



*"Celebrating The Culinary Arts"*

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**"25 Under 25"**  
Kansas City  
Small Business Monthly's  
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**Overland Park  
Chamber of Commerce  
Member**

**Helzberg Entrepreneurial  
Mentoring Program  
Participant**

**City of  
Overland Park Kansas  
Neighborhood  
Patronage Award**

**ACF Greater Kansas City  
Chef's Association  
Presidential Award**



**Kansas City**  
Convention & Visitors Association

Date: March 1, 2010

Summary: The Culinary Center has been reusing, repurposing and recycling since opening over 12 years ago.

In the beginning, it was the purchasing of second-hand furniture, décor and equipment. We continue to use most of these same items today and often still buy second hand.

With regards to food, we have a successful program we call "Dinners on Demand" which allows our chefs to utilize any overages we may have in food ingredients to create other dishes to put in our freezers for sale. This cuts down on food waste and allows us to also make a profit off of what may have been thrown away. In addition, our chef and his crew also make lunch for the entire staff on a daily basis with these left-over ingredients to avoid food waste.

In 2007, the office staff began reusing office paper by printing on the blank side. In 2008, we stopped offering bottled water as an option to clients. Also, we began using rechargeable AAA batteries during that same year.

We recycle the following items on a regular basis:

- Aluminum (picked up weekly by Green Express Studios)
- Office paper, magazines and junk mail (picked up weekly by Green Express Studios)
- Cardboard (dropped off into recycling dumpster provided by Downtown OP Partnership)
- Tin cans (some are taken home for curbside pick up, while others are utilized for décor as containers for flowers, marketing materials, centerpieces, etc.)
- Glass bottles are taken weekly to Ripple Glass drop off centers by various staff volunteers.
- Empty printer cartridges are recycled monthly (using Price Chopper's receptacle at 75<sup>th</sup> & Metcalf) by a staff volunteer.

Finally, we use Costco's electronic recycling program for larger items such as old computers, printers, etc.