

What's The Big Idea Results



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2024 Charlotte Ideas Festival



Our Idea

**NONPROFIT
GROCERY STORE**



WHAT'S THE BIG IDEA?

Open a full-service nonprofit grocery store to empower the community.

HELLO
my name is

**ANGELA
GRAY**

WHY IS IT VITAL NOW?

In Mecklenburg County, over 170,000 households grapple with the persistent challenges of food insecurity.

HOW CAN IT COME TO LIFE?

We must secure funding, secure an accessible location, build community partnerships, and hire and train experienced staff.

presented by
 THE CHARLOTTE CENTER



The Big Idea Fair Results

It was such an honor to be selected to present at the Big Idea Festival and even though we didn't walk away with the most votes and the grand prize, we got to share our idea of how to make Charlotte a better place and \$250 that will go toward meeting our mission.

I want to thank those of you who were able to show up in person and those that couldn't but wanted to be, your thoughts and well wishes were felt!! And a special thanks to The Charlotte Center for the Humanities & Civic Imagination for hosting this event.

Click [here](#) to Learn More about The Big Idea Fair, below is an overview of our idea and you can watch our pitch.



SEEKING TO ADDRESS...

1. FOOD INEQUALITY

Ensuring access to fresh, healthy food and educating on purchasing, preparing, and storing nutritious food affordably.

2. SOCIAL JUSTICE

Empowering the community to take ownership and operate the grocery store. Hiring and providing training opportunities, including individuals facing challenges in securing stable employment.

3. UPWARD MOBILITY

Providing job training at all levels as well as scholarships and living wages for all.

4. CLIMATE CHANGE

Reducing harmful impacts to the environment by minimizing food waste, reducing the distance food travels, and implementing energy-efficient solutions.

5. NEW BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

Leveraging strategic partnerships with other nonprofits, we aim to cultivate and support the growth of food-based businesses within the community.

6. HEALTH COMMUNITIES

Fostering healthier communities through afterschool programs, cooking classes, and access to in-house dieticians; including personalized guidance on shopping, healthy food prescriptions, and expert advice on nutrition-related inquiries.



NONPROFIT FULL-SERVICE GROCERY STORE

<http://www.ricsmarket.org>



Watch our Pitch

Visit our Website

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