marketing plan

Goal	Action	Timeframe
FSNC is a well-known and trusted brand in our community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Develop a solid marketing plan</li> <li>- Brand development</li> <li>- PR strategy and controlled engagement</li> </ul>	1 year
FSNC uses innovative technology and is accessible to all in our community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Website developed</li> <li>- FSNC APP designed to be used for multiple purposes and build the awareness in the community as well as empower people in all aspects of FSNC. (education, mentoring, recipes, food waste tips)</li> </ul>	1 year

## Volunteer Engagement

Goal	Action	Timeframe
Large volunteer base that invests FSNC	<p>Strong volunteer management plan and policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Engage a strategic coordinator - setting up groups of volunteers in each area, so they become a central that person who can be contacted for different areas.</li> <li>- Set up a roster of people to collect, distribute and process food</li> <li>- Volunteer Tree – develop this so that we have a network of volunteers to glean food that would otherwise go to waste</li> </ul>	Current – 2 year
Capacity for skill-sharing volunteer opportunities	<p>Invest resource wisely in infrastructure and facilities such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Community hubs to facilitate / locate classes, networking, skill sharing</li> </ul>	Current - 2 year
Empowerment of the community and its ideas	<p>Development of a tool/resource that enables the community to offer their skill-set or give of their time to educate others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Grey Power – 'grow and gift'</li> <li>- Home gardeners – making the most of harvest</li> </ul>	Current – 2 year



# Visible Presence

Goal	Action	Timeframe
FSNC is wide-reaching and becomes a household name	Strong communications strategy developed. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regular public updates</li> <li>- Regular media opportunities</li> <li>- Mainstream media engaged in our story</li> </ul>	1 year
FSNC is easy to find	Development of the APP Multiple Facebook pages <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Foraging, seed swapping, etc</li> </ul>	1 year
Regular community events	Develop a calendar based around food and its production. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Community cook up / picnic day showcasing available produce – local chef / celebrity</li> <li>- Coffee mornings across the district based around an aspect of FSNC.</li> </ul>	Current - 2 years



## Grant to help food security

by Jackie Watson

**F**ood Secure North Canterbury is the lucky recipient of \$600,000 from the Ministry of Social Development, over two years, as a bid to ensure everyone has access to food.

The aim of the granting of central Government, with sustainable food collaboration across New Zealand, means that all people, in all areas, have access to sufficient, safe, and nutritious food.

The increase in demand for food from foodbanks since the COVID-19 restrictions were implemented and the resulting rise of levels of unemployment and economic hardship makes for an increase in people needing help to access food.

There have also been changes in how food security is managed, with Civil Defence emergency Management Groups stepping down from supporting foodbanks.

During lockdown, talks were held at the South Canterbury Food and Hunger Forum, and FSNC was developed with

the Oxford District Lions Club plan, grow and harvest fresh produce to donate to Satisfy Food Rescue, which is also the foodbank for the group.

After gleaning 7500 seed potatoes, 2500 corn and 300 pumpkins plants are sent generously provided by a local member in Okaiawa, over three tonnes of fresh produce has been collected by Satisfy Food Rescue, in a weekly harvest.

"Satisfy has been receiving an average 10-12 tonnes of food a month from our regular donors post-Covid," says Stef Van Meer, Manager of Satisfy Food Rescue.

"Having the availability of extremely fresh, nutritious and healthy produce to donate as to our 26 recipient organisations who are providing food for individuals and families in need, has been a wonderful addition to the work that we do here at Satisfy."

The MSD funding will also be spent on food storage and provision, creating a strategic food secure plan, education

Cameron Crawley and Michelle...

...to help food security in North Canterbury became a reality, with many volunteers working for the group to help.

Social service providers, community groups, faith-based organisations, local schools, service clubs and schools have

## Exciting times ahead for Food Secure

...to develop a secure food plan, food provision, food storage, education, and to contribute towards a community hub in Kaiapoi.

"This is about our community being self-sustainable in the face of another crisis," Social Services Wainakariri facilitator Nicki Carter says.

The funding has enabled the Oxford District Lions Club to plant, grow and harvest fresh produce to donate to Satisfy Food Rescue for distribution to local food banks.

Weekly harvests are made by the Oxford Lions and, to date, Satisfy Food Rescue has collected more than three tonnes of produce.

Satisfy Food Rescue is working with 26 groups to offer food to those in need, manager Stef Van Meer says.

To attend the forum, RSVP to Nicki Carter at facilitators@wainakariri.govt.nz

## Focus turns to food

Growing food security... Satisfy Food Rescue manager Stef Van Meer visits the Oxford District Lions Club's planting site at Okaiawa.

...to help food security in North Canterbury became a reality, with many volunteers working for the group to help.

Social service providers, community groups, faith-based organisations, local schools, service clubs and schools have



# Policy/ Planning



## Strategic Priorities

1. Local Authority engagement
2. Stakeholder engagement
3. Mapping Project

## Local authority engagement

Goal	Action	Timeframe
Policy makers and planners in local government considering food security in relevant decision making. Eg . New developments must include food forest or community gardens.	Develop a local government stakeholder plan. Elected member buy-in <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- District plan and relevant team involvement</li> <li>- Link to the council sustainability strategy</li> <li>- Plant fruit trees instead of non-edibles</li> </ul>	1 year
Local government policy adapted to reward rate-payers engaged in food security	Identify and present ideas that could be adopted into council policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Rates rebate to homes who plant fruit trees / edible gardens on verges etc</li> </ul>	2 years
GST Free Fruit and Vegetables	Gather evidence and report strategically to be able to inform and support a proposal for GST free fruit and vegetables	2 years

## Stakeholder engagement

Goal	Action	Timeframe
To have a wide range of stakeholders engaged in FSNC	Develop a thorough stakeholder engagement plan Build on existing stakeholder relationships	1 year
Stakeholders driving projects and engaging the story of FSNC	Gather and report stakeholder experience and stories	Whole project

## Our Collaborative Partners

**Kaiapoi Food Forest** • Waimakariri District Council • **Kaiapoi Community Support** • **Hurunui District Council** • Social Services Waimakariri • **Satisfy Food Rescue** • **Oxford Community Trust** • Hope Community Trust • **Kaiapoi Community Garden** • Toot for Tucker • **Kaiapoi Community Board** • **Oxford District Lions Club** • Enterprise North Canterbury • **The Salvation Army** • **Woodend Community Garden** • Community Wellbeing North Canterbury Trust • **Rachel's House** • Home Based Care • **City Mission** • Potter's Way Soup Kitchen • **St Vincent de Paul** • **Person to Person Trust** • Mountain Meadows • **WDC Mayor & Councillor** • **Presbyterian Support (Upper South Island)** • Budget Advisory Services North Canterbury • **Problem Gambling Foundation** •

## Mapping Project

Goal	Action	Timeframe
<p>FSNC is an informed and well-resourced project</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mapping of broader stakeholders</li> <li>- Mapping of community resources</li> <li>- Mapping of area co-ordinators</li> <li>- Mapping of areas and streets of deprivation</li> <li>- Map what is needed throughout the year for food bank stock – 12 month plan this will help service organisations to know what and how much to grow</li> </ul>	<p>1 year 1 year 1 year Whole project</p>







# Capacity and capability through collaboration



## Strategic Priorities

1. Funding Strategy
2. Collaborative Networks
3. Capacity Building

## Funding Strategy

Goal	Action	Timeframe
FSNC is a well-funded and sustainable project	Develop a robust funding strategy that includes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Corporate donor documentation</li> <li>- Multi-layered funding for specific projects</li> </ul>	1 year
FSNC can support partners with funding and revenue generating opportunities	Regular meetings with stakeholder groups on projects and the funding required	Whole project

## Collaborative Networks

Goal	Action	Timeframe
Positive and engaged experiences felt by all collaborative partners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Regular forums with our stakeholders to keep them informed and hear directly their views, ideas and experience</li> <li>- Clear documentation and reporting of this process</li> </ul>	Whole project
Broad across sector collaboration ie. Business, community	Intentional project development designed through discussion with the business community	1 year
Two established and successful operating collaborative community hubs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- FSNC is already working extensively alongside council and other groups on the Kaiapoi Community Hub</li> <li>- Action is to document this process to establish a second community hub in the district</li> </ul>	Current – 2 years



## Capacity Building

Goal	Action	Timeframe
All stakeholders and partner organisations are sustainable and well-resourced	Provide training and support opportunities to the wider FSNC community as need identified	Whole project
Capacity building opportunities at an individual level.	Develop projects that identify strengths and skills that can be replicated in the community <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Eg. Connecting older experienced gardeners with younger/novice gardeners who can help share growing productive resources like e.g. garden patches</li> </ul>	Current – 2 years



# IN SUMMARY

The forum was a wonderful opportunity to bring more collaborative partners and individuals from our community into the Food Secure project and engage with them to build a plan for North Canterbury. Already we can see many of our projects starting to take shape. It is all leading to an exciting future for our district.

## Testimonial

*“To see so many community organisations come together at the Food Secure Forum was really inspiring. There were so many fabulous ideas that came from a group of engaged people looking to work together to create a food secure future for our North Canterbury Community”*



