Community Development & Food

John Waite, Executive Director

The FCCCDC mission is to stimulate a more vital, rural economy, to maximize community control over our future economic destiny, and to expand opportunities for low and moderate-income residents.
The Western MA Food Processing Center’s mission is to promote economic development through entrepreneurship, provide opportunities for sustaining local agriculture, and promote best practices for food producers.
What’s Cooking in the FPC?
What We Do

• Business planning, technical assistance, resource access
• Feasibility Studies, Prototype & Product Development, Kitchen Rental, Co-Packing options
• FDA, USDA & Organic Certified
• Pioneer Valley Vegetable Venture- season extension for farm to school~ freezing and canning produce
Our Impact

- **Over 400 members** have used the facility since 2001
- Over 30 current food entrepreneurs & 16 active farm businesses
- **100’s of thousands** of pounds of vegetables processed
- Thousands of students fed local vegetables
- Alumni who started and grew and created jobs:
  - Real Pickles
  - Hillside Pizza
  - Artisan Beverage Co-op
  - Appalachian Naturals
  - Chubby’s Sauce
Cooking 200 gallons of Tomato Sauce

Cooking Apple Sauce and Apple Butters
Pioneer Valley Vegetables
Farm to Freezer
Prototypes and Product Development

Scale up your recipe and turn it into a commercial product with the help of product development teams.

Prepare your recipe in weights and check the ratios!

Have your product tested by food scientists

Is it acidified, formulated acid, low acid, fermented?

Get your process reviewed and approved by the FDA
Rentals & Co-Packing Services

Learn to use the production facility on your own.

or

Have a team of trained food service manufactures make your product for you, to your specs, so you can spend time on marketing and sales.

There are pros & cons with both choices
Business Assistance

Concept to Market

• Production and Packaging

Pricing your Products
Promotion and Marketing

Distribution and Place
Have you seen these products?
Regional Rental Kitchens

Several types of shared-use kitchens are available.
Western MA Food Processing Center

Questions?
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