

A Cooperative Economy

The Littleton Food Co-op is about to embark on an expansion project after just 6 years of operation. By any measure the Co-op has been a success, with over 4,700 Member-Owners and nearly \$10 million in annual sales. We employ 70 people with many of those jobs being full time. We support dozens of farmers and producers throughout the North Country, adding to the economic impact of the Co-op.

People often ask me “Why has this Co-op been so successful?” My first response is always that we have the best people. We have great staff that works hard every day to make our Food Co-op successful. Secondly I point to our business model, with a Mission Statement and Principles geared towards serving our Members and Community, not Shareholders and Corporate Officers. Our goal is to keep as many of your food dollars here in the community as possible.

Co-ops in the food industry have a long history, including the Hanover Food Co-op, one of the first in the country. But they also exist on the production side. Florida’s Natural, Cabot, Ocean Spray, Blue Diamond and Equal Exchange are all Cooperatives. Welch’s, Sunkist and Land O’ Lakes are also Co-ops, so it’s hard to avoid buying from Co-ops in your weekly food shopping. All of these Co-ops are committed to providing Consumer’s a high quality product, while giving a fair price to the farmers and producers.

The Littleton Food Co-op will remain committed to the Cooperative Principles, and the expansion is intended to provide our Members and Employees with an improved place to shop and work. We hope to maintain the small store atmosphere, and still deliver the diverse

products and great service you deserve. Thank you for your continued support.

Cooperatively,

Ed King, General Manager Littleton Food Co-op