

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Queens Harvest Food Co-op Wants YOU to Eat Well

Long Island City, New York, June 8, 2010 – [Queens Harvest Food Co-op](#), slated to open near the end of 2011, is entering its second year of planning and is recruiting members and volunteers to help make the project, which will bring healthy, affordable food to western Queens, a reality. The next general public meeting will be held on **Monday, June 21st** from 7:00-9:00 pm, at **Queenswest Arts Loft**, 21-25 44th Ave, Suite 105, in Long Island City ([click here for a map](#)). All are invited to attend.



The [Queens Harvest Food Co-op](#) recently adopted a working model that will enable anyone, regardless of membership or volunteer status, to shop there. The main difference between a food co-operative and a regular grocery store is that the members own the store, self-dictating pricing, sourcing and membership. Unlike the [some](#) other co-ops in the city, which operate on a “closed model”, in which only working members may shop, the [Queens Harvest Food Co-op](#) will be open to the public. Shoppers who choose to volunteer their time to help run the store will get a discount, and busy shoppers who do not have time to volunteer will pay market prices. Reflecting the economic diversity of Western Queens, co-op organizers hope that this model will allow as many people as possible to enjoy the benefits of co-op shopping.

This working model reflects the guiding principles of the co-op, which include social responsibility, sustainability, and community. The [Queens Harvest Food Co-op](#) will provide products affordable to all community members, employ socially responsible practices and product sourcing, and aim to accept food assistance programs (such as WIC and SNAP). Greener than your average grocery, the co-op will also employ sustainable practices, such as buying and selling minimally packaged products and selling items in bulk bins, support and purchase from independent, local, sustainable and organic sources wherever practical and possible, and be built and operate as environmentally responsibly as possible. For the community, the co-op plans to offer educational opportunities and resources for healthy living, social responsibility and sustainability, as well as to honor diversity and be a welcoming place for all people.

[Queens Harvest Food Co-op](#) (www.queensharvestcoop.com) invites you to our next meeting to learn more about the project. We have a need for enthusiastic volunteers from all walks of life and worlds of experience. Please email info@queensharvestcoop.com for more information or to RSVP for the June 21st General Meeting at 7:00 pm, at Queenswest Arts Loft, 21-25 44th Ave, Suite 105, in Long Island City.

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For press inquiries only:

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