

FOOD RESCUE

John Williamson: Food Rescue Executive Director Biography

John Williamson is an accomplished motivational, educational, and inspirational public speaker and author on the subject of the food waste crisis and social entrepreneurship. Inquiries can be made about scheduling John to speak at your next event at <http://www.foodrescue.net/contact.html>. All who attend will leave believing that they can change the world and help solve the global food waste crisis.

John is the current Executive Director and founder of Food Rescue and K-12 Food Rescue originating in Noblesville, IN. He founded Food Rescue in 2007, and holds a Bachelors Degree in Physical Education from Ball State University. In 2008, he was named Hamilton County's Citizen of the year by the Indianapolis Star, Noblesville Ledger, and St. Vincent's Hospital, and has been named an Indiana Hero by the Indiana Pacers organization, and a Jefferson Award Winner for public service in 2012 from Citizens Gas and WRTV. John is also the co-founder and vice president of the Heritage Classic Foundation founded in 1997, and has raised over \$350,000 for the Multiple Sclerosis Society since 1999 with the Heritage Classic Memorial Golf Outing.

John was an elementary public school teacher in Carmel Clay Schools from 1990-1999 at Cherry Tree Elementary, as well as Prairie Trace Elementary. He left teaching in 1999 to start a career in Real Estate. He is a member of the Metropolitan Indianapolis Board of Realtors, and owns his own Real Estate Company, Advocate Realty. He is a member at Grace Church in Noblesville, and a frequent volunteer of Circle City Relief and The Heritage Classic Foundation in Indianapolis, Indiana.

As an organization, Food Rescue received the 2014 Regional Award from the EPA's Food Recovery Challenge, and received the 2015 Ecological Integrity Award from Earth Charter Indiana. Food Rescue is listed by the USDA and EPA as one of only a few organizations to contact to become engaged in the food waste crisis by building or supporting local food recovery efforts. In partnership with the Indiana State Department of Health, and The Indiana Department of Education, Indiana became the second state in the U.S. to produce government guidelines for both school food recovery and school "share tables." Food Rescue also serves on a joint task force of The Mitch Daniels Leadership Foundation, focused on reducing hunger and infant mortality in Indianapolis. Food Rescue has connected over 200 restaurants and over 200 school cafeterias with caring agencies such as food pantries nationwide, resulting in millions of meals being preserved annually since 2007. His unique story about stumbling onto the food waste issue and how a simple afternoon of investigating the problem changed his life and put millions of meals back into our food supply chain through simple educational and advocacy efforts is both educational and inspirational. At the end of 2015, his book "How a Nobody Can Change the World" will be released on FoodRescue.net

John has been married to his wife Carol, a teacher and Technology Department Coordinator at Heritage Christian Schools, for 23 years, and has 3 daughters, Ellen 19, Hope 16, and Abby 12.

John has been a featured speaker at Indiana State Nutrition Association Convention, Indiana Recycling Coalition Conference, Indiana State Township Trustees Association Conference, Taylor University Promising Ventures "From the Grounds Up", A Little Caesars Corporate Meeting In Detroit, and many schools across the state of Indiana promoting K-12 Food Rescue.

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