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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

REDF, SJI, CEO, and FareStart Announce Launch of 2025 SNAP E&T Technical Assistance Cohort

A total of 25 employment social enterprises and employment training providers across the country will receive customized training and support to help them launch or expand their offerings as SNAP Employment and Training providers.

San Francisco, CA (May 1, 2025) — REDF, along with program partners <u>Seattle Jobs Initiative</u> (SJI), <u>Center for Employment Opportunities</u> (CEO), and <u>Farestart</u>, are pleased to announce the launch of our **2025 SNAP E&T Cohort.** A total of 25 organizations were admitted to this cohort, where they will receive monthly technical assistance, customized training, and tools designed to help them onboard as SNAP E&T providers or expand their current programming and capacity. Four of the organizations were also admitted to REDF's SNAP E&T Community of Practice, which focuses on program enhancement and peer connection.

This initiative is part of REDF's ongoing commitment to creating pathways to sustainable employment for individuals facing barriers to work. SNAP Employment & Training is a nationwide government assistance program, designed to build skills and self-sufficiency for people receiving SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) benefits. Through SNAP E&T, SNAP participants have access to workforce training and support services (such as transportation and childcare) to help them enter or move up in the workforce. Thousands of SNAP participants are supported by comprehensive workforce development services through SNAP E&T, leading to job placements across multiple regions. Over 367,600 participants were served across the nation by SNAP E&T in 2023.

"We are thrilled to work alongside such an incredible group of service providers in the SNAP E&T space, enabling them to serve more participants who are on a path towards economic mobility," said REDF SNAP E&T program manager Samantha Poster.

The newly admitted cohort will engage in focused training sessions to deepen their understanding of SNAP E&T components, receive specialized support to optimize services, and share insights and strategies through peer learning. Participating organizations will also gain access to a comprehensive resource repository and strengthen their organizational capacity to better serve SNAP participants by enhancing employment readiness and self-sufficiency.

2025 SNAP E&T Cohort

Amity Foundation	Los Angeles, CA
Antelope Valley Community Uplift Foundation	Lancaster, CA
Bobby Dodd Institute	Atlanta, GA
Coalition for Responsible Community Development	Los Angeles, CA
Creating Coding Careers	San Diego, CA
Dragonfly Thrift Boutique	Miami, FL
Emma's Torch	Brooklyn, NY
Enterprise for Youth	San Francisco, CA
Envision Your Pathway	Morgan Hill, CA
GrowGood, Inc.	Commerce, CA
Lost Angels Career Center	Lancaster, CA
PowerCorpsPHL	Philadelphia, PA
Project Joy, Inc.	Palmdale, CA
Refugee Artisan Initiative	Seattle, WA
SoCal Pre Apprenticeship Program	San Diego, CA
Sonder Solutions	Sacramento, CA
Street Company	Lancaster, CA
Streets Team Enterprises (Downtown Streets Team)	San Jose, CA
The RIS Foundation	Los Angeles, CA
Three Square	Las Vegas, NV
Year Up United	Boston, MA
Chef Ann Foundation (CAF) (Community of Practice)	National
Goodwill Industries Sacramento Northern Nevada (Community of Practice)	Sacramento, CA
San Jose Conservation Corps (Community of Practice)	San Jose, CA
The Consortium for Sustainable Workforces (Community of Practice)	Washington, DC

Cohort organization Downtown Streets Team operates a program that provides pathways to employment for people experiencing homelessness or housing instability. Senior director of employment social enterprises Ricky Ramos shares, "We've been recipients of SNAP E&T funding in some of our smaller communities, and I'm excited to see how we can leverage SNAP E&T across the entirety of our portfolio, to all 15 cities that we serve."

Funding for this project was provided by United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). USDA is an equal opportunity employer and provider.

For more information about the program and its impact, visit REDF's **SNAP Employment & Training page**.

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ABOUT REDF

REDF invests in employment social enterprises (ESEs) — businesses that provide jobs, training, and support to people breaking through barriers to employment. REDF partners with these businesses and the entrepreneurs who lead them — providing capital, capacity, and community — to amplify their transformative impact. Since 1997, REDF has invested in 302 ESEs in 41 states and DC. Collectively these partnerships have helped 133,500 people enter the workforce and generated more than \$2.5 billion in revenue that is reinvested in employee success — creating a ripple effect that strengthens families and communities and helps build an economy that works. For everyone. For more information, visit redf.org.

ABOUT SEATTLE JOBS INITIATIVE

<u>Seattle Jobs Initiative</u> (SJI) is a nonprofit organization that builds partnerships with government, community-based organizations, and education and training institutions to tackle workforce development inequities facing individuals and the workforce ecosystem. For 27 years, SJI has invested its expertise in addressing employment barriers and remaining committed to its vision that every worker has a career that allows them, their family, and community to thrive. To meet this vision, SJI combines regional programs with regional and national research and consulting/technical assistance.

ABOUT CEO

<u>The Center for Employment Opportunities</u> (CEO) is the largest national provider of employment services for people coming home from incarceration. CEO is 501(c)3 nonprofit and currently operates in 30+ sites across 12 states, and is a SNAP E&T third party partner in each of its states.

ABOUT FARESTART

<u>FareStart</u> is a social enterprise nonprofit that transforms lives, disrupts poverty, and nourishes communities through food, life skills and job training. Since 1992, FareStart has provided opportunities for nearly 15,000 people, while serving 19 million meals to the community. FareStart has worked with over 300 nonprofits and employers across the U.S. to advance job training programs and realize better employment outcomes for people overcoming barriers to employment.