

Food Deserts Are A Social Justice Issue

They are also a symptom of a larger economic problem

Communities that are well resourced do not have food deserts. If the issues of economic inequalities are solved then, the symptoms will also go away.

Economist Peter Drucker divides society into three sectors. They are the public or government sector, the private or business sector, and the nonprofit or social sector.

In order for the sectors to work they need fuel. They need money. The same thing that is needed on a macro-level is also needed on a micro-level. Disinvested communities (places that have had resources taken out but have not had resources put in) have financial resources. These types of areas do not have the mechanisms to take their resources and circulate money through their community.

It is like what a carburetor does for a car. A carburetor is a device that mixes air and fuel for internal combustion engines in the proper air-fuel ratio for combustion. Without a carburetor a car will not go. Sometimes, in order to start an engine that has not been used in a while, you have to pour a little gas into the carburetor. The gas mixes with the air that the engine fires up. Once the engine is running the pump in the carburetor takes over and pumps the gas.

Community-owned grocery stores are financial carburetor for communities. By design, they are a mechanism to circulate money within a community multiple times. The store yields the buying power of residents and circulates the money back into the community.

Every community needs a carburetor, an institution that focuses on circulating money within the community.



WHO WE ARE

The Penny Foundation is a Birmingham, Alabama-based, 501(c)(3) community chest working to eliminate economic inequality in the African-American community. The Foundation connects people, organizations and resources - through technology and innovation - in the areas of education, economic development and community development.

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Right now, the Penny Foundation seeks to raise \$50,000. Funds will go towards startup capital to solidify the initial location, open the store and complete renovations. It will take a collaborative effort of community, government and the private sector to achieve this initiative. Steps are currently being taken to accomplish our goal.

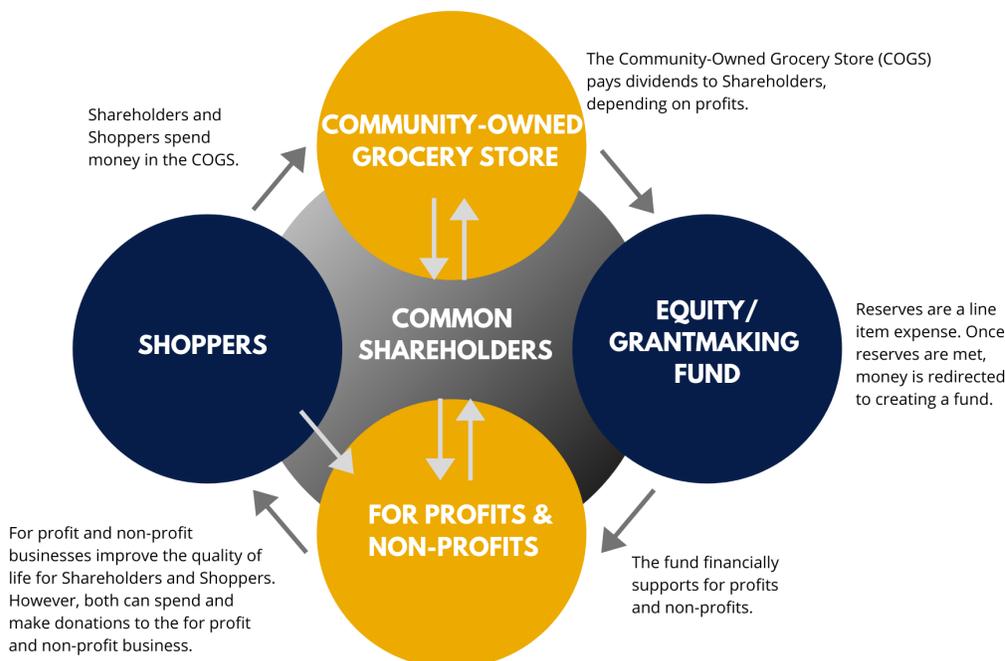
Individuals can support the stores development now by texting the word **OWNERSHIP** to **44-321**.

The initial store will have its grand opening in the first quarter of 2021. To learn more about how to get involved visit pennyfoundation.org/cogs.

OUR WHY

Inspired by The Penny Savings Bank, The Penny Foundation is a nonprofit organization focused on building community wealth and resources. Currently, the Foundation has developed programs such as community-owned grocery stores, Future Forward and Our Voice Our Time.

THE COGS MODEL



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