



## 2020 ANNUAL SAFSF FORUM PROGRAM

JULY 13-24 | ONLINE



## 18th Annual SAFSF Forum July 13-24 | Online

Week 1: Monday, July 13 – Friday, July 17

**MONDAY 7/13**

7 AM HST | 9 AM AKDT | 10 AM PT | 11 AM MT | 12 PM CT | 1 PM ET (90 min)

### TRANSFORMATIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS PHILANTHROPY

How can foundations and investors seize this moment to shift power that can lead to the true democratization of agricultural production, food systems, and philanthropy?

Presented by: SAFSF

The extraction and concentration of resources—land, wealth, power—by a relative few is at the root of many of today’s agriculture, climate, and food system challenges; the COVID-19 pandemic has only intensified those challenges. Resource concentration is also the foundation of our century-old system of philanthropy and a key feature of our national and global economies. The pandemic has spurred some in philanthropy to shift more resources and power to communities while in rapid-response mode. How can foundations and investors seize this moment to shift power that can lead to the true democratization of agricultural production, food systems, and philanthropy?

Moderator:

Christine James, executive director, The John Merck Fund, VT

Speakers:

Ellen Dorsey, executive director, Wallace Global Fund, DC

Rodney Foxworth, chief executive officer, Common Future, CA

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**MONDAY 7/13**

9:30 AM HST | 11:30 AM AKDT | 12:30 PM PT | 1:30 PM MT | 2:30 PM CT | 3:30 PM ET (90 min)

## **BARRIERS FOR U.S. FARMERS AND RANCHERS TO ADOPT REGENERATIVE AG PRACTICES: KEY LEVERS & OPPORTUNITIES**

A deep dive into key barriers for farmers and ranchers to transition towards regenerative practices and highlighting funding levers that can have the most impact.

Presented by: Patagonia

As part of investing Patagonia's 2019 \$10 million tax break dollars, we have worked for the past year to develop a landscape analysis of the key barriers for farmers and ranchers face in transitioning towards regenerative practices nationally. Using an interview-driven research process (with over 300 interviews), we identified key levers that might alleviate these barriers and, subsequently, where current and future funding from philanthropic funders can have the most impact within this context. The goals of this session will be to share the analysis to drive increased collaboration and systems thinking amongst funders and key stakeholders.

**Moderator:**

Jennifer O'Connor, founder, chief strategist, Guidelight Strategies, CA

**Speakers:**

Sarah Ebe, environmental grants program officer, Patagonia, CA

Torri Estrada, executive director, Carbon Cycle Institute, CA

David Lezaks, senior fellow, Croatan Institute, MI

Jonathan Lundgren, director, chief scientist, Ecdysis Foundation, SD

Ian McSweeney, director, Agrarian Trust, NH

Amy Saltzman, program officer, environment, Walton Family Foundation, CO

Dennis Derryck, Black Farmer Fund, NY

Onika Abraham Lee, Black Farmer Fund, NY

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TUESDAY 7/14

10 AM HST | 12 PM AKDT | 1 PM PT | 2 PM MT | 3 PM CT | 4 PM ET (60 min)

## REPORTING ON SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE IN RURAL AMERICA DURING COVID-19

A look at the challenges of covering alternative and sustainable practices and reporting on Big Ag during this complex time.

Presented by: Nell Newman Foundation, GRACE Communications Foundation, and The 11th Hour Project

Reporting on agriculture in rural “news deserts” was a complex endeavor before the pandemic. Now, the remaining media sources in these areas face a whole new set of hurdles. On top of agricultural consolidation, and powerful agribusinesses, the landscape now includes everything from COVID hotspots to gaps (and bottlenecks) in the supply chain and radical shifts in markets. We’ll also talk about:

- How to get a wider range of voices included in rural media.
- Covering regenerative/alternative/sustainable production methods in Big Ag country.
- Working within the current context of media bashing.
- Other risks and opportunities.

Moderators:

Twilight Greenaway, contributing editor, Civil Eats, CA

Bob Scowcroft, trustee, Nell Newman Foundation, CA

Speakers:

Sylvia Burgos Toftness, podcast host and farmer, Deep Roots Radio and Bull Brook Keep Farm, WI

Chris Clayton, ag policy editor, DTN Progressive Farmer, IA

Art Cullen, editor, Storm Lake Times, IA

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WEDNESDAY 7/15

6 AM HST | 8 AM AKDT | 9 AM PT | 10 AM MT | 11 AM CT | 12 PM ET (60 min)

## LASTING RESILIENCE: RAISING ANIMALS AGROECOLOGICALLY FROM THE MONGOLIAN STEPPES TO THE NAVAJO NATION

Featuring experiences with nomadic pastoralists across Central Asia and Navajo sheep and goat herders, this session explores culturally-embedded agroecological livestock management and local food sovereignty.

Presented by: Agroecology Fund, Casey and Family Foundation, Panta Rhea Foundation, Thread Foundation, and Funders for Regenerative Agriculture (FORA)

In these uncertain times, sustainable livestock rearing must be more than technical. Scientists and agronomists have much to learn from indigenous herders whose practices are embedded in cultural traditions and rituals, ensuring their rootedness and longevity. The Peace Building Center works with nomadic pastoralists across Central Asia to restore indigenous cattle and horse populations under threat of extinction. In Indian Country in North America, the Dine' (Navajo) work with sheep and goat herders to link Allan Savory methods with traditional ecological practices. This session will explore how systems, rooted in indigenous knowledge, can inform agroecological livestock management and food sovereignty.

Moderator:

Daniel Moss, executive director, Agroecology Fund, MA

Speakers:

Indira Raimberdy, executive director, Peace Building Center, Kyrgyzstan

Janene Yazzie, sustainable development program coordinator, International Indian Treaty Council, AZ

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## WEDNESDAY 7/15

10 AM HST | 12 AM AKDT | 1 PM PT | 2 PM MT | 3 PM CT | 4 PM ET (60 min)

### NETWORKING SESSION

Connect with funder and investor peers, speaker partners, and Food System Partners during this networking opportunity.

Hosted by: SAFSF

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## THURSDAY 7/16

7:30 AM HST | 9:30 AM AKDT | 10:30 AM PT | 11:30 AM MT | 12:30 PM CT | 1:30 PM ET (75 min)

### FOOD HEALTH, LAND HEALTH: EXPLORING COLLABORATION BETWEEN SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND STATE WILDLIFE AGENCIES

This session will explore the potential for collaboration between the nation's state wildlife agencies and sustainable food system funders.

Presented by: Missouri Department of Conservation

The goal of this session is to explore potential for collaboration between sustainable food funders and the nation's state wildlife agencies. It will include:

- Overview from the Director of the Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC), about why her agency seeks such collaboration. MDC is one of the nation's leading state wildlife agencies.
- Briefing of Audubon's Conservation Ranching program, launched in partnership with MDC, and now national in scope, as an innovative example of conservation friendly agriculture.
- Feedback for a report MDC commissioned to forge partnership with sustainable food organizations and present the Association of Fish and Wildlife agencies nationally.



Moderator:

Max Alleger, regional administrator, Missouri Department of Conservation, MO

Speakers:

Marshall Johnson, vice president, Audubon Conservation Ranching, National Audubon Society, ND

Sara Parker-Pauley, director, Missouri Department of Conservation, MO

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**FRIDAY 7/17**

6 AM HST | 8 AM AKDT | 9 AM PT | 10 AM MT | 11 AM CT | 12 PM ET (60 min)

## DEMYSTIFYING “MARKET RATE” RETURNS IN FOOD & AG

In this session we will illuminate a common blind spot of many impact-anchored professionals by pulling the sheet off of the concept and term “market rate.”

Presented by: Kinship Foundation, Torana Group, and Lumpkin Family Foundation

As funders expand their toolkits to include impact investments, “market rate” pops up in various contexts – sometimes as a reason to not invest (“they can’t generate market rate returns”) or to not grant (“they already generate market rate performance”). In many circumstances, the term is applied in a clouded and sometimes misrepresented way.

What does the term “market rate” actually mean? Who does it actually include? Why does it matter for professional grantmakers to understand market rate performance, especially in food & agriculture?

Moderator:

Lenore Beyer, director of conservation initiatives, Kinship Foundation, IL

Speakers:

Toyin Kolawole, founder & CEO, Iya Foods, IL

Andrea Longton, lender, Opportunity Finance Network, NY

Malini Ram Moraghan, managing director, Torana Group, IL

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## **Week 2: Monday, July 20– Friday, July 24**

**MONDAY 7/20**

7 AM HST | 9 AM AKDT | 10 AM PT | 11 AM MT | 12 PM CT | 1 PM ET (90 min)

### **RISK, RETURN, AND IMPACT: FUNDING EQUITABLE FOOD ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT IN THE REAL WORLD**

Apply equitable funding and investment principles to case study projects, utilizing a new, urgently needed model to support power- and wealth-building through community food systems change.

Presented by: The Kresge Foundation

“Power concedes nothing without a demand,” said Frederick Douglass. Food justice work grew from an understanding that food was one marker of inequitable systems that have been built to concentrate wealth and power. The emerging field of Equitable Food Oriented Development (EFOD) is a practitioner-activist-led and funder-allied strategy that centralizes the urgency of power- and wealth-building to community food systems change.

With its own recently released funding prototype opportunity, the EFOD Collaborative is designing equitable and practitioner-focused funding and investment principles. Session participants will learn and co-create alongside practitioner leaders, workshopping case studies and applying EFOD principles to potential investments.

**Moderator:**

Stacey Barbas, senior program officer – health, The Kresge Foundation, MI

**Speakers:**

Krysten Aguilar, co-executive director, La Semilla Food Center, NM

Trisha Chakrabarti, manager, equitable food-oriented development, DAISA Enterprises, NY

Rudy Espinoza, executive director, Inclusive Action for the City, CA

Haleh Zandi, co-founder and co-director, Planting Justice, CA

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TUESDAY 7/21

7 AM HST | 9 AM AKDT | 10 AM PT | 11 AM MT | 12 PM CT | 1 PM ET (60 min)

## INVESTING IN CHANGE: FOUNDATION SUPPORT FOR LOBBYING AND OTHER ADVOCACY

Learn how, in this critical moment, foundations can—and should—engage in advocacy themselves and fund NGOs to advocate on their issues.

Presented by: The John Merck Fund

Especially in times of crisis like now, foundations can—and should—engage in advocacy themselves and fund NGOs to advocate on their issues. We will cover how your foundation can safely engage in advocacy and best practices for providing grantees flexibility under the law for their advocacy efforts. This session will cover:

- \* The various advocacy roles foundations can play;
- \* What constitutes advocacy and public policy work;
- \* The tax code's definitions of lobbying, and their exceptions;
- \* Rules for how private & public foundation can fund NGOs that lobby; and
- \* Grant agreement language that permits support for policy work.

Moderator:

Christine James, executive director, The John Merck Fund, VT

Speakers:

Lisa Fernandes, communications director, Food Solutions New England at UNH Sustainability Institute, ME

Ronnie Pawelko, senior counsel, Alliance for Justice/Bolder Advocacy, DC

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WEDNESDAY 7/22

8 AM HST | 10 AM AKDT | 11 AM PT | 12 PM MT | 1 PM CT | 2 PM ET (60 min)

## FUNDING A STATEWIDE FOOD SYSTEMS MOVEMENT THROUGH COVID AND BEYOND: THE KANSAS STORY

This session will highlight the evolution of the Kansas Health Foundation's (KHF) vision and strategic investment in state-wide sustainable food systems initiatives.

Presented by: Kansas Health Foundation

This session will highlight the evolution of the Kansas Health Foundation's (KHF) vision and strategic investment in sustainable food systems initiatives across Kansas over the past decade, including:

- \* building capacity of funded partners to create and strengthen a state-wide network of local and regional food policy councils;
- \* increasing advocacy and policy efforts at all levels to support more sustainable food systems in Kansas; and
- \* creating a statewide network of food system partnerships and investments.

Panelists representing KHF-funded initiatives will underscore how their work has shifted in nature and necessity during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Moderators:

Jeff Usher, senior program officer, Kansas Health Foundation, KS

Sarah Green, consultant, KS

Speakers:

Joey Hentzler, director of advocacy, The Kansas Appleseed Center for Law and Justice, KS

Miranda Klugeshertz, director, Kansas Alliance for Wellness, KC Healthy Kids, KS

Mary Marrow, senior staff attorney, Public Health Law Center, MN

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WEDNESDAY 7/22

10 AM HST | 12 PM AKDT | 1 PM PT | 2 AM MT | 3 PM CT | 4 PM ET (60 min)

## COLLABORATING FOR FOOD AND FARM MOVEMENT LEADERSHIP

Leader-full movements require building power, skills, and relationships. Hear from four distinct and complementary fellowship programs investing in food systems leadership both regionally and nationally.

Presented by: Presented by GRACE Communications Foundation, Panta Rhea Foundation, and North Star Fund

Leadership matters. Funders have increasingly been investing in leadership development, so what can we learn from it? How are the various fellowships collectively working to build a more just food system? What challenges, and hope, do they hold? This session will bring together both regional and national fellowship programs including the Castanea Fellowship, HEAL Food Alliance's School of Political Leadership (SoPL), the Hawaii Alliance for Progressive Action's Kuleana Academy, and the Seeding Power Fellowship to openly engage, discuss, and share how they are cultivating leadership to bring forth food system change in empowering ways.

Moderator:

Anna Lappé, director of the food and democracy program, Panta Rhea Foundation, CA

Speakers:

Anne Frederick, executive director, Hawai'i Alliance for Progressive Action (HAPA), HI

Navina Khanna, director, Health, Environment, Agriculture, Labor Food Alliance (HEAL), CA

Adam Liebowitz, Community Food Funders director, North Star Fund, NY

Farzana Serang, executive director, Castanea Fellowship, CA

Simran Noor, principal, Noor Consulting, NY

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THURSDAY 7/23

8 AM HST | 10 AM AKDT | 11 AM PT | 12 PM MT | 1 PM CT | 2 PM ET (60 min)

## LEVERAGING LAND GRANT INSTITUTIONS AS A FORCE TO ADDRESS RACISM IN THE FOOD SYSTEM

Let's identify disparities across 1862, 1890, and 1994 land grant institutions and discuss strategies to leverage land grants in addressing racism in the food system.

Presented by: Center for Regional Food Systems at Michigan State University and the W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Land grant educators touch food system work in every U.S. county. The land grant system includes the 1862 (white-led), 1890 (historically black) and 1994 (tribal) universities. 1862 land grant institutions use white solutions to address food system challenges and resist programs that support food justice for those in low-income communities. This session will:

- 1) Identify disparities across 1862, 1890, and 1994 land grants;
- 2) Contrast land grant and non-profit educator perceptions of equity;
- 3) Discuss narratives of power-sharing and economic justice across land-grants; and
- 4) Identify strategies to leverage land grants as a food system force to address racism.

Moderator:

Kolia Souza, outreach specialist, MSU Center for Regional Food Systems, KS

Speakers:

Lindsey Lunsford, sustainable food system resource specialist, Tuskegee University, AL

Rich Pirog, director, MSU Center for Regional Food Systems, MI

Mekko Tyner, registrar, College of the Muscogee Nation, OK



FRIDAY 7/24

6 AM HST | 8 AM AKDT | 9 AM PT | 10 AM MT | 11 AM CT | 12 PM ET (60 min)

## THE STATE OF SCHOOL FOOD AND HOW WE CAN PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

Join a discussion about the role of school food in the food system, the importance of healthy school meals, and how the pandemic has impacted school food.

Presented by: Chef Ann Foundation

Every day, 30 million children eat school lunch and for many students, these are the most nutritious meals of the day. 70% were eligible for free or reduced-price meals before the pandemic, and that number is only rising.

Join a discussion about the role of school food in the food system and the importance of healthy school meals. Our panel of journalists, policymakers, policy advocates, and school food professionals will discuss the impact of the pandemic and the needs of school districts. Finally, we will ask attendees to join us in a conversation about school food in the future.

Moderator:

Mara Fleishman, chief executive officer, Chef Ann Foundation, CO

Speakers:

Elizabeth Campbell, senior director, legislative and government affairs, Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics, DC

Ann Cooper, director of food services, Boulder Valley School District; founder and president, Chef Ann Foundation; partner, Lunch Lessons, LLC, CO

Anya Kamenetz, education correspondent, National Public Radio

Jerone Wiggins, director of educational programs and partnerships, Jones Valley Teaching Farm, AL