

Profile: Logan Square Kitchen

PRI Tour-May 11, 2010

Organization Overview

Logan Square Kitchen (LSK) consists of two main offerings: a shared commercial kitchen and a dining room, which is home to a variety of sustainable celebrations.

Known as a "contract kitchen," LSK gives budding food entrepreneurs access to a licensed commercial kitchen on an hourly basis--long before they could afford facilities of their own. LSK serves as an economic engine for the Logan Square community, and gives local talent a place to develop.

Social Benefits

Economic development: The shared-use kitchen allows start-up food businesses to begin operating in a legal commercial facility, which is available on an hourly basis. It helped to revitalize the Logan Square neighborhood by investing and restoring a previously vacant storefront.

Public health: LSK is home to Glorious Food, a 501(c)(3) corporation, that will teach diet as disease prevention to community residents.

Environmental sustainability: Energy-efficiency workshops presented in conjunction with the Green Chicago Restaurant Coop. The facility is currently undergoing LEED-Gold Commercial Interior Certification.

CCLF's Role

CCLF provided Logan Square Kitchen with a \$250,000 construction loan/mini-permanent mortgage in 2009 to cover construction costs associated with the build-out of the kitchen space, major equipment purchases, build-out of the dining room space and moderate rehab of the residential units on second and third floor.

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