ANOTHER GREAT YEAR

2016 was another banner year for Catalyst Kitchens and our members! Catalyst Kitchens supported the launch of 4 new programs, welcomed 9 new members, and saw 4 members progress to Model Membership.

We awarded our 2nd annual Catalyst for Change Award and celebrated our 5th year anniversary as a network by hosting a 3-day National Members Summit at FareStart in Seattle.

We are Stronger Together

We hit some fairly significant milestones in terms of the cumulative impact of our members: since our inception in 2011, Catalyst Kitchens members have collectively served over 50 Million nutritious meals for communities in need, generated over 180 Million dollars in social enterprise revenues, trained nearly 16,000 individuals with barriers to employment and supported the placement of 8,000 of them into jobs. This represents greater than 150% growth of our collective impact in the first six years as a network.

Catalysts for Change

Catalyst Kitchens had the pleasure of participating in the nascent development of a food service social enterprise ecosystem in Baltimore. Now 9 members strong, local food service job training programs have come together to ensure they are providing the best support and employment opportunities to their clients as well as career development opportunities to their staff across the city.

This has caused me to take pause and reflect on how our member organizations are change agents in their communities. Members are forging partnerships within communities where there might be competition. They are collaborating locally with social service partners and employers, with vendors, funders, and elected officials. Members are creating healthy community ecosystems within which individuals with barriers to employment can thrive: gaining and keeping jobs as a pathways to self-sufficiency.

As members of Catalyst Kitchens, you are part of a growing national effort to reduce joblessness, poverty and hunger. And our impact is much stronger together!

Further, together,

Renée

Director
Catalyst Kitchens

“If you want to go fast, go alone. If you want to go far, go together.”

– Ancient Proverb

Featured on cover: Participants of CK 2016 Members Summit
2016 Network Outcomes

- 3,490 individuals trained
- 1,684 individuals placed in jobs
- 10.7 million meals provided to communities
- 39.7 million social enterprise revenue earned

Cumulative Network Outcomes (2011-2016)

- 15,983 individuals trained
- 8,011 individuals placed in jobs
- 50.6 million meals provided to communities
- $180.1 million social enterprise revenue earned
MEMBER DEMOGRAPHICS

Trainee Barriers

- 28% Homelessness
- 12% Lack of Job History/Gaps in Employment
- 10% Opportunity Youth
- 20% Joblessness
- 41% Homeless
- 8% In Recovery
- 6% Criminal Record
- 4% Disability
- 4% Other
- 2% Refugee/Recent Immigrant Status
- 6% Mental Illness
- 10% Opportunity Youth

Social Enterprises

- 65% Catering
- 5% Concessions
- 16% Restaurant
- 9% Food Manufacturing
- 9% Other
- 2% Bakery
- 7% Food Truck
- 21% Childcare School Meals
- 30% Shelter Meals/Soup Kitchen Meals
- 7% Senior Meals
- 2% Meals for Critically Ill
- 6% Concessions
- 2% Contract Meals

Individuals Served

- Serves Adults Only: 41%
- Serves Adult & Youth: 39%
- Serves Youth Only: 20%
WRAP-AROUND SERVICES PROVIDED

NEW MEMBERS

We welcomed 9 new members into the Catalyst Kitchens network in 2016.
MEMBERSHIP

Catalyst for Change Award

The 2016 recipient of the Catalyst for Change Award was Chef Tasheena Butler, Culinary Training Coordinator at Liberty’s Kitchen in New Orleans. This award recognizes individuals from the CK network whose outstanding service and dedication to empowering lives through job training has made significant impact on individuals, their community, and the field of foodservice social enterprise. Under Chef Tasheena’s leadership the Youth Development Program has:

- Increased applications by 14%
- Increased program graduation rate by 14%
- Increased job placement by 33%
- Decreased program attrition by 43%

Chef Tasheena with her students at Liberty’s Kitchen

Sponsor Spotlight: Starbucks

In 2016, members had access to a variety of discounted and in-kind products and services from our sponsors. Starbucks provided savings of over $236,500 to 19 members across the United States. These discounts allowed members to provide high-quality coffee for their customers, while redirecting those savings back into their training programs.
MEMBERS SUMMIT

In celebration of 5 years as a network, Catalyst Kitchens hosted its biennial member summit in September 2016 at FareStart, our parent organization in Seattle, WA. The Members Summit provides an opportunity to connect, learn, and explore successes and challenges in developing successful job training programming, foodservice production, and social enterprise operations. Attended by over 100 individuals representing 40+ member organizations, this event provided an inspiring opportunity to celebrate the collective power of the Catalyst Kitchens network and envision its continued potential.

Regional Members Summits

Many member organizations have expressed interest in convening regionally to connect around shared challenges and build peer-to-peer relationships. In 2017, Catalyst Kitchens piloted “Regional Members Summits” in the Northwest and Southeast regions of our network. In 2018, Catalyst Kitchens expects to hold additional Regional Members Summits elsewhere.
CATALYST CONSULTING

Catalyst Consulting provides technical assistance to organizations as they explore feasibility, incubate, launch and scale foodservice job training programs.

Our Impact in 2016

In 2016, the Catalyst Consulting team assessed feasibility with 12 organizations, incubated 14 food service job training programs, launched 4 new social enterprise businesses, and scaled the impact of 7 organizations.

Our Cumulative Impact

Over the years, the Catalyst Consulting team has worked with more than 100 organizations at various levels of program development. Our cumulative impact is represented below.

Success Story: Manna on Main Street

Manna on Main Street is committed to ending hunger in northern Pennsylvania by providing food, fulfilling social service and education needs, and conducting community outreach. With support from the Catalyst Consulting team, they launched Common Grounds Café in December 2016 to engage trainees in experiential learning and gain customer service experience.

“Catalyst Kitchens is a phenomenal resource to maximize social enterprise impact. They assuaged concerns during the start-up process, celebrated our successes, and leveraged the CK network to provide more tools and peer responses when challenges arose. Most importantly, CK authentically cares about the impact made in our community, working with us to ensure that individuals have real opportunities to fulfill their dreams through training and sustainable employment.”

- Suzan Neiger-Gould, Executive Director, Manna on Main

Photo: Manna on Main
NEW INITIATIVES

Train-the-Trainer Workshops:
As part of their initiative around establishing Café Opportunities in underserved communities across the country, Starbucks works with local nonprofits to train Opportunity Youth on Customer Service and help them develop skills to become job ready. In 2016, Catalyst Consulting joined forces with Starbucks to conduct train-the-trainer workshops on Customer Excellence Training Program (CSET) with local community partners.

Nonprofit Ecosystem Development:
Catalyst Consulting has always used a community-based approach to ensure that new programs are complimentary to those that already exist and address unmet needs to best serve those with barriers to employment. In 2016, we took this concept one step further to establish a local “ecosystem” of community partners in Baltimore, MD.

“The [Baltimore Food Service Social Enterprise Ecosystem] meetings have been a great way for us to connect with other organizations in Baltimore that are engaged in this important work of developing talent, providing opportunity, and shortening the line of the food insecure. We know there is tremendous need in the community; more than we can meet on our own. Joining together with other enterprises that share our mission, to learn from each other, helps us ensure that we are running the best training and development program at FoodWorks.”

- Tim Regan, VP Programs and Network Relations, Maryland Food Bank
National Partnerships:

Catalyst Kitchens is collaborating with other national organizations that share our goals to reduce poverty, hunger, and joblessness through job training in food service social enterprise for people with barriers to employment. These include Volunteers of America, Catholic Charities, and Feeding America.
LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

The work members do in communities around the country inspires the Catalyst Kitchens team to continue to enhance the level and quality of support we provide to members.

In the wake of the last summit, members’ requested:
• More opportunities to connect and learn from other members between biennial summits
• To convene around common interests and to share best practices

In 2017-2018, Catalyst Kitchens intends to:
• Empower regional ecosystems by piloting regional member summits
• Sponsor a panel discussion featuring members at Social Enterprise Alliance
• Introduce virtual working groups around shared interests
• Provide monthly topic-specific webinars featuring our members
• Explore national partnerships that enhance the network
• Launch a national Member Advisory Council

THANK YOU

We truly appreciate the many friends, volunteers, donors, advisors, and national partner organizations that bring wisdom and resources to the Catalyst Kitchens table.

Special thanks to our sponsors CDN, Component Hardware Group, KNG, Mercer Cutlery, National Restaurant Association, Social Enterprise Alliance, and Starbucks.

Together, we strengthen our impact and transform our communities.

“Never doubt that a group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it is the only thing that ever has.”

- Margaret Mead