SOLIDARITY MEMBERSHIP

GreenStar is **committed to making sure that everyone in our community can become a member of the Co-op** if they so choose, and we believe that **everyone should have access to good, nourishing food**. The **Solidarity Membership Program** supports low-income individuals in becoming Members of the Co-op and maintaining their annual membership equity payments.

The Solidarity Fund is funded by our members and other individuals who contribute equity to the fund in order to continue building a stronger and more connected community within GreenStar Food Co-op. **The allocation of Solidarity Funds is subject to the availability of funds.** It may take up to two weeks for Solidarity Membership requests to be processed.

This request is to support an INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP for one person 18 years or older. (PRINT CLEARLY)

First	MI	Last	Pronouns

Legal First, if different	MI	Legal Last, if different

Mailing Address	City	State	Zip

Preferred Phone #	Email Address*
( )	

**Providing your email address gives explicit permission for the Co-op to email you required member-owner communications, such as member equity payment reminders, voting information, and changes to bylaws or member-owner benefits, and optional promotional emails.*

GreenStar Member # (if applicable): _____

Please indicate your current GreenStar Membership status (check one):

- ☐ I am or was a GreenStar Member-Owner
- ☐ I am a current FLOWER participant or new FLOWER applicant (separate FLOWER application is required for discount)
- ☐ I've never been a GreenStar member-owner **If you're joining GreenStar through the Solidarity Membership Program you'll receive a Member Packet via US Mail; future correspondence will be sent via email.*

Solidarity Membership Agreement

I certify that I am at least 18 years of age. I understand that:

1. the allocation of Solidarity Funds is subject to the availability of funds.
2. the Solidarity Fund allocation covers one annual member-owner equity payment, extending member benefits for one year.
3. If I wish to keep my GreenStar membership active, I will need to maintain annual equity payments. If I need assistance with my annual equity payment, I will need to request Solidarity Membership equity payments annually.
4. my GreenStar membership is **an individual membership**, and the member card is valid only if used by myself. **I will not share my membership** with another adult, which would be a violation of GreenStar's member-approved bylaws.
5. a violation of the Standards of Conduct could result in the termination of my membership
6. if I withdraw my membership, I will receive only the portion of my Membership Equity that I have paid in. The Solidarity Fund equity will be returned to the Solidarity Fund pool for the use by future members.

I have read and understand the above Solidarity Membership Agreement.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Customer Service STAFF Use Only: **Application complete:** ☐ **Date Received:** _____ **Staff Initials:** _____

Member-Owner Services Only:

Membership Status: _____

Renewal Date: _____

Equity Amount Allocated: _____

Date of Allocation: _____

Allocation logged: _____

New Member Only

New Member number _____

☐ Contact Info Updated

☐ Approval Email Sent

☐ Approval USPS Sent

SOLIDARITY MEMBERSHIP

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS THE SOLIDARITY FUND?

The Solidarity Fund is an indivisible pool of revolving Co-op equity that is used to support the annual equity payments of low-income individuals to join and maintain their membership at Co-op.

WHO CAN USE THE SOLIDARITY FUNDS?

Individuals who are eligible for GreenStar's FLOWER food access discount program can apply for Solidarity Membership. Check the FLOWER brochure to see if you are eligible for FLOWER, or visit **greenstar.coop/flower/**

WHY DID GREENSTAR ESTABLISH A SOLIDARITY MEMBERSHIP PROGRAM?

GreenStar's Solidarity Membership Program exists in an effort to **create an inclusive and supportive co-op community**. We commit to making our food co-op a welcoming place for all to shop and work. The Solidarity Fund builds on the cooperative tradition of mutual aid by allowing individuals to support community members with limited incomes, and increasing access to co-op membership.

WHERE DO SOLIDARITY FUNDS COME FROM?

The Solidarity Fund is funded by our members and other community members who contribute equity to the Fund. Individuals can contribute directly to the Solidarity Fund at any time, either online or at any register. When GreenStar members elect to withdraw their membership from the co-op, they can choose to give their paid-in equity to the Solidarity Fund rather than having their equity refunded to themselves.

WHAT IF A MEMBERSHIP EXPIRES WHILE THE SOLIDARITY MEMBERSHIP IS BEING PROCESSED?

It can take up to two weeks for Solidarity Membership requests to be processed. Current members of GreenStar who plan to request Solidarity Membership should submit their requests at least two weeks in advance of their membership expiration date. No refunds will be given for discounts or deals missed if ones membership expires while awaiting funds.

WHAT HAPPENS TO ALLOCATED SOLIDARITY FUNDS GO WHEN SOMEONE WITH SOLIDARITY MEMBERSHIP LEAVES THE CO-OP?

If a member who has had Solidarity Funds allocated to their membership withdraws their membership, the value of the Solidarity Funds that were allocated to their membership will be reallocated to the Solidarity Fund pool, contributing to community wealth-building over time, and supporting other Co-op members in need.

WHAT IF A MEMBER RECEIVED SOLIDARITY MEMBER PAYMENTS, BUT CAN NOW AFFORD TO PAY THEIR OWN EQUITY?

A member whose equity payments were supported by the Solidary Fund can make their own equity payments at any time. If they wish to reallocate their Solidarity Fund payments back into the Solidarity Fund to support fellow cooperators, they can do so by contacting Member-Owner Services at 607—273—9392 ext. 126 or membership@greenstar.coop.

OTHER QUESTIONS?

Please contact Member-Owner Services at 607—273—9392 ext. 126 or membership@greenstar.coop.

MAIN STORE
770 Cascadilla St.
Ithaca, NY 14850

DEWITT
215 N. Cayuga St
Ithaca, NY 14850

COLLEGETOWN
307 College Ave
Ithaca, NY 14850

WEBSITE
www.greenstar.coop
https://greenstar.coop/flower/