



LIZZY APPLEBY, MSW

I first learned about food co-ops while attending school in North Carolina. Company Shops Market opened during my last year at school, and it had a tremendous impact on the way that students in that small college town interacted with community members. It became a place where individuals from all backgrounds and experiences could connect with each other over what produce was in season, new recipes, and community events.

After I returned to Chicago for graduate school, I missed that community hub. I discovered Chicago Market on a flyer the first summer I was back, and was ecstatic to discover the possibility of a co-op like the one I had known in North Carolina. I went home and immediately became an Owner of Chicago Market.

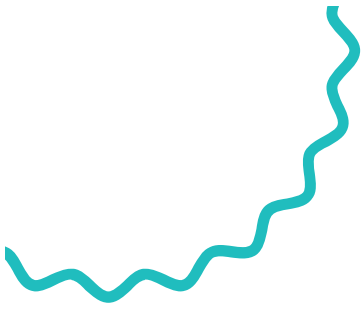
One year later, I became Chicago Market's volunteer Volunteer Coordinator, responsible for helping to match individuals with Chicago Market projects they want to support. Through this role, I've had the opportunity to meet with dozens of Owners in one-on-one meetings and through our volunteer trainings and hear what makes them excited and passionate about Chicago Market. I've also had the privilege of being able to work closely with current Board Members and understand the position of Chicago Market and how we are growing.

My experience working alongside our existing leadership has taught me that while our vision can guide us, it takes hard work, patience, and a lot of hours to make progress. In order to make Chicago Market a reality, we must mobilize large numbers of people, dialogue through our differences, and make real steps towards our future store. We need new Owners, and we need the Owners we have to continue to support our work. As a Board Member, I hope to use my skills in volunteer management and facilitation to engage our Owners even more deeply in our co-op, and my organizing and outreach skills to increase our Ownership.

As a social worker and community organizer, my background is in bringing individuals together around the things they care most about. For our community, those values are as broad as pleasure in a well-grown vegetable, more sustainable and just living, or commitment to the health of family. For me, Chicago Market represents an opportunity to create the world I wish I lived in, where honesty and community were valued at all times.

I would be honored to serve on the Board of Directors of Chicago Market and work to make the vision of an honest food community come alive.





LINN AUSTIN

Originally from Sweden, Linn enjoys living in Chicago and exploring the city's rich multicultural food scene.

Linn has been a Chicago Market board member since January 2016 and greatly appreciates her role, participating in the important job of building a local food community and planning the necessary steps towards the future Chicago Market grocery store. She would love to have the possibility to continue her involvement in the board's work also next year.

Linn has been Chicago Market Owner since March 2015. Even before joining the board she served as an active volunteer, and took charge of the first Chicago Market Pop-up market in Uptown. Upon joining the board Linn continued to manage, to date, and additional three Pop-up markets in Edgewater and Andersonville. These have been hugely successful events, which have reached out to both current and potential new owners and have proven to be good tools to recruit new co-op Owners. Linn is now busy planning the series of fall pop-ups. She is also involved in the Vendor Communication Committee, whose aim is to find new ways to communicate and be transparent about how and by who the food is produced that will be sold in our future grocery store and how the producers adhere to the Chicago Market purchasing values. Some of the committee's work has been tested and showcased at the Pop-up markets through informative vendor signs and a vendor location map.

Linn would also love to plan and organize more community building events and series of talks on various topics.

In her twenties Linn lived for 5 ½ years in France and Italy and discovered her passion for cooking and browsing farmers markets and village festivals for fresh, locally produced food.

After serving as an art curator for the Stockholm Art Council, Linn worked for 12 years with international conference management. In particular she liked her 8 years with the Stockholm-based Think Tank, Tällberg Foundation, where she provided logistic planning and program content for the Foundation's annual international forum. In the Tällberg Forum, world leaders explored pressing global topics as governance, climate change and food policy through a system's perspective.

For the last two years Linn has been living in Lakeview with her family and dedicates her time to her two sons, the Chicago Market, community work for Nettelhorst School, Lakeview Rotary club, local food pantries, and the Swedish American Museum.

In her spare time Linn likes to spend time with her family, read, travel, discover other cultures and grow veggies on her balcony. She has a life-long interest for the environment and sustainable living and likes exploring new ways of reducing her family's ecological footprint.





LARRY GAST

I'm ready for Chicago Market to open. I want to shop at our store and I bet you do too. Our neighbors also want us to open. They may not know it yet but when we launch they'll wonder how they lived without their community-owned grocery store.

How are we going to get there?

When my wife and I became Owners, we asked the Board what the most pressing need was. "More Owners." We needed to cultivate a critical mass of Northsiders who care enough about their food and where it comes from to invest in Chicago Market. Without more Owners, we can't open.

If the biggest challenge in front of Chicago Market is signing more Owners, I want to help sign more Owners. So how do we encourage a critical mass of future loyal customers to invest in us in droves?

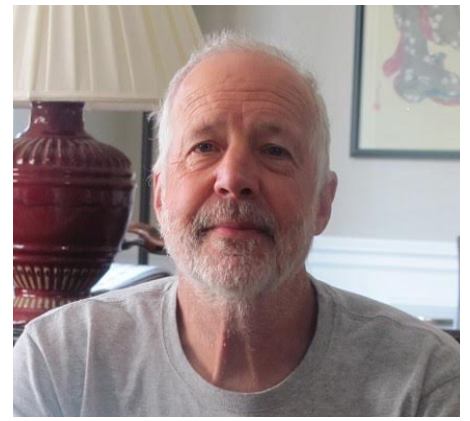
I realized that future Owners had to experience a glimpse of shopping at Chicago Market. They had to see first-hand the value it will add to our community. We had to introduce the city of Chicago to the incredible farmers and producers in the region in-person. We needed to fill our neighbors' fridges and pantries with great food. And more people needed to know we existed.

I lobbied the Board to invest more in Pop-Up Farmers' Markets and I volunteered to help. Behind the leadership of Chicago Market board member Linn Austin, I've helped plan and implement three Chicago Market Pop-Up Farmers' Markets in our community, with three more on the way for 2016. These 12-15 vendor markets are marketed through our incredible Marketing Committee and are strategically located in areas with high foot traffic. They have resulted in many "More Owners" and hundreds of walk-ins, many of whom had never heard of Chicago Market but bought bags full of groceries and suddenly cared about our co-op's future.

This is just one way I know I can help. As a member of the Chicago Market Board of Directors, I will bring continued energy towards signing More Owners and inspiring our community to invest in a very special grocery store. While a resident of Brooklyn I was a proud Park Slope Food Co-Op Owner and have seen the impact this model can have on a community. I want to make that a reality in Chicago.

Thank you.





BILL PETTY

I believe:

In the mission of The Chicago Market and I think I have the skills and life experience to help us accomplish what we have set out to do; namely open a full service grocery store that offers healthy, organic, whole foods that are primarily locally grown and produced.

That the food supply in this country in many ways has become toxic and is produced by means that are in no way sustainable.

That the only way that we can regain control over our food supply is to get involved at the local level. No one is going to do this for us; it is up to us.

That The Chicago Market Coop will be a major leader in Chicago and beyond in re-connecting people to their food and that this re-connection will lead to a greater abundance of organic, whole foods as well as farm practices that nurture our precious soil.

I have been an owner for the last two years and am currently serving on the site selection committee and the GLRP committee. I know where we stand today and I know the challenges that we face as we move forward. I am a retired general contractor so I am very knowledgeable about building and, since I am retired, I have the time that many, who are still working, do not have.





JEN VEST

As a current Board member, I am part of our marketing and owner recruitment team, which is dedicated to interacting with our Owners and actively growing our Owners. I joined Chicago Market in 2014 (Owner #532!) because I was eager to support our local food economy and to be part of a passionate community. It's been such a privilege to be part of the leadership that is working tirelessly to bring diverse experience together to accomplish our shared goal.

For me, Chicago Market is the intersection of several of my passions – the food world, which is probably obvious, but also building a business, which is what I do in my career as a marketer. I've worked in various marketing agencies for over nine years, working primarily with start-ups and small companies to help them grow their business through brand building, customer acquisition, and consumer experiences.

Together, we're already at 825+ Owners and counting, which has been an incredible feat. I'd be honored to continue to help lead us across this next chapter as we look to rapidly grow and engage our Ownership, raise funding and build strategic partnerships as we continue to gain momentum towards opening our doors and sustaining our place in the our community.

