

10:37:59 From Edie Meyer : Waggytailrescue.org
10:39:55 From Erika Hansen (she/her) : I have questions about structures! (For whenever we get to it)
10:42:41 From ernnimal : I'd love to pick your brains about community engagement/ filling the fridge
10:43:14 From Heather MacLean (she, hers) : Hi - I am in a library, so I can't speak
10:43:23 From Yves V : Yves (pronounced Eve) here
10:43:27 From Frank Gonzalez : Frank Gonzalez Loisaida Realty, LES commUnity Concerns, co founder LES small Biz Alliance, Chaplin at Saint Marks in the Bowery Church, Board member of EVIMA East Village Independent Merchants Accocation Founder of Loisaida CommUnity Refrigerator starting on June 15th
10:43:43 From Heather MacLean (she, hers) : I am in Boston, and not currently active in a community Fridge, but am following the ones in my area
10:43:47 From PA-THOMAS O'DONNELL : Does anyone have or plan for a fridge in the Pittsburgh area? I can be reached at mat.od@verizon.net
10:43:56 From Frank Gonzalez : email address is Loisaidarealty@gmail.com
10:44:31 From Yves V : founder of The Peoples Peoples Fridge, organizer there and at Sugar Hill Fridge. I work and organize in community and collaboration with the vast majority of the Uptown Manhattan and Bronx fridge network in NYC
10:45:04 From zach : Hey everyone, also a Boston community member interested in learning more about how community fridges are operating. Excited to be here, thanks so much for sharing your experience!
10:45:35 From Yves V : am in transit, so staying on chat and muted for the time being
10:47:01 From Troy she/her <KWT Fridge> : Hi folks! Just getting a delivery over here so unable to unmute for the next few min. My name is Troy (she/her) here with KWT Fridge in Kensington, Brooklyn.
10:49:34 From Todd Kaplan : If we have 60+ on call we may not to anything beyond intros!
10:50:29 From Dan Zauderer : Dan Zauderer, Mott Haven Community Fridge
10:50:32 From Dan Zauderer : info@motthavenfridge.com
10:50:35 From Dan Zauderer : 917-497-2514
10:50:46 From Dan Zauderer : Would love to brainstorm/be thought partners with anyone - would welcome the outreach! Thank you so much!
10:50:53 From PA-THOMAS O'DONNELL To Diane Hatz(privately) : Just listening.
10:51:16 From Yves V : Yves Voltaire, Peoples Peoples Fridge
10:51:23 From Yves V : yvesmvoltaire@gmail.com
10:51:49 From Maddie Price : I'm with Seattle Community Fridge (instagram.com/seattlecommunityfridge, seattlecommunityfridge@gmail.com) -- we have 11 fridges around the city and work with other mutual aid groups like The Little Free Pantries and Food Not Bombs
10:52:02 From Ariadna Phillips : This is Ariadna from South Bronx Mutual Aid, Anchor Fridge/ Isla Fridge/ Nuestra Nevera/ People's

Pantry in the Bronx. We deliver to the Bronx/Uptown fridge network as well. Info@southbronxmutualaid.com, 212-920-6570

10:53:35 From Ariadna Phillips : Good to see you Jenny!

10:54:08 From Jenny-Roslindale Comm. Fridge : Ariadna! Nice to see you too! <3

10:56:07 From Ariadna Phillips : Same , we are distinct from any work with Mott Haven fridge

10:56:42 From Maddie Price : We're hoping to start farmers market gleaning

10:57:33 From Lee Michel : Hi there. This is Lee from moms feed the Bronx! Happy to be here.

10:57:47 From Jenny-Roslindale Comm. Fridge : we are starting to do the same thing here in Roslindale, Amanda

10:59:20 From Ariadna Phillips : Yes, Agreed around sanitation and these Good Samaritan concerns - we heard this as well

11:00:38 From Maddie Price : We'd be interested in suggestions for how to reach out to more grocery stores for grocery rescue.

11:01:03 From Amanda Block : Also! In the growing season we have community garden plots that grow specifically selected items which our community members prefer.

11:01:37 From ernnimal : If you're not a Non profit you aren't covered under Good Samaritan??

Do most of your fridges operate as a mutual aid? Or are y'all mostly non profits?

11:01:58 From Ariadna Phillips (South Bronx Mutual Aid) : @amanda we've seen multiple community garden lockouts in the Bronx that have prevented this, including large established ones like JB0LC. It's frustrating.

11:02:13 From Erika Hansen (she/her) : Ours will be mutual aid, and on a residential property.

11:02:18 From Erika Hansen (she/her) : @Erin ^

11:02:30 From Maddie Price : Buy Nothing groups have been great here too for food donations, supplies for fridge shelters, and even free fridges. @ernnimal We're a mutual aid group

11:02:43 From Jennifer Hall, pdxfreefridge, Portland Oregon : Pax is mutual aid

11:02:55 From Jennifer Hall, pdxfreefridge, Portland Oregon : PDX is mutual aid

11:03:01 From Amy Schrader : Our Buy Nothing group always has posts about clean takeout containers-people looking for containers for food they've cooked for the fridge, people offering containers...People moving often post their food and ask someone to drop at the fridge for them

11:03:24 From Erika Hansen (she/her) : Nextdoor is good if used strategically.

11:03:35 From Nicole Woo : Ya our no buy group in Chelsea has been a great resources too

11:03:39 From ernnimal : Ok thanks guys we are working as mutual aid as well. Was wondering if anyone was having issues with not being a

non profit. Haven't had problems on our end yet luckily

11:03:42 From Ariadna Phillips (South Bronx Mutual Aid) : We are a mutual aid but incorporated with our own space. Most we know are not incorporated nor 501c3. Sent an email to city agencies Bc there has been lockout of mutual aid /fridges from food rescue resources

11:04:01 From ernnimal : That's frustrating

11:04:03 From Erika Hansen (she/her) : "Lockout" meaning those groups won't donate to the fridges?

11:04:24 From soleil : Lock out as in physical chain and locks

11:04:36 From Ariadna Phillips (South Bronx Mutual Aid) : @erika Yes, won't even approve registration on their platforms for mass food rescue

11:04:46 From Erika Hansen (she/her) : *eye roll*

11:04:49 From Ariadna Phillips (South Bronx Mutual Aid) : And community gardens locked out with chains

11:05:55 From Amy Schrader : There's a new law about to go into effect in NYC and grocery stores will have to donate not dump their leftover food

11:05:58 From Frank Gonzalez : Thank you for the invitation I have to get back to work. @Loisaidarealty@gmail.com

11:09:30 From Erika Hansen (she/her) : Have y'all noticed a difference between commercial hosts and private residential hosts?

11:09:39 From Mike z : at the Dorchester Community

11:09:48 From Mike z : wWeare

11:09:49 From Amanda Block : Before we incorporated we had a nonprofit cover
Lour liability, and when we incorporated our City, the city of Summit agreed to cover our liability.

11:10:47 From Celeste Collingwood : Diane Hatz - you mentioned you created a sort of guideline for starting a community refrigerator. Could you provide us a link to that?

11:10:58 From Amanda Block : All of our managers have their food handlers' permit and with that we made a deal with the local health department that they would give us no grief if we followed certain rules.

11:13:03 From Alexandria Julius : Change Food for starting a community fridge: <https://www.changefood.org/changefood-2015prod/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/How-To-Start-a-Community-Fridge-s.pdf>

11:14:09 From Maddie Price : @Ariadna Thank you for sharing all that!

11:14:19 From Edie Meyer : ;;I've just learned about the DonateNYC app. You can register your fridge to be a drop off point for food and you can sign up volunteers who will receive push notifications when donations become available.

11:14:23 From Celeste Collingwood : Thank you for sharing that!

11:15:13 From C. Emily Waters : How many hours does it take to get a food handlers certificate?

11:16:28 From Erika Hansen (she/her) : I had to do it online in TN, it's maybe a couple of hours but it's basically watching videos and taking quizzes.

11:17:09 From Jennifer Hall, pdxfreefridge, Portland Oregon : same

11:17:31 From Amy Schrader : We use Signal. And we have an air table document to sign up for different shifts

11:18:34 From Maddie Price : We're feeling challenged by that too. We recently created a more structured (virtual) volunteer orientation. We communicate on Discord and have a shared Google Drive for documents/logs/resources. Keeping more people engaged since we're all volunteers is tough, so we'll start doing more 1-on-1 outreach to check in with folks.

11:18:55 From Jennifer Hall, pdxfreefridge, Portland Oregon : We use instagram a lot to share when fridges are full, when empty

11:19:17 From Maddie Price : ^ We do too

11:20:08 From Nicole Woo : i have some success recruiting volunteers at Facebook moms group

11:20:49 From Amanda Block : When you work with certain groups, like college clubs, faith communities, even groups of coworkers, assigning them a certain consistent day or week of the month really helps.

11:21:09 From Erika Hansen (she/her) : We are pursuing primarily residential hosts, and are offering a monthly stipend to offset electricity costs – but ideally the hosts would check in on cleanliness as well.

11:21:21 From Erika Hansen (she/her) : (We are just getting started up so not sure how this will work long term.)

11:21:36 From Ariadna Phillips (South Bronx Mutual Aid) : We use Signal. A concern has been other groups (specifically Mott Haven Fridge) who would try to do mass distributions to our fridges and others without coordinating , dropping food we couldn't accept and that conflicted with our own coordination with other fridges we had already coordinated with multiple fridges. Having to remove food we couldn't accept or picking up produce they left on the ground has been frustrating and a food safety issue. We work daily to coordinate with other fridges and their volunteers to share with each other and avoid such issues

11:23:57 From emily irsik : Hi everyone! Since we do not have fridge and I am just learning about this awesome initiative.. I am a little out of the loop! I wanted to clear up this quick question. Are you placing this food in the fridge on a "schedule" or is it more what is readily available. For instance, if a restaurant or Farmers market has food available the day of would you take it?

11:24:11 From Ariadna Phillips (South Bronx Mutual Aid) : Money is also a concern Bc Mott Haven Fridge tried to collect donations in the names of fridges throughout the Bronx and Uptown without our consent. We urge fridges to be vigilant and aware of who may be using your work and likeness to raise money in your name without your consent. We all crowdfund independently and share resources as we can; but that behavior has caused major rifts in the fridge community in our area.

11:24:38 From ernnimal : Yes we are having those problems as well! So many volunteers and only a few consistent ones

11:25:23 From Erika Hansen (she/her) : @Emily I think it varies greatly for each fridge/group, but yes most of them would take one time "immediate" donations – from what I've seen it's primarily like

if any community member is available to drop off food at a fridge/pantry location (within the guidelines that are posted at that fridge) they are welcome to do so whenever!!

11:26:02 From lea : @ Emily we do a mix! Lots of scheduled pickups but we have some businesses that say "come get our food in 15 min" and we'll send someone over

11:26:05 From soleil : Food should be put in the fridges as soon as you get it. You need to feel out your community and determine what works best.

11:26:23 From emily irsik : Okay thank you!

11:30:05 From Shruthi Velidi (she/her) : Love this volunteer structure! What platform do you use to organize the different "teams"?

11:31:03 From Megan Russel : Megan Russel- Newton Community Freedge. megan.d.russel@gmail.com

11:31:49 From Todd Kaplan : Would be interested in hearing what people have been doing about "hoarding" practices (for want of a better word)?

11:31:52 From Megan Russel : We have google doc's and we sign up "teams" on a Sign Up Genius schedule but let the team captains manage their own volunteers for each day. Sign Up Genius works well because it provides an automatic "reminder"

11:32:19 From Maddie Price : Re: structures -- A few of our volunteers are carpenters, so we've developed a build guide, and I've started making cut lists for each new shelter we build.

11:32:37 From Todd Kaplan : Very heated discussion here in MA on what to do (if anything) about people emptying fridge and others getting zero....

11:32:44 From Ariadna (she/her, South Bronx Mutual Aid) : @Todd we allow the community to communicate with each other when they observe this. We do not police amounts taken and find the community makes their thoughts known plenty for those they feel a certain way about

11:32:52 From Erika Hansen (she/her) : @Todd - from our perspective, if they need the food I'm not able to 'means test' - nor do I want to. Unless we know they are like vandalising or trashing the food right there - it's for them to take

11:33:11 From Ariadna (she/her, South Bronx Mutual Aid) : +1

11:33:19 From Nicole Woo : I tried to do the ice packs, but guests take the ice packs

11:33:43 From Alexandria Julius : @Maddie is the build guide something that would be able to be shared?

11:34:09 From Maddie Price : I found some cheap fridge thermometers that I gorilla-taped inside the fridges.

11:34:38 From Maddie Price : @Alexandria Totally! Feel free to contact us: seattlecommunityfridge@gmail.com

11:34:39 From Ariadna (she/her, South Bronx Mutual Aid) : There is a fridge in Laredo, TX like that with the rubbermaid type shelter

11:34:42 From soleil : @todd it's not your place to police people or food. The community needs to hold each other accountable.

11:34:52 From Amy Schrader : We've got a big Rubbermaid pantry next to our fridge

11:35:12 From Amy Schrader : Remix market
11:35:25 From Amy Schrader : Or the Big Reuse
11:35:37 From soleil : Milk crates also work great as a pantry- for setup think cube storage
11:36:15 From Shruthi Velidi (she/her) : In terms of material to weatherproof the fridge, what have you all found to be the most successful? Metal, wood, plastic tarp, etc.?
11:36:16 From Maddie Price : We'll also "upcycle" unwanted furniture like filing cabinets for pantry storage (Buy Nothing, Craigslist, etc)
11:36:30 From soleil : Hoarding food is a trauma of hunger
11:36:32 From lea : Ours was never weatherproofed and survived the winter!
11:37:17 From Erika Hansen (she/her) : Thanks all!! We have some money right now to purchase materials, so have been stalking Facebook Marketplace for some used Rubbermaid structures to repurpose for fridges (even if the fridge is a dorm size, with the rest for dry pantry)
11:37:43 From soleil : Wood shelters seem to work just fine.

There are fridges unsheltered and do well, others not so much.

The ones with wood shelters make it through.

11:37:48 From Jenny-Roslindale Comm. Fridge : we use thermometers here in MA and one of the Boston fridges uses TempFi which is a wireless thermometer that sends temperatures checks to your phone*^^
11:38:20 From Erika Hansen (she/her) : Also am definitely making a note for thermometers!
11:38:50 From soleil : Also need to keep in mind folks are often picking up for neighbors and other family members.
11:40:23 From soleil : Well, is it a community fridge or a (insert org name here) fridge?
11:40:51 From Erika Hansen (she/her) : ^^
11:41:02 From Ariadna (she/her, South Bronx Mutual Aid) : Exactly- its complex for how much a person may need for others esp if they pickup for many. We removed a volunteer that we saw showing gatekeeping and hostile behaviors at a fridge/distributions after speaking to them several times. Another volunteer we were able to speak to him and let him know that he could always share our contact info to see if there were more ways we could do to support that individual at the fridge. We are working on sharing more food resource info at fridges so people know of other nearby fridges or additional food sources
11:41:11 From Maddie Price : We're also against "policing" what people take--we don't know someone's circumstances. also we like to push back against the idea of "food scarcity" and remind people that there's enough food produced, it's just not distributed efficiently and equitably
11:41:31 From Ariadna (she/her, South Bronx Mutual Aid) : +1 Maddie Def not equitable distribution
11:41:56 From Carlos he/they : 100% @maddie
11:43:04 From soleil : You can't "steal" something that is freeee

11:43:04 From Jenny-Roslindale Comm. Fridge : We've been sharing food resources at our fridge and have added a map at the fridge to where other food resources are in Boston.

11:43:36 From Ariadna (she/her, South Bronx Mutual Aid) : And people will do what they need to survive. When systems have failed them and they have a need to survive, who are we to fixate on what they do to survive? We started sharing with outdoor food vendors directly to support them bc sourcing has been hard and many are undocumented. They are trying to prepare food to survive and we want them to be supported when the systems haven't acknowledged them.

11:43:43 From Rachel Protter : Seconding Cas, I have noticed the same thing

11:44:00 From soleil : The more consistently fridges are full, the less people will hoard.

11:44:06 From Megan Russel : We try to communicate the message for people to take what they need today, there will be more food tomorrow.

11:44:13 From Jenny-Roslindale Comm. Fridge : we've also up'd our donations and spread out donations throughout the week

11:44:13 From lea : For sure Ariadna - if I stumbled upon the fridge and didn't know when my next meal would be I would 100% take everything I could

11:44:27 From soleil : Because they will begin to understand that more food is coming

11:44:35 From Erika Hansen (she/her) : Recently in Memphis there was a "scandal" where someone posted in a public fb group - someone STOLE all the books (100+) from a Little Free Library. The response was very shame based: "how dare they!" "So rude" etc - and it had me thinking - why do we assume the worst when these resources were put there FOR FREE!! And like Soleil said, you can't steal something that is free. @Todd specifically, maybe there needs to be a facilitated roundtable of stakeholders/volunteers to discuss further and get to the feelings about scarcity.

11:44:52 From Jenny-Roslindale Comm. Fridge : thank you everyone for your insights on all of this

11:44:53 From Nicole Woo : i have met guests who told me they have family of 10. Many immigrants share space with large household.

11:45:15 From Maddie Price : ^ great point!

11:45:46 From Erika Hansen (she/her) : I mean that's pretty bold for that deli. But likely not the norm overall I imagine?

11:46:03 From soleil : Lol NYC is all hustle all the time

11:46:58 From Ariadna (she/her, South Bronx Mutual Aid) : It is Soleil. We get the hustle, we are just trying to go straight to vendors we know can use larger quantities and see what else we can do to support them so they survive too

11:46:58 From Megan Russel : There is lots of messaging we try to consistently put out on our FB page- the message is: Through programs like the Newton Community Freedge we are working towards a community that embraces inclusivity, respect, trust, and compassion for our neighbors. It is impossible for us to know what circumstances are affecting those who visit the Freedge. We must be careful not to judge

others for what, or how much, they may leave and/or take. Our operating principle is – leave what you can, take what you need – and people will do both. We need to ensure that those who come to the Freedge can do so comfortably without feeling watched or judged. Please be gracious and generous, kind and compassionate, patient and understanding, when you are at the Freedge. These little things we do for our neighbors go a long way towards creating the sense of community we all aspire to achieve.

11:47:14 From Edie Meyer : Very good ideas! I do think telling people that there will be more food every day at X time so people don't try to hoard, especially fresh food..

11:47:40 From Amanda Block : We had that happen and it was for a whole church community.

11:47:55 From Jenny–Roslindale Comm. Fridge : Completely agree with everyone saying we have to go in with no judgement and compassion

11:48:00 From Kelsey Sheridan – Pittsburgh : So important to have human conversations and relationships with other humans

11:48:17 From Erika Hansen (she/her) : I've loved this convo and will watch the rest when the recording comes out – I have to leave for a work meeting! Yallidarity!

11:52:23 From Ariadna (she/her, South Bronx Mutual Aid) : Absolutely Soleil

11:52:25 From Jenny–Roslindale Comm. Fridge : amen to that

11:52:33 From Rachel Protter : Absolutely

11:52:40 From Nicole Woo : So true

11:53:11 From Amanda Block : Amen, Soleil!

11:53:31 From Amy Schrader : We have a bulletin board by the fridge which has flyers for West Side Campaign Against Hunger—they handle so much more than food insecurity there

11:53:35 From Ariadna (she/her, South Bronx Mutual Aid) : Our resource page is at fridges: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1THQnsCtMSOEMQLbRywxmGtwBcdn5Mwlm8vN4MVL0cEM/edit>

11:53:40 From Ariadna (she/her, South Bronx Mutual Aid) : On our website

11:54:01 From Megan Russel : Love this Soleil. Thanks.

11:54:01 From Troy she/her <KWT Fridge> : yes 100% @ soleil

11:54:01 From Maddie Price : We get lots of requests for hygiene/ menstrual products too, so we suggest those for folks to donate a lot.

11:54:03 From Jenny–Roslindale Comm. Fridge : thank you for that Soleil

11:54:17 From Jenny–Roslindale Comm. Fridge : Beautifully said and extremely grateful for that

11:55:17 From Amanda Block : It was 2003–2014, but I developed a list of resources in NYC called the Inspire Outreach street sheets. Some of the information is still good.

11:55:18 From Ariadna (she/her, South Bronx Mutual Aid) : info@southbronxmutualaid.com

11:57:33 From soleil : Food is a right not a privilege

11:58:39 From Rachel Protter : I have to leave, but I loved meeting you all, this was a great sharing of resources and information!

11:58:47 From Jenny-Roslindale Comm. Fridge : we have a QR code and bulletin board at ours

11:58:50 From Shruthi Velidi (she/her) : In Hell's Kitchen, we have an existing Free Store (for non-food items) - our Fridge is being set up right across from it, and the goal is that together, we can create this one community area with access to more than just food. There's also an open community bulletin set up with information about resources, or people who are looking for help/hire, etc.

11:58:58 From Jenny-Roslindale Comm. Fridge : Thank you for that @ariadna

11:59:00 From Nicole Woo : 40% of the food produced in US are wasted. We don't have scarcity. We have lots of food waste

11:59:35 From Todd Kaplan : Sorry got to go great conversation Keep up the good work!

11:59:52 From Catalina López-Ospina : The City of Boston has made this information available to CBO's including Community Fridges to distribute to the people they serve. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1u2Ke0008sM0_iSpNZmzvWt1mapX_HWqB/view?usp=sharing

12:00:21 From Emily - Lynn Comm. Fridge : Thank you all!

12:00:43 From emily irsik : Great meeting you all! Would love to connect. eirsik@trmonline.org

12:00:51 From Kelly ErnstFriedman (she/her) : This was so great to get to brainstorm and share together. Thank you! Would love to have this on the regular.

12:00:55 From Megan Costello : Thank you, everyone! Lovely to meet you all.

12:01:08 From C. Emily Waters : Nice to meet you all. Thanks!

12:01:36 From Amy Schrader : Thanks for sharing your thoughts and practices.

12:01:46 From Amanda Block : Thank you for all! Loved our time to connect and problem solve. I would be happy to connect. Social media: @GRACESummitNJ or nokidhungryin07901@gmail.com

12:01:57 From Ariadna (she/her, South Bronx Mutual Aid) : Here's us if you want to connect also: @southbronxmutualaid on IG, <http://sbx.ma>

12:02:12 From Maddie Price : Great conversations! I'll share the recording with our other volunteers. Thank you for organizing this!

12:02:22 From Jenny-Roslindale Comm. Fridge : Thank you everyone for the thoughtful conversation! Have a great week!

12:02:22 From soleil : 🙌

12:02:30 From Cas M. Gordon : Sugarhillcommunityfridge@gmail.com

12:02:34 From Shruthi Velidi (she/her) : Thanks everyone! Great meeting you all. Would love to connect - hkcommunityfridge@gmail.com