

Melinda Packman

- Target ugly food boxes, such as imperfect produce and others, to low income communities, food subsidy programs, senior meal programs, etc.
- Introduce public school gardens as part of nutrition education programs particularly in economically challenged districts; connect farmers to schools as a way to improve knowledge and connect the community
- Pick lessons and capitalize on successes from implemented city, county, state or international programs, such as Detroit, Michigan's model for urban food security and community garden networks that can be adopted in Washington; or best practices implemented as part of USAID's food security activities for vulnerable populations
- Challenge local governments, city and county levels, to develop solutions and implement trials that are customized to their specific location needs/resources; state government could then supplement as appropriate
- Promote use of irradiation technology to preserve food: it inhibits spoilage before consumption, delays ripening, increases shelf life, helps control pests
- Support and engage in WSU's microwave-assisted thermal sterilization (MATS) technology; embrace new science and technology impacts by introducing and connecting them to farmers
- Prepared meals are increasing in consumption; revisit approach to this industry to respond to increased demand and ease on end users, offering more nutritional options to communities in need
- Work with local grocers to identify categories that are long-term losers contributing most to food waste and make an exit plan; change investment strategy
- Critically review analysis of the WA food supply chain and make targeted changes holistically