



Robert L.E. Egger

Founder and President, DC Central Kitchen

Robert Egger is the Founder and President of the DC Central Kitchen, the country's first "community kitchen", where food donated by hospitality businesses and farms is used to fuel a nationally recognized culinary arts job training program, where unemployed men and women learn marketable skills while donations are converted into balanced meals. Since opening in 1989, the Kitchen has produced over 25 million meals and helped 1,000 men and women gain full time employment. The Kitchen operates its own revenue generating business, Fresh Start Catering, as well as the Campus Kitchens Project, which coordinates similar recycling/meal programs in 30 colleges or high school based kitchens.

In Washington, Robert was the founding Chair of both the Mayor's Commission on Nutrition and Street Sense, Washington's "homeless" newspaper. He was also the Co-Convener of the first Nonprofit Congress, held in Washington DC in 2006.

Robert's book on the non-profit sector, *Begging for Change: The Dollars and Sense of Making Nonprofits Responsive, Efficient and Rewarding For All*, was released in 2004 by HarperCollins. It received the 2005 McAdam Prize for "Best Nonprofit Management Book" by the Alliance for Nonprofit Management.

Robert was included in the Non Profit Times list of the "50 Most Powerful and Influential" nonprofit leaders from 2006-2009. He was the recipient of the Restaurant Association of Metropolitan Washington's 2007 "Lifetime Achievement" award and the 2004 James Beard Foundation "Humanitarian of the Year" award. He has been named an Oprah Angel, a Washingtonian of the Year, a Point of Light and one of the Ten Most Caring People in America, by the Caring Institute. He is also a 15-gallon blood donor to the American Red Cross.

Robert speaks throughout the country and internationally on the subjects of hunger, sustainability, nonprofit political engagement and social enterprise. He writes blogs and editorials to share his ideas about the nonprofit sector and the future of America. To check out Robert's most recent speaking schedule, blogs, and editorials, please visit www.robertegger.org.