



# Quarterly 5 in 5 Leadership Update

Dear Agency Partners,

As someone who grew up in poverty, I can relate to the feeling of not having enough, whether that be time, money or connection. In the present day, I still struggle with this feeling. You may ask, what does this have to do with anything? I say it's everything. It's called a scarcity mindset, but for many of our neighbors, it's not just a mindset— it's reality. Having to focus heavily on meeting basic needs of affording food, housing and bills is the reality of many that we serve.

In the height of the pandemic, there was a lot of commentary on what the “new normal” would be. At the start, I thought things would return to how they were before. Now, I realize that isn't the case. The pandemic was a traumatic experience for us all. Now that we are on the other side of it, we have to determine what the “new normal” will be. My ask is that we are intentional in this thought process and that we put our neighbors at the center of all that we do.

If you've ever visited Three Square, you may have noticed that there are inspirational quotes on the walls. I find myself reading them over and over because they keep me focused on the “why.” I read one just the other day that I hadn't noticed before, and it made me think of you. “The people who give you their food give you their heart” (Cesar Chavez).

The food you give is an extension of your heart and soul. In the words of the late Tina Turner, “you're simply the best!”

Tai McIntosh, MBA

## Team Spotlight:

### Dustin Parks | Community Engagement Manager



Next month, I will celebrate my six-year anniversary with Three Square. I started off in the warehouse building agency orders and loading those on outbound trucks for delivery. After a year and a half, I transitioned over to Retail Rescue, which gave me the opportunity to work directly with our agency partners. I enjoy the connections I've made with our partners in the community who are in turn making the work that I do with our donors impactful. Relationship building is an essential function of my job as it is instrumental in diverting perfectly consumable food from the landfill and into the homes of neighbors that rely on those fruitful connections. I advocate for our agencies on a daily basis to maximize that flow of food from donor to neighbor. I am also responsible for coordinating the logistics of that movement with our transportation team along with our partners that service our donors directly. Something that I hope our agencies keep at top of mind is that everything we do, we do for them.

### Emily Feak | Volunteer Manager



I have been with Three Square for three years now and began my work in the special events and banquets department at Three Square. When I heard an opening was happening with the Volunteer Team, I knew that volunteer work was where was my heart was. My background in psychology along with volunteering throughout my college career had created a customer service mindset and helped pave the way for my career.

I have the privilege to work with volunteers daily who are trying to make a difference and end hunger in Southern Nevada. What I love the most about my work is that I get to know our volunteers and their stories, background and why they began volunteering with us. I also love that my children see the work Three Square does, and my three-year-old understands that I am working to make a positive impact. I overheard her talking to a teacher at preschool, and she told them, "My mommy works at the food bank, and she helps feed people."

I hope that the agencies understand and see that as a food bank, we are committed to being transparent and equitable with regards to food, resources and volunteer support. We are committed to our agencies and the work we do with them.

## Rielly Dumford | Agency Services Manager



I have been working with Three Square for three years. I started at Three Square as an intern for the Senior Hunger Programs, where I began working with our agency partners. I then started working in the Senior Hunger Programs, where I worked closely with a group of agency partners to build relationships with them and offer compliance support.

In January 2022, I began overseeing the general network of agency partners through Agency Services. I currently oversee the team of Agency Services Coordinators, where we work to strengthen the relationship between Three Square and our network of agency partners. I endeavor for our team to provide a culture of support and equity amongst all those we work with.

I love that every time I visit an agency partner I get to learn something new about them and the work that they do. Our agency partners take such pride in their work, and I love being a part of that.

### **FYI: Agency Partner Council**

Three Square's Agency Partner Council will commence soon. We have reviewed all interested partners and narrowed down regional agency representatives from our entire service area. We look forward to this collaboration in hopes to better meet the hunger need in our community.

### **FYI: Fund for Healthy Nevada Grant**

**Sign:** Three Square was recently awarded the Fund for Healthy Nevada Grant (FHN). The funds will be used to purchase fresh produce from July 1, 2023- June 30, 2025.

**Implementation:** A signed grant agreement is required to receive produce purchased with these funds. Please send questions to [agencyervices@threesquare.org](mailto:agencyervices@threesquare.org).

### **FYI: Food Product Dating**

A "**Best if Used By/Before**" date indicates when a product will be of the best flavor or quality. It is not a purchase or safety date.

A "**Sell-By**" date tells the store how long to display the product for sale for inventory management. It is not a safety date.

A "**Use-By**" date is the last date recommended for the use of the product while at peak quality. It is not a safety date except for when used on infant formula.

A "**Freeze-By**" date indicates when a product should be frozen to maintain peak quality. It is not a purchase or safety date.

### **Are Foods Safe to Eat After the Date Passes?**

With an exception of infant formula, if the date passes during home storage, a product should still be safe and wholesome if handled properly until the time spoilage is evident. Spoiled foods will develop an off odor, flavor or texture due to naturally occurring spoilage bacteria. If a food has developed such spoilage characteristics, it should not be eaten and should be discarded.

### **Can Food Be Donated After the Date Passes?**

Yes. The quality of perishable products may deteriorate after the date passes but the products should still be wholesome if not exhibiting signs of spoilage. Food banks, other charitable organizations, and consumers should evaluate the quality of the product prior to its distribution and consumption to determine whether there are noticeable changes in wholesomeness.

### **Take Action: Client-choice Food Pantry Model**

A model that allows our neighbors the opportunity to select their own food similar to that of a grocery store. This model gives neighbors the opportunity to choose their own food, which gives them a sense of dignity and control. It also limits waste since many tend to not take food they won't use and allows them to tailor the assistance to meet their unique situation.

Email your Agency Services Coordinator at [agencyervices@threesquare.org](mailto:agencyervices@threesquare.org) for more information.

### **Take Action: Agency Partner & Food Rescue Agreements**

**Sign:** Agency Partners will receive an invitation to sign the new and improved Agency Partner and Food Rescue Agreements soon. Agency Partners are strongly encouraged to ask clarifying questions related to updates via email.

Please send questions to [agencyervices@threesquare.org](mailto:agencyervices@threesquare.org).

**Implementation:** Agreements will now have a start and end date.

### **Take Action: Pick-ups & Direct Rescue**

**Three Square Warehouse:** We are looking for more Agency Partners to pick up orders from our warehouse. If you have the capacity to pick up your orders safely, please email your Agency Representative as soon as possible.

**Direct Rescue:** If you currently receive direct deliveries and have the capacity to safely pick up instead, please email your Agency Representative as soon as possible.

Call the Three Square Center at [702 765-4030](tel:7027654030). Our call center is open Monday–Friday from 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. (with the exception of holidays).

## [Events & Webinars](#)

### **Agency Partner Council Quarterly Meeting**

September 13, 2023

### **Civil Rights Training**

October 2, 2023|2:00 p.m.-3:30 p.m.  
(In person)

October 3, 2023|8:30 a.m.-10:00 a.m.  
(Virtual)

## Upcoming Deadlines

### **Monthly Statistics**

#### **Deadlines:**

June: Wednesday, July 5, 2023

July: Saturday, August 5, 2023

August: Tuesday, September 5, 2023

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