2017
Annual Report
Rescuing Leftover Cuisine
Our Mission

To become the world’s most widely used solution for companies and individuals to eliminate food waste in their communities, making food rescue sustainable and universal, and hunger a thing of the past.

Our Vision

RLC’s vision is that one day, all restaurants and food businesses will donate their excess food instead of throwing it away.

Elimination of hunger and zero food waste is RLC’s ultimate vision,
Dear supporters,

Thank you for making 2017 another successful year for RLC. In 2017, our volunteers have rescued over 792,796.49 pounds of food, an amount exponentially higher than in 2013, 6829 lbs of food. Every day, even in the rain and snow, they deliver nutritious, delicious food on foot to those less fortunate.

2017 was also the year of many exciting initiatives. We organized RLC Restaurant Week for the first time this year to shine the spotlight on our restaurant partners for committing to reduce food waste. We also started an education series to advocate for reducing food waste and a monthly donation program to make fundraising more efficient. We want these initiatives to help our supporters think creatively about how to support reducing food waste while honoring the spirit of taking actions to make meaningful difference that powers RLC.

Our organization relies on the grassroots support of the whole community to function so we deeply value every investment of time and money in our cause. This year annual report will show that each investment is worthwhile.

I am beyond proud of what RLC has been able to achieve over 2017 and I am thankful for your support in making the vision I had 5 years ago a reality. Still, I know that there is much more to be done. As you read this letter, I hope you will be inspired to continue taking actions to reduce food waste and feed the hungry.

Thank you for again for supporting the effort of rescuing food and delivering delicious meals to the hungry. Thank you for being a part of the solution to food waste and hunger!

Robert Lee,
Founder & CEO
Our network of volunteers reached over 7000. Each of them are essential to our food rescue efforts.

RLC opened 3 new branches: Atlanta, Tulsa and Amarillo.

The first RLC Restaurant Week happened in September 2017. For a week, our supporters pledged to only eat at restaurants that partner with RLC to show appreciation for their commitments.

We started Full Plate Fund, a monthly donation program. Recurring donations supporting Full Plate Fund will help us spend less time on fundraising, more time on rescuing food.

Our CEO was listed as a Forbes 30 Under 30 social entrepreneurs. We are proud to have him leading our movement.

2017 HIGHLIGHTS
Food waste in America statistics:

01. 40% of food in the US goes to waste.
02. About $133 billion pounds of food or $161 billion worth of food is thrown away each year.
03. 1 in 7 Americans are food insecure.
04. Food waste is the largest single municipal going to landfills and quickly generate methane.
05. Landfills is the 3rd largest source of methane in the US.


RLC Facts 2017:

01. RLC rescued 792,496.49 pounds of food.
02. RLC fed 660,414 meals to the hungry.
03. RLC reduced 297,186 pounds of CO2 equivalent.
RLC has 8130 volunteers

RLC branches

- Miami, FL
- Atlanta, GA
- Portland, OR
- Massachusetts
- Washington DC
- Mid-Hudson, NY
- Tulsa, OK
- Albany, NY
- LA, CA
- Newark, NJ
- Oakland, CA
- Niskayuna, NY
- Chicago, IL
- Amarillo, TX
- San Francisco, CA
- New York, NY
- Hillsborough, NJ
Almost all food rescues are done by volunteers. Listen to a story from our volunteer, Kelly Luo, on why Kelly kept volunteering with us week after week:

“I first came across RLC during a period in my life when I was struggling to figure out where I belonged. I had been on my high school track team for 3 years, and had been doing track for 6 years. So when I chose to leave the team, I had nothing to occupy my time after school and felt estranged from my friends, who were my teammates. I went on a long and brutal search for volunteering and job opportunities, but they were all too far from where I lived, or took place while I had school, or were not within my fields of interest. Some did sound nice, but required a long commitment that I, at the time, was not ready to give. Then a stroke of luck led me to RLC, and it seemed perfect; I could choose which events I wanted to sign up for, there were many events near where I lived, and the events didn’t last too long. I went ahead and signed up for my first event.

On the day of the event, it was just me and the lead rescuer. She was nice and sweet and we talked the entire walk to the Bowery Mission. It was mostly me bombarding her with questions about RLC, but she listened very patiently and answered them all. When I went home, I signed up for another event for later that week. The second time, the lead rescuer was an RLC intern, so she was able to tell me more details about RLC. I felt so inspired and impressed by the work RLC had done that I asked my lead rescuer about how to become a lead rescuer. Once she made sure I met the requirements (at least 16 years old, attended at least 2 events), she gave me Margarita’s email and said I could speak with her about becoming a lead rescuer. Immediately after we parted ways, I sent Margarita an email and my dreams came true.

Even if I weren’t a lead rescuer, I would say that RLC has been one of the most transforming experiences of my life. I have loved meeting new volunteers, hearing their stories, and seeing the smiles at the homeless shelters. It feels amazing to have the ability to make such a direct and positive impact on so many people’s lives, and actually take action towards ending a global issue. RLC has made me a lot more conscious about food waste, and has rubbed off on me outside of RLC events as well. I currently work at a poke place (poke is a Hawaiian dish that resembles a sushi salad), and previously, when there were incorrectly-made bowls or pre-ordered bowls that were not picked up, they would be thrown away. However, after I joined RLC, I started to donate these bowls to a homeless man that I saw after I got off the train for work. Presently, unlike most lead rescuers, I do not have a designated weekly event, but I continue to give bowls to the man outside the train station whenever I can. I hope that when I go off to college, I can bring everything RLC has taught me, and maybe even expand RLC to my college city! I would love to stay involved with RLC for the rest of my lifetime, and inspire others around me to do so as well. It is such a phenomenal organization, and I am so proud to be a part of it.”
Partner Food Donors who joined the mission of reducing food waste by donating their leftover food to RLC:

3 Guys From Brooklyn
Addepar
AIG
Baked
Bauer
Between the Bread (Bryant Park)
Bittersweet
Black Seed Bagels (Financial District)
Bloglovin’
Bo’s Bagels
Boundless Plains Espresso
Breads Bakery (Lincoln Center)
Breads Bakery (Union Square)
Brody’s Catering & Events
Bunker Vietnamese
Cafe Fresco
Cask Bar & Kitchen
Ceci Cela (Williamsburgh)
City Catering & Cafe
Commonbond
Convene (730 3rd Avenue)
Cosme
Datadog
Davidson Kempner
Dig Inn Hell’s Kitchen
Dig Inn Midtown East
Dig Inn Village
Digital Ocean
Evoke Research & Consulting
Flow Traders
Fooda
HQ Capital
Inday
Latin Beet Kitchen
Liquidnet Holdings
Little Mo
Little Skips
Local Leaf
Managed by Q
Market Ipanema
Mini Melanie
Moda Operandi
Mssng Peces
Neil’s Coffee Shop
Newark Airport
NewsCred
NYU Stern
Oath
POST
Purslane Catering
Pushcart Coffee
Queens Comfort
Raclette
Raymi
Salt & Bone Smokehouse
Sidewalk Labs
Sit & Wonder
Sons of Thunder
Stack Overflow
Stephen Colbert
Sunac Natural Williamsburg
The Daily Show with Trevor Noah
The Pixie and the Scout
The Shefa School
thoughtbot
Tom’s
Two Forks
Vineapple Cafe
Vinegar Hill House
VTS Bryant Park
Warby Parker
Work & Co
Yura
Partner human services agencies who take the food RLC volunteer delivered to serve the hungry:

Bowery Mission
Judson Memorial Church
MASBIA of Boro Park
Urban Pathways
Astoria Baptist Church HQ
Services for the Underserved Brooklyn
Xavier Mission
Bowery Men’s Shelter
Bowery Rescue Mission (BRC)
Calvary Baptist Church
Fifth Avenue Presbyterian Church
Hartley House
Helene & BJ’s Place
Hudson Guild Elliott Center
Jan Hus Presbyterian Church
Moravian Open Door
Northside Senior Center
NY Common Pantry
NYC Rescue Mission
Riverside Church
Southside Community Mission
Astoria Baptist Church

St John’s Bread & Life
The Door
The Legacy Center
Travelers Hotel
Unitarian Church of All Souls
MASBIA Soup Kitchen Network
St. Peter’s Church
Stephen Wise Free Synagogue
Next Step Men’s Shelter
Catholic Charities Neighborhood Services
NYC Family Justice Center
All Angels Episcopal Church
First Baptist Church
Here There & EVERYwhere
Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church
Bethel Seventh-day Adventist Church
Brown Memorial Baptist Church
Mayor’s Office to Combat Domestic Violence
Our goals in 2018

- We aim to add 350 more food rescue opportunities to our weekly calendar.
- We aim to recruit and engage 350 more lead rescuers.
- We aim to rescue 1,000,000 more pounds of food.
### Income

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Corporations</td>
<td>$22,419.72</td>
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<tr>
<td>Organizations</td>
<td>$34,115.78</td>
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<tr>
<td>Earned Income</td>
<td>$40,789.64</td>
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<tr>
<td>Foundations</td>
<td>$42,630.00</td>
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<td>Special Events</td>
<td>$60,625.83</td>
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<td>Individuals</td>
<td>$87,492.27</td>
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<td>In-kind Food Donations</td>
<td>$132,346.915</td>
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**Total** $1,611,524.39

### Expenses

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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supporting Services</td>
<td>$31,226.58</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>$50,000</td>
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<td>Program Services</td>
<td>$1,596,974.46</td>
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**Total** $1,678,201.04

**Net assets:** $-66,658.65

**2017 FINANCIALS**
SPECIAL THANKS!

Board of Directors

Ed Casabian
Board Member
Program Committee Member

Louisa Chen
Board Member
Governance Committee Member

Solomon Choi
Board Member
Program Committee Member

Ashish Contractor
Board Member
Fundraising Committee Member

Aditi Davray
Co-Board Chair
Executive Committee Member
Co-President

Elizabeth Doherty
Board Member
Fundraising Committee Member

Ivan Ducos
Board Member
Recruitment Committee Member

Erica Toth
Board Member

Giorgia Favaretto
Board Member
Fundraising Committee Member

Robert S Frenchman
Co-Board Chair
Executive Committee Member
Co-President

Kevin Garvey
Board Member
Tech Committee Member

Carrie Goldin
Board Member
Fundraising Committee Member

Robert Lee
Board Member
Audit Committee Member

Sunit Shah
Board Member
Finance Committee Member

Paul Sun
Board Member
Finance Committee Member
Treasurer
SPECIAL THANKS!

Young Leadership Board

Welles Borie  Remi Gendron
Amanda Chan  Kavita Kamdar
Tina Cheng  Enrique Marquez
Jason Cheung  Vikram Menon
Michael Chung  Johnathan Ng
Thomas Chung  Ronald Tu
Jason Cheung  Stanzi Wight
Chris Dale  Mary Yao
Eddy Fong  Minji Cha
Jamie Foti  Eric Flaxman
Kevin Flyangolts  Steve Cho