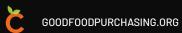




Cohort Session #2

Colleen McKinney Chief Ecosystem Strategy Officer Center for Good Food Purchasing October 10, 2025





Ecosystem Planning Process

Our Vision

Public food dollars serve the public good, which means...

- Governments are responsible stewards of community resources and accountable for the impacts of their decisions about food purchasing and food service.
- They are transparent about how food purchasing decisions are made and share information that enables public engagement and accountability.
- Decision-making is a participatory, community-driven process that centers the voices and priorities of frontline workers, BIPOC producers, and those most impacted by food system injustices, including eaters whose access to good food is largely determined by institutional decision-making—such as students, seniors, and incarcerated individuals, whose wellbeing and health are directly shaped by these decisions.





GOODFOODPURCHASING.ORG

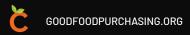




A View for the Future

- By 2040, the federal government will recognize and invest in the true value of food for all public-serving feeding programs.
- A majority of public institutions receive and invest adequate financial resources to purchase good food
- Local, state, and federal governments allocate funds for long-term public investment in infrastructure
- Institutional demand for good food and transparent supply chains drives meaningful and increasing private
 sector investment in people, animals, and the environment.
- The **true value of food is the dominant public narrative** and is embedded in all institutional procurement decisions and external communications
- 🦰 Rublis food procurement is a model for democratic, community-led governance





System-level View

Good Food Ecosystem Support Structure





People Power

Dedicated investment in people and communities to facilitate and enact integrated action and value-chain infrastructure to meet demand for good food.



Food System Infrastructure

Value-chain infrastructure for staff, storage, and production, processing, and distribution capacity to meet demand for good food.

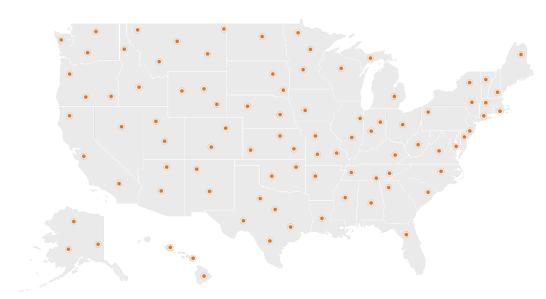


Further Funding

Dedicated financial resourcing for institutions to purchase good food with a commitment to the five values with equity, accountability and transparency.

Local-level

commit to funding for:





People Power

- Coalition Leader (1 FTE)
- Value Chain Coordinator (1 FTE)
- City or County Food Policy Advisor or Implementation Coordinator (1 FTE)
- Farmer/Ag, Worker and Public Health Organizers (1-3 FTE)
- Support/Capacity for: legal/policy analysis, narrative and organizing strategy, lobbying, culinary training, procurement, evaluation, and peer learning.



Food System Infrastructure

 Public investment in regional processing, aggregation, storage, distribution, and well-staffed kitchens, including networked cross-docking at new and existing food hubs and distributors.



Further Funding

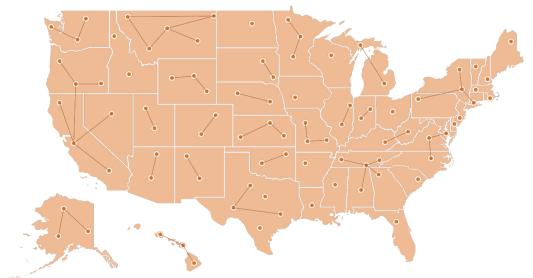
- Local philanthropically-supported demonstration projects: Incentives for public institutions
- Investment to participate in GFPP or other values-based program w/ verification and accountability mechanisms.





State-level

commit to funding for:





People Power

- State policy campaign director with adequately supported operations and administration (1 FTE)
- Value chain coordinator (1FTE)
- State food policy advisor in governor's office or lead agency (1 FTE)
- Farmer/ag, worker and public health organizers (1-3 FTE)
- Support/Capacity for: legal/policy analysis, narrative and organizing strategy, lobbying, culinary training, procurement, evaluation, and peer learning.



Hard Infrastructure

 Public investment in regional processing, aggregation, storage, distribution, and well-staffed kitchens, e.g. new and existing food hubs and distributors.



Further Funding

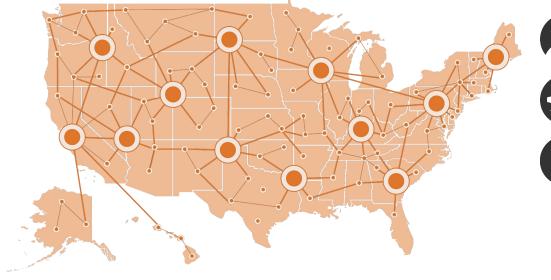
- State-funded incentives for public institutions to purchase values-aligned food
- Support to participate in GFPP or other values-based program with verification and accountability mechanisms





Regional-level

commit to funding for:





Regional Coordination

to provide connective tissue and infrastructure across states / tribal nations / foodsheds including:

- Facilitators for networks and connections
- Interstate food hub coordination



National-level

commit to seed funding for:





People Power

Investment in coordinated technical assistance, networks, and communities of practice

- Coordination and movement-building for integrated action
- Cross-sector and connective support for local and state food system roles that includes:
- Networking and technical assistance
- Marketing, communications, and story-telling
- Policy and campaign strategy
- Technology support for data collection, reporting, monitoring, and evaluation for institutions and network.



Further Funding

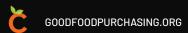
- By 2040, the federal government will pay the true value of food for all public-serving feeding programs.
- Funding for public investment in soft and hard infrastructure at the local, state, regional and national levels.





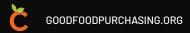
Breakout Prompts

- Do you agree that the investments listed on the graphic feel like the most important resources or investments? What refinements would you make? What is missing?
- What resources or investments should funders, national TA and organizing partners or the movement as a whole consider to support effective implementation of good food purchasing?
- What is one practice, action or commitment you want to take home to put into action?
- What is your view for where our local/regional work will be in one year? In ten years?



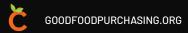
Full Cohort Prompts

- What were your <u>reflections on the graphic</u>? What refinements would you make? What is missing?
- What is your <u>view for the future</u>? What will our local/regional work look like <u>in one year</u>? <u>In ten years</u>?
- What is <u>one practice, action, commitment</u> you want to take home to put into action?
- What <u>resources or investments</u> should funders, national TA and organizing partners or the movement as a whole consider for effective implementation of the ecosystem recommendations?



Full Summit Harvest

- View: What's your group's view on the future?
- To-Dos: What are your <u>next steps</u> to advance the work?
- Needs: What do you want funders, TA providers, others in the room to know about what your work needs to reach your vision?



Full Cohort Debrief

- What <u>strengths or accomplishments</u> came up in your conversation?
- What <u>challenges or opportunities</u> did you discuss?
- What are some <u>areas of opportunity for our region that we can learn</u> <u>more about</u> while we're here in person? Are there <u>connections</u> we hope to make?
- Any <u>other reflections</u> from pair shares?



