



opportunity
council



CELEBRATING 60 YEARS

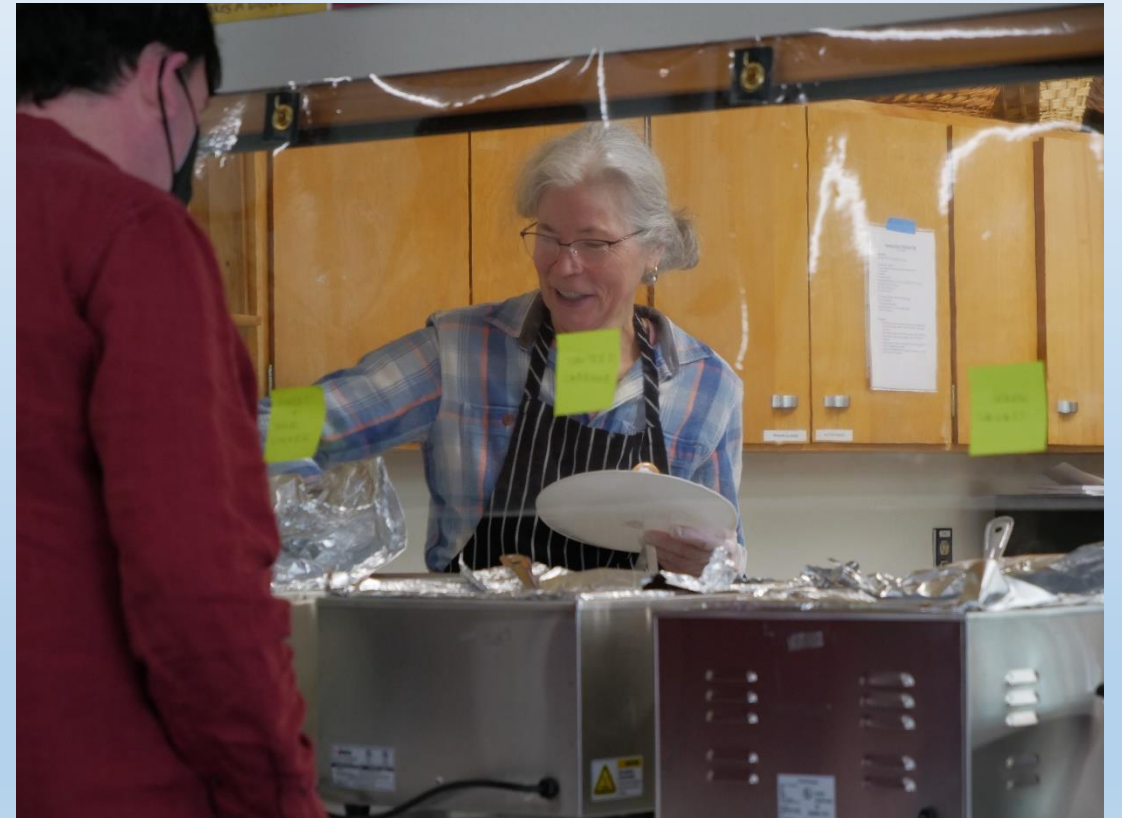
What is Maple Alley Inn?

- Community Meal
- Volunteer-supported
- Program of Opportunity Council
- Wednesdays and Thursdays
11:30 – 1:00 pm



Who do we serve?

- Over 11,000 meals served in 2024
- Average 75 – 100 people at each meal
- Mostly low-income (housed and unhoused)
- Many elders, veterans, and people of color
- Meal located in food-insecure neighborhood



What do we serve?

- Balanced, nutrient-dense
- Home style, from scratch



What do we serve? Some example menus:

- Baked Salmon
- Potatoes
- Parmesan & Panko Roasted Tomatoes
- Green Salad



- Greek Chicken
- Lemon Herb Potatoes
- Garden Salad
- Canned Pears



Maple Alley's Garden

1.25 tons of produce in 2024:

- Basil
- Green Beans
- Beets
- Leafy Greens
- Cucumbers
- Peppers
- Zucchini
- Tomatoes



What makes Maple Alley special?

We are not just a hot meal

Building relationships

A valuable “third space”

COMMUNITY!



What do the guests say about Maple Alley?

“When I come here, I feel like I matter”

“I love the salad! I don’t get much vegetables, living in my car”

“It makes me feel like I matter, that you all cook such nice for food for people like me”

“I come here to have lunch with my friends, it’s how we go out for lunch”



What are Opportunity Council's "Employment Services Programs"?

- One-on-one case management to help participants secure stable and gainful employment
- Help with learning to write resumes/cover letters, and development of interview skills
- Connection to support services like clothing, transportation assistance, benefits planning, and more
- Partnered efforts with local providers including WorkSource, Evergreen Goodwill, DSHS, BTC, and WCC to support community needs



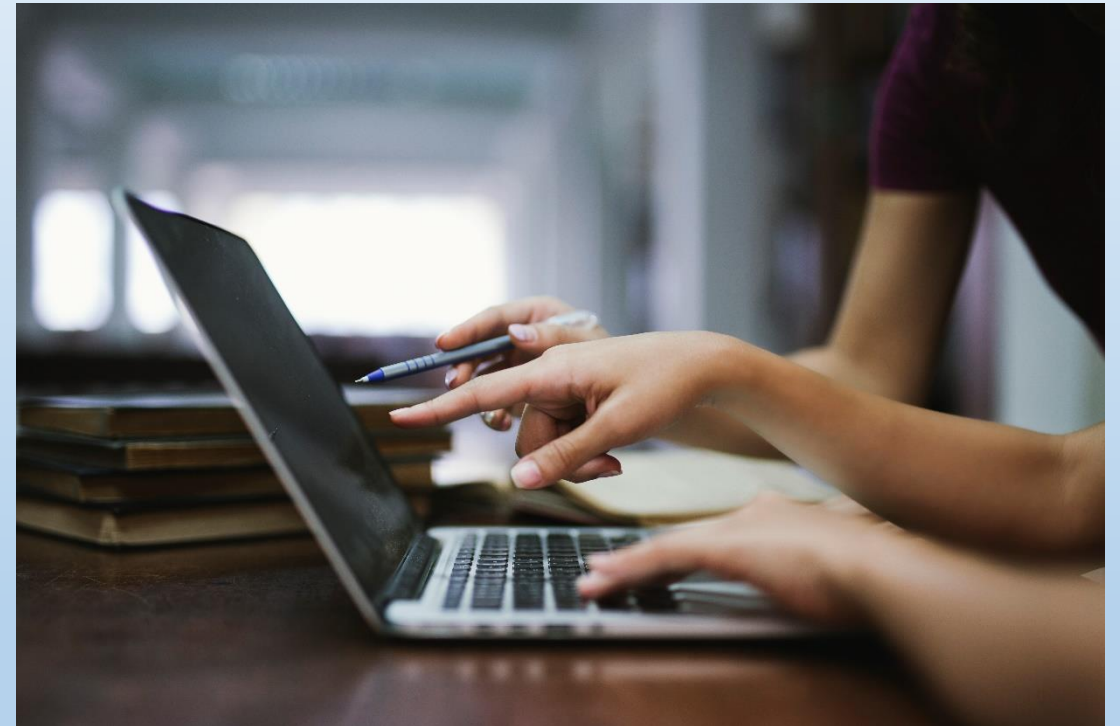


Partnering with Employers

- Connecting local employers with qualified candidates
- Chamber of Commerce, site visits, identifying employer needs, coordinating informational interviews, and assisting with Job Fair needs
- Providing information about business resources such as the Work Opportunity Tax Credit
- Resources brochure for employers

Additional employment resources

- **Access ID Clinic:** help with securing a Washington State ID/EID or Driver's License/Enhanced DL
- **Job Club:** supportive group program for job seekers to connect and learn new skills
- **Financial Learning and Resiliency Through Empowerment (FLARE):** series of classes about financial literacy, money-saving strategies, and goal setting



Employment Success Stories

(also on pg. 5 of the workbook)

- A client living in their car with three children overcame past justice-system involvement to start full-time office work and secured a place to live.
- A veteran client who had been experiencing homelessness got connected to a volunteer opportunity that led directly to their first interview after a year of job searching (and more to come!).
- A neurodivergent client with disabilities launched a coaching and consulting business and is now a paid guest speaker at many state and national healthcare conferences.
- “Hey, I just wanted to thank you all for your contributions the Job Club (Cohort #2) workshop! I very much appreciate all of the time and effort invested by such a talented and well-rounded team (as each of you bring something different, and equally valuable, to the table).”

Program Outcomes

Some of our employers:

- Phillips 66 Refinery
- Smith Gardens
- Data Annotation Tech.
- Haggen
- Anthony's
- Starbucks

Our participant wages range from minimum wage to \$51.00 per hour

Average starting wage is \$19.69 per hour

20 positions employed since October 2024