



Houston-Galveston Area Council Solid Waste Series Workshop

Topic: Food Donation – Feed People, Not the Landfill

August 22, 2019 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

AGENDA

8:00 a.m. Sign in and light breakfast.

8:30 a.m. Welcome & Program Overview

Erin Livingston, Principal Planner, H-GAC.

8:40 a.m. Setting the Stage

Environmental impacts of food waste, federal rules and protections, and what can be done to reduce food waste

Stephen Sturdivant, United States Environmental Protection Agency

9:10 a.m. Food Recovery Process

Establishing a food rescue program

Neha Alex, University of Houston chapter of the Food Recovery Network

You know about pet rescue, but have you heard about food rescue?

Barbara Bronstein, Second Servings of Houston

Food waste from the farm

Lydia Oxley, Imperfect Produce

10:40 a.m. Break

10:50 a.m. Feeding People

How food banks handle food rescue

Brian Greene, Houston Food Bank

11:20 a.m. Ensuring Safety and Quality

Managing food rescue from a government perspective

Stephania Alvarez, Harris County Public Health

11:50 a.m. Questions and Group Discussion

12:20 p.m. Upcoming Industry Events & Announcements.

Adjourn.

Stephen Sturdivant

Stephen Sturdivant is an environmental engineer at the **United States Environmental Protection Agency** Region 6 office. He has been working on food waste for 10 years. Stephen is the co-organizer of this workshop and H-GAC appreciates all his help.

Neha Alex

Neha Alex is the vice president of the **University of Houston chapter of the Food Recovery Network**, a national nonprofit organization that specializes in recovering left over food from restaurants and larger-scale events. There are several chapters over the United States and the chapters continue to grow. The University of Houston chapter is made up of student volunteers who recover food from campus restaurants and events as well as local farmers' markets in the Houston area. They will focus on the set up of the recovery process, with an emphasis on community; as well as what to do with the food to ensure reusability and efficiency.

Barbara Bronstein

Barbara Bronstein is the founder, president, and volunteer with **Second Servings of Houston**. After a successful career marketing some of America's leading brands for Unilever, Mars, and Coca-Cola, she piloted a banquet food rescue program known as "Banquet Bounty for the Hungry," the precursor to Second Servings of Houston, the nonprofit organization she founded in 2014.

Lydia Oxley

Lydia Oxley heads up Outreach for **Imperfect Produce** here in Texas; connecting individuals and organizations to Imperfect through valued partnerships and community big moments. Imperfect Produce was founded on a mission to reduce food waste and build a better food system for everyone. They've uncovered compelling stories and recovered over 40 million pounds of food; helping us fall in love with *aesthetically challenged* produce. Learn how food waste on the farm developed over time, along with other ways packaged goods can slip through the cracks.

Brian Greene

Brian Greene is President and CEO of the **Houston Food Bank**, a non-profit organization that uses donated food to better lives through a network of 1500 partnerships in 18 southeast Texas counties. Prior to moving to Houston, Brian was the Executive Director of the Second Harvest Food Bank of Greater New Orleans and Acadiana for 12 years. Previously, he held the same position at the Second Harvest Food Bank in Knoxville, Tennessee for 5 years. Brian is also an adjunct professor for the graduate program in Nonprofit Management at University of Houston Downtown. Brian has an MA in Economics from The University of Tennessee and a BA in Economics from Humboldt State University.

Stephania Alvarez

Stephania Alvarez is the Food Donations Coordinator for **Harris County Environmental Public Health** (EPH). In this workshop, Stephania will introduce Take Out Hunger—a food safety for donations initiative by EPH. She will discuss the common donation concerns over liability and the importance of food safety. Take Out Hunger (www.takeouthungerhc.org) encourages the donation of excess, unserved food by training food establishments on how to donate safely. Stephania has several years of experience in community health and food systems work in the Houston Area, and is excited to add support to food insecurity and food recovery efforts in Harris County.

Next Solid Waste Series Workshop – Special Waste Streams

Thursday, November 21, 2019, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.