

Cooking Up *Better* Lives Fact Sheet

Foundation Mission

To fill community requests on a local, regional and national scale through the contribution of foodservice equipment and supplies, as well as funding for scholarships, capital purchases and other needs.

What is Cooking Up Better Lives?

Cooking Up Better Lives is the vision that shelters, homes, hospitals and other community based entities in need of foodservice products or funds – capital, academic or programmatic – have the opportunity to receive and leverage contributions. **Cooking Up Better Lives**, a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization makes this possible.

Cooking Up Better Lives provides an organized and national coordinating body for the industry to streamline, leverage and market giving opportunities to those most in need. Ultimately, dealers and vendors around the nation advance corporate good, social responsibility and market awareness for companies and community.

How does the foundation work?

1. **Cooking Up Better Lives** offers opportunities to submit “wish list” items related to foodservice equipment and supplies that would benefit a local non-profit organization.
2. A running list of the wishes will be sent to dealers and vendors to review and see if they could fulfill the wish.
3. Dealers and vendors will coordinate the gifting of the item(s) with **Cooking Up Better Lives**.
4. Additionally, dealers and vendors can nominate (through a form made available on the website) a non-profit to receive capital, academic or programmatic funds. The nominations will be reviewed at least twice a year by an advisory board of regional foodservice representatives.

On what basis will recipients be selected?

1. Sustainability – would the organization be unable to function without the gift?
2. Regionalism – does the organization exist in a part of the country where gifts have not been distributed

or distributed less as compared to other regions?

3. Impact – does the gift have the potential to provide services to more people, to garner media coverage, or to attract more users or donors?
4. Diversity – does the gift represent a minority organization or individual?



Survey December 2008

What organizations or causes have been recipients of the Foundation?

- A camp for people with developmental disabilities in the Midwest had its kitchen remodeled.
- A homeless shelter in the Rocky Mountains received kitchen equipment for updating.
- A national group of culinary schools received scholarship funds for up to three students.
- A children's home in the Southeast replaced its 1971 dishwasher and sink, as well as were recipients of over \$10,000 in equipment from a national trade show.
- A battered women's shelter in Las Vegas updated everything from kitchen smallwares to bed sets.
- A Boys and Girls Club in the South is starting a culinary program and the Foundation donated food tables, sinks, storage containers and reach-in refrigerators.