



ACTIONABLE IMPACT

Impact Area: Community



FEATURED COMPANY:



COMPANY SIZE: 2-10

FOCUS: LOCAL SUPPLY CHAIN

Sourcing from local suppliers supports the surrounding community and strengthens the local economy. Companies localizing their supply chain are reducing energy use and emissions related to storage and shipping, thus minimizing their environmental footprint. Partnering with nearby businesses increases supply chain efficiency, allows more flexibility and improves coordination.

“Less than 1% of the food that we eat in Colorado is from Colorado... [Organic Sandwich Company] strives to be part of the movement to change the way people eat when they eat out. We partner with local farms when possible and even visit the farms themselves in a lot of instances.”

– Marcy Miller, Founder of Organic Sandwich Company

Since its inception at the Boulder Farmers Market, Organic Sandwich Company continues to partner with local farms and entrepreneurs. They source high quality ingredients free of chemicals, antibiotics, hormones and GMOs while supporting their local community.

HOW THEY DO IT

Organic Sandwich Company is a small, fast-casual restaurant honing in on the local food movement to make clean ingredients affordable when dining out. Their long-term working relationship with many of their producers began at the local farmers market in Boulder, Colorado years ago.

Organic Sandwich Company's deep seeded history with the farmers market community and long-term partnerships with suppliers allows them to communicate their standards through direct conversation or word-of-mouth. They work closely with [Growers Organic](#): a Denver-based food distributor connecting restaurants and grocery stores with local and regional high quality suppliers. Organic Sandwich Company explains their needs and special requests to Growers Organic who taps into their local, yet expansive network, to meet the company's needs.

Any time the business is considering a new product to sell at their store or ingredients to include on the menu, the first questions asked are, "Is it made locally?" and "Is it made with organic ingredients?" Marcy Miller, founder of Organic Sandwich Company, prioritizes natural, chemical-free, organic produce since clean ingredients are healthier for our bodies to digest and our soils to grow. Marcy gives preference to local entrepreneurs and farmers to provide them with opportunities to jumpstart their business.

BENEFITS FOR THE COMPANY

Though Organic Sandwich Company does not have an outward-facing questionnaire or documentation to pass along to their suppliers, they do include supplier preference information and partnership guidelines in their employee handbook as well as on their website. The company's well-established relationships with suppliers and mission to support local organic ingredients have created a company culture that attracts mission-aligned employees, customers and partners.

RESOURCES

- Organic Sandwich Company's [commitments and partnerships](#)
- [Growers Organic](#): Denver's local and regional organic food distributor

Best for Colorado, a program of The Alliance Center, was created to inspire, equip and celebrate businesses that create higher quality jobs, build stronger communities and preserve a healthier environment through their business operations, products and/or services. Come and join a community of like-minded individuals at all stages of corporate social responsibility who are willing to share lessons learned and best practice information. Learn more at thealliancecenter.org/b4co.