

Food rescue: Evaluation of the impact and operational aspects of the charitable food sector



Project Type

PhD Project

University

University of Queensland

Principal Supervisor

Professor Helen Truby

e: h.truby@uq.edu.au

Project Duration

3 to 4 years, full time

Scholarship Value

The preferred candidate will be asked first to apply for a base scholarship (living stipend/tuition fees) from the host University. If awarded the base scholarship, the CRC's top-up scholarship package valued at \$100,000 will be administered by the host University to cover:

- > Partial contribution to student stipend/living allowance;
- > Graduate certificate in a management related area;
- > Fight Food Waste CRC conference travel and attendance;
- > Attendance at Future Leaders Program retreats;
- > PhD completion bonus (\$5,000);
- > Contribution to research expenses.

"The Fight Food Waste CRC provides opportunities to meet key players in the fight against food waste, and I feel this network will be very important throughout my career."

Roanna Jones
Fight Food Waste CRC
PhD student



Project Description

Food insecurity disproportionately effects marginalised and low-income individuals and communities. Covid-19 has increased demand for food relief, with 1 in 5 Australians reporting an insecure food supply. Charitable food rescue organisations, such as FareShare, alleviate food insecurity by distributing meals made from donated food from Foodbanks and donations, produce thousands of meals per year.

Food rescue charities are a pivot point for the food industry to reduce food waste. The charitable food sector needs to have both capacity and capability to rapidly respond to offers of large amounts of different types of foods which are opportunistically donated or result from glut harvests. Availability of food to rescue is decreasing concurrently with food waste reduction efforts being successful.

The aim of this PhD project is to conduct a 360° evaluation of the services and processes that FareShare provides. This will include the impact case studies and acceptability from the end-users perspective. Primary data will be gathered via interviews and surveys to gather both qualitative and quantitative data. Secondary data provided by systematic literature searches to examine models of food rescue that may assist FareShare in their future business modelling.

The PhD is cross-disciplinary bringing the fields of nutrition and public health, agri-business and the food industry together, where they intersect between food waste, food insecurity and business modelling.

Eligibility

Prospective students must:

- > Have a Bachelor's degree from an approved university with at least honours class IIA or equivalent or have undertaken a Master's degree with sufficient research in a relevant discipline and completed no more than 10 years ago;
- > Be Australian/New Zealand citizens or permanent residents;
- > Meet the host University's entry requirements for the [Doctor of Philosophy](#).

Preferred educational background:

- > Nutrition/Dietetics/Public Health/Agri-food-business;
- > Applicants from an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background will be particularly welcome to apply and [specific scholarships](#) at the University of Queensland are available.

Further Information

For more information on the project, contact the Principal Supervisor.

For information about the Fight Food Waste CRC student program, read the [FAQ](#) or contact [FFW CRC Postgraduate Student Coordinator Melanie Hand](#).

To formally express your interest in this project, complete and submit the [Expression of Interest form](#).

fightfoodwastecrc.com.au/study-with-us

