

# Learning Grounds: Reducing Waste and Hunger in Schools



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# Important catalysts

RIDE Awards Nearly \$2.7 Million in "Get the Foam Out" Grants to Eliminate Styrofoam Waste in Schools



# Chariho Regional School District at-a-glance

- Where is Chariho?
- Launched RI School Recycling Project's Get Food Smart Program
  - Richmond Elementary School launched in September 2024
  - Charlestown Elementary School launched in February 2025
  - Chariho Regional High School launched in February 2025
  - Chariho Alternative Learning Academy launched in March 2025
  - Chariho Regional Middle School launched by June 2025 (*Anticipated*)
  - Ashaway Elementary School launched by June 2025 (*Anticipated*)

# Chariho Regional School District at-a-glance

## **Food Share cart launched at Chariho High School (January '24)**

- Has diverted over 2,400 pieces of hand fruit for hungry/food insecure students

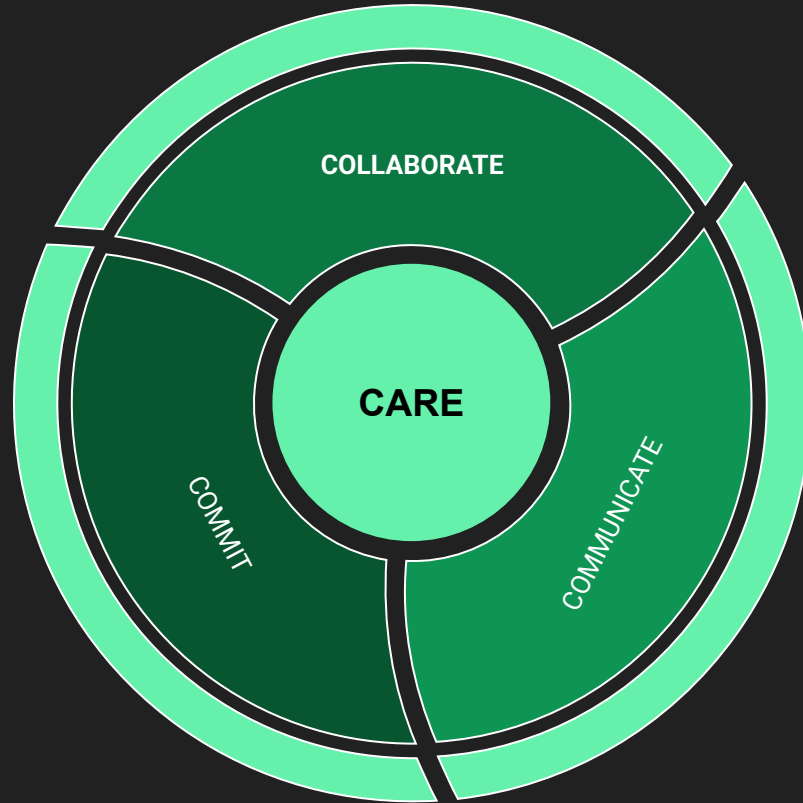
## **Shift from styrofoam to reusable trays at CHS and CMS (December '24)**

- Reduced landfill waste by volume from 19 bags to 9 bags (53% decrease)

## **Shift to food waste diversion at CHS (February '24)**

- Reduced landfill waste by volume from 9 bags to 2 bags (78% decrease)
- Overall landfill waste by volume decreased 89% from December '24 to February '25

# The four C's of reducing waste and hunger



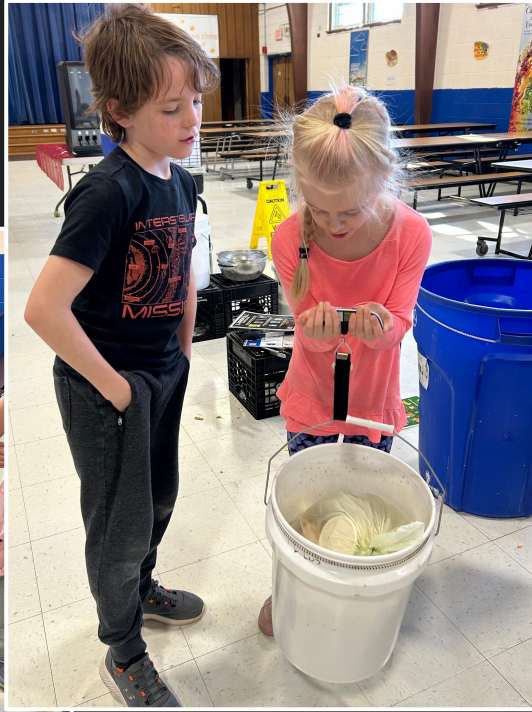
# Collaborate







# Commit

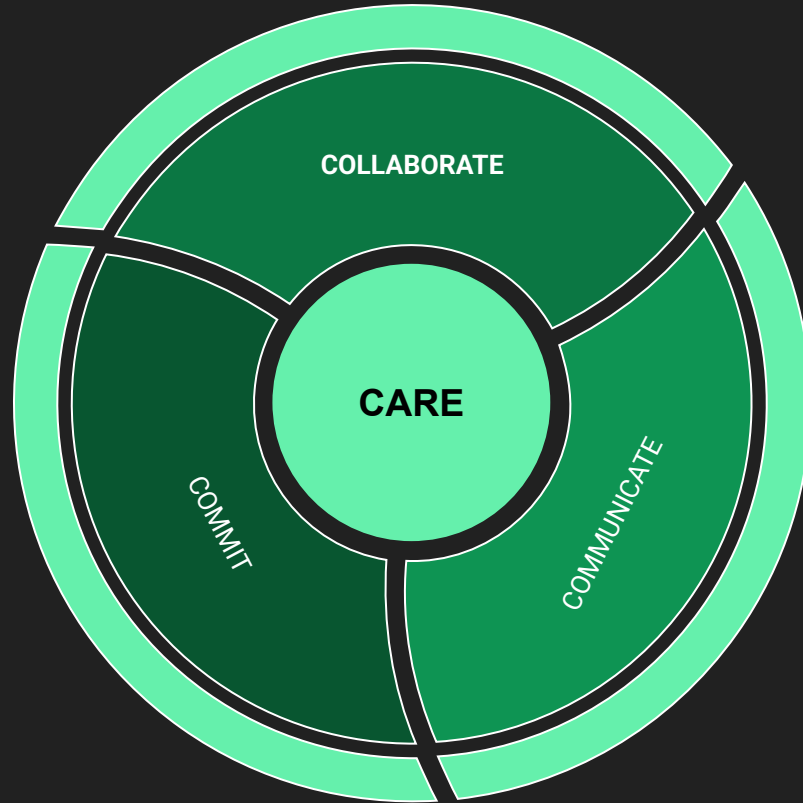




# Care



# The four C's of reducing waste and hunger



# Thank you

- ❖ Rhode Island College
- ❖ Rhode Island Compost Conference and Trade Show Organizers
- ❖ Rhode Island Resource Recovery Corporation
- ❖ Rhode Island School Recycling Project
- ❖ The United States Department of Agriculture and Boise State University
- ❖ Our 20 Chariho High School interns
- ❖ Kim Daigle, Richmond Elementary School teacher
- ❖ Antonia Lucier, Director of Chartwells for Chariho Regional School District
- ❖ Susie Scanapieco, STEM Specialist
- ❖ Catherine Stahl, Richmond Elementary School teacher
- ❖ Chariho custodial staff
- ❖ Countless other Chariho staff, students and community members

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