Mission
FareStart’s mission is to transform lives by empowering people who are homeless, in recovery, or previously incarcerated to achieve self-sufficiency through life skills, job training, and employment in the food service industry. Rooted in the beliefs that food is central to overall well-being, that people can transform their lives with the right tools, and that solutions that create value in communities have the best hope of lasting, FareStart innovatively tackles the issues of homelessness, poverty, and hunger.

Social Enterprise
FareStart is both a social service provider and a thriving social enterprise. Through food service training programs, the Community Meals Program where students prepare healthy meals for those in need, and on-the-job experience gained at FareStart restaurants and cafés, participants gain the skills and stability they need to make progress and begin a career.

Track Record
Since 1992, FareStart has provided opportunities for nearly 8,000 people to transform their lives, while also serving over 9 million meals to disadvantaged men, women, and children.
When Luke came out of prison, he knew he needed a job and a home. He dreamt of living in Seattle and beginning a new life. FareStart provided him with the skills, support services, and community he needed to realize that dream and succeed. Luke explains, “FareStart’s training covers everything. It teaches the language of cooking and puts you in a frame of mind to succeed—to break old habits and encourage you to stay out of trouble.” Luke’s dedication and persistence, along with the advocacy and training he received at FareStart, allowed him to find permanent employment.

A week before graduating from FareStart, Luke was hired by Bon Appétit Management Company at Amazon. In just over a year he’s received two promotions and was honored as Employee of the Quarter.

**Personal Success Story**

**The Frame of Mind to Succeed**

FareStart provides an incredible training program to help people discover a passion for food. I have hired many FareStart graduates and watched them grow into spectacular cooks and chefs.

— Christopher Patterson, General Manager, Bon Appétit Management