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Empowered
Thriving
Communities



Transforming Systems. Cultivating Joy. Nourishing Neighborhoods.

The St. Louis community is facing unprecedented challenges.

On November 1, 2025, **37,000 people in St. Louis City and County lost some or all of their Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits** due to H.R.1. H.R.1 also reduced eligibility for Women Infants & Children (WIC) nutrition program.¹

SNAP benefit interruption from the government shutdown is impacting

54,943 people
in St. Louis City



AND

97,238 people
in St. Louis County



Two-thirds of these community members are children, people with disabilities, and elders¹

Empowered Thriving Communities is ready to answer the call.

ETC is a **community-driven collaborative** focused on improving social and health outcomes for individuals, families, communities, and the environment. ETC is **an essential St. Louis food hub** as we support our neighbors impacted by SNAP interruptions and lost benefits.

etc is ...

- **building and strengthening organizational capacity**, personal and professional development, and cross-organizational collaboration
- **transforming local systems** with principles and policies that promote food sovereignty
- **intentionally and holistically responding to collaborative member health** and wellbeing by designing spaces for learning, service delivery, healing, and liberation

ETC serves neighborhoods in the **St. Louis Promise Zone**, striving for equity, nourishment, and wellbeing.

35 members
have launched
23 new projects
together since 2021

\$612,050 of funding
has circulated in the collaborative

ETC has a history of collaboration & impact.

ETC collaborative organizations have
successfully served 84,000 people from 2021 and 2025
through food pantries, food banks, community gardens, urban farming programs,
farmers markets, and the Metro Market

About five new partnerships are added to the collaborative each year

ETC is a nationally-recognized leader in community-based food networks.

ETC was **selected by the American Public Health Association thought leadership series as a community model** because of their success demonstrating the interconnectedness of medical, social, and environmental contexts to advance health equity.²



ETC members form a strong and diverse coalition of partners.

- A Red Circle
- Ancient Healing Root
- Be Well Café
- BJC Community Health Improvement
- City Greens Market
- Confluence Farms/North Sarah Food Hub
- Da Hood Connect
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Fit and Food Connection
- Haven of Grace
- Integrated Health Network
- Jackie Joyner Kersee Center
- Known and Grown STL
- Julia's Farm
- Missouri Foundation for Health
- New Roots Urban Farm
- North Side Youth and Senior Center
- Operation Food Search / Metro Market
- Phi Global Farms
- Propel Kitchens
- Regional Response Team
- Rustic Roots Sanctuary
- Robert Fulton INC
- Seeds
- St. Louis Area Agencies on Aging
- St. Louis Area Food Bank
- St. Louis City Department of Health
- St. Louis Economic Development Partnership
- Trailnet
- Transform 314
- Unwrap You
- Urban Harvest
- Washington University in St. Louis
- Wesley House
- YMCA-Emmerson/Ferguson

Supporting ETC means backing hyper-local, grassroots food solutions. To learn how to boost the impact of ETC, contact:

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2. American Public Health Association. 2024. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AnxnDuJNMkk>