

Building Belonging

Online Course Launch

At Food Bank of the Rockies and Food Bank of Wyoming, we celebrate the diversity of our service area including cultural diversity, immigrant and refugee communities, and communities of color. We also recognize that societal inequities mean food pantry users from different cultures or races may experience additional barriers when accessing food services. In response, we've developed the Building Belonging Program online course for our partners as a guide to reduce these barriers and become more culturally responsive.

The Building Belonging Program assists Hunger Relief Partners in understanding and addressing the barriers to access that our neighbors may experience. Topics include: methods to learn about your community, cultural and religious food preferences, language barriers, ensuring simple access, culturally responsive outreach, and building trust and respect. These practices aim to support creating spaces of belonging and increasing equity in your distributions.

After three years of facilitating this training with cohorts of partners through an application process, we're thrilled to open this opportunity up to all of our Hunger Relief Partners, staff, and volunteers.

Online Course

[You can sign up for the course on our training platform, NeoGov, and follow along via our new course guide. Available in English and Spanish](#)



Contact CRFI@foodbankrockies.org for further information

Building Belonging Resource Library

By completing the Building Belonging course, your organization gains access to the Building Belonging resource library at each of our distribution centers. Books and equipment are available for you to borrow in support of your organization's implementation of these best practices.

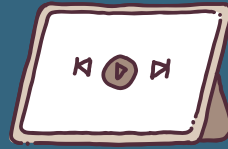


Translation Devices

Pocketalk handheld translation devices are available to support your organization in addressing language barriers through two-way voice and text translation across 82 languages.

iPads

Available for neighbor surveys, focus groups, and engagement activities.



Books

Design for Belonging

How to Build Inclusion and Collaboration in Your Communities
by Susie Wise

A practical, illustrated guide to using the tools of design to create feelings of inclusion, collaboration, and respect in groups of any type or size — a classroom, work team, international organization — from Stanford University.

Belonging brings out the best in everyone. Whether you're a parent, teacher, community organizer, or leader of any sort, your group is unlikely to thrive if the individuals don't feel welcomed, included, and valued for who they are.

Reinventing Food Banks and Pantries

New Tools to End Hunger
by Katie Martin

In *Reinventing Food Banks and Pantries*, Katie Martin argues that if handing out more and more food was the answer, we would have solved the problem of hunger decades ago. Martin instead presents a new model for charitable food, one where success is measured not by pounds of food distributed but by lives changed. The key is to focus on the root causes of hunger. When we shift our attention to strategies that build empathy, equity, and political will, we can implement real solutions.

Design Social Change

Take Action, Work Toward Equity, and Challenge the Status Quo
by Lesley-Ann Noel

Discover design strategies for using your own unique social identities and experiences as inspiration to challenge the status quo and create the kind of lasting change that leads to greater equity and social justice, from Stanford University.

Who are you? What motivates you as a changemaker? What forces are preventing you (and others) from thriving? These questions are essential to the work of creating social change, and they are exactly what *Design Social Change* asks you to explore.