

# Community Kitchen FAQ's

- **Why does this program exist?**

The program exists to help two groups of people, those who want jobs in the foodservice industry and those who need food. Our students learn culinary skills using donated food from the food bank and turn it into wonderful meals for the hungry in our community.

- *What skill level do students leave with after attending the Community Kitchen?*

Students receive a 14 week condensed training course with a combination of classroom studies and practical learning. When students fully participate and practice the skills they learn, they will be qualified for a prep cook position.

- *What is the average hourly wage earned by the graduates?*

The wages are different depending on each student's attitude, skills, and abilities. Most of our graduates start out earning \$8.00-\$10.00 per hour and all of our partnering employers offer full benefits.

- *Do students have to pay for this training?*

No. Thanks to generous donors in our community, this program is offered at no cost to people who need assistance and are looking for a positive life change.

- *What are the enrolment requirements?*

Students need to be 18 years old or older, drug-free, low-income, have the legal and physical abilities to work full-time, and demonstrate the willingness and desire to complete the program.

- *What is the average class size?*

Our class size is currently limited to 20 students per session.

- *Who are some of the internship host companies?*

We have over 30 internship sites that are willing to host and hire our students. Some of our internship sites include: Litchfield, Mesa and Scottsdale School Districts, Aramark, Sodexo, Eurest, Havana Café, Phoenix Rescue Mission, Hilton Suites, Pointe Hilton, and St. Joseph's Hospital.

- *Do you offer student stipends?*

We do not offer stipends but students have the opportunity to earn cash awards for perfect attendance and other special effort awards.

- *Do you provide housing for students during the training?*

We do not offer housing but we can refer students to other agency partners who specialize in this area.

- *Where do you get your students from?*

The majority of our students hear about the Community Kitchen from other social service agencies they are receiving assistance from.

- *Where are the classes held?*

The training facility is located at 1818 South 16<sup>th</sup> Street (on 16<sup>th</sup> Street South of Buckeye) in the Sky Harbor Family Services building.

- *How can I enroll?*

Submit an on-line student application or call 602-343-3183