

Taproot is Growing New Businesses

Taproot is a community kitchen dedicated to creating jobs by leveraging the abundant farm produce of San Juan County.



Taproot A Lopez Community Kitchen is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization.

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Meal in a
Mason Jar



Mentoring Entrepreneurs

Taproot has assembled a team of food industry experts to begin its farmer and value-added food producer mentoring program.

Our plan is to bring together a group of program participants and help guide them through the challenges and joys of food product creation, food safety, business set-up, pricing, marketing and other topics which participants may request.

We are beginning this process by requesting contact information from interested individuals. We intend to hold meetings via zoom or at the conference room

of the Lopez Island Family Resource Center, based on a time schedule designed to accommodate our participants' busy schedules. One-on-one mentoring sessions will also be available. Please contact us to be added to our emailing list.

Taproot strives to foster connections between food and land stewardship which sustain the health and economic stability of our community. Well paying jobs, which build upon use of local farm produce, are key to this happening. Our mentoring team is committed to achieving this goal.

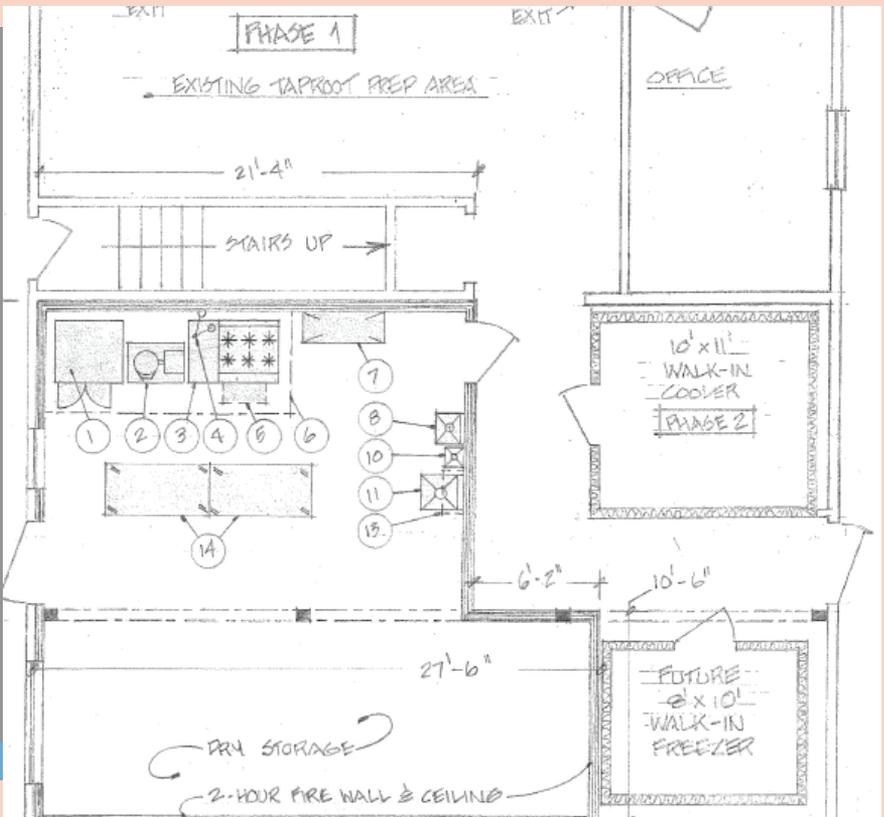
Thanks to a substantial anonymous donation, Taproot has commenced planning to build out a full-on Cook Room! This includes a gas range and oven, a commercial convection oven and space for other equipment all under a commercial fire-suppression hood. Overall functional capacity of Taproot will grow significantly with this expansion, targeted for completion during 2022.

A cook room will add to our existing kitchen facilities which already provide equipment for making soups, jams, dehydrated food products and much more! So far, Taproot has received two grants from USDA Rural Development. The first grant financed the installation

of a walk in refrigerator, which was installed in 2021. The second grant, which was received in July of 2021, will finance the installation of a back-up generator to support our refrigeration system. Taproot has been gifted a walk-in freezer by the San Juan Islands Food Hub, which we expect to be installed in 2021 as well.

Our ultimate goal is to provide full service value-added food production, refrigeration and storage facilities to businesses, families and individuals in San Juan County.

Cook Room Plans





Taproot is a WSDA certified food processing facility and a San Juan County certified commercial kitchen. Both certifications are required to sell products made at Taproot commercially. This includes direct to consumer foods sold for catering and Farmers Market venues.

Taproot is a community kitchen and food storage provider. Its primary purpose is to create and sustain jobs that feature abundant fresh farm produce of San Juan County (SJC), Washington.

Wage levels of SJC residents are among the lowest in Washington State. Housing costs are among the highest. SJC needs jobs that can provide residents financial security and businesses that can leverage local agricultural resources to create a healthy and diverse economy. Taproot is helping provide those jobs. 2020 was Taproot's first full

year of operation as a community kitchen. It is an all volunteer organization that can only survive its initial start-up period with grants and donations. Please donate by visiting our website or sending a check to our Taproot Community Kitchen at PO Box 551 Lopez Island, WA 98261

Scan this code with your phone camera to reach lopeztaproot.org

