



# MARION INSTITUTE

Health from a Different Perspective.

**CONNECTOR**  
SERIES

**BIOMED**  
PROGRAMS

**GROW**  
EDUCATION

**GREENHOUSE**  
INITIATIVES

**SOUTHCOAST**  
FOOD POLICY COUNCIL





MARION INSTITUTE  
SOUTHCOAST FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

# October 2023 Quarterly Meeting



# Agenda

- ❑ Introductions for CAB, Work Groups, staff
- ❑ Land Acknowledgement
- ❑ Update on the SFPC's four Working Groups
- ❑ Frogfoot Farm- Neighbors Feeding Neighbors
- ❑ Food Equity Advisors
- ❑ Grant opportunity from MA Community Health Initiative Funds
- ❑ [Register for the 2023 Virtual Food Summit](#): Food Recovery and Food Waste and Its Impact on Climate Change on October 25, 6-8:30 pm.
- ❑ Connector Series Postponed [bit.ly/kidderoconnell](https://bit.ly/kidderoconnell)
- ❑ Friday 11am Emergency Food Coordination Meetings
- ❑ Other issues you would like to raise



# Introductions



# Land Acknowledgement



We acknowledge that this land is the traditional unceded territory of the Wapanaak (Wampanoag). Pre-English invasion, this place, its gifts of fertile soil, waters, wildlife and beauty, had already sustained Indigenous tribes for 12,000 years. We honor and respect the precious food sources discovered, harvested and cultivated by Native peoples and remain grateful to them for their connectedness to this land and their food traditions. We further acknowledge the lands the Cape Verdeans, African Americans and Latinx farmed in this area that have been lost to them through structural racism. We make these acknowledgements with intention, and accept the responsibility of all we continue to learn. We will honor the resources which sustain us today through their protection. May food be just one of the many connections we use in our work to repair relationships with Indigenous, and People of color and of all Nations living here today.

# Education and Communication Working Group

Top Priority: Create public awareness of, and support for, our regional food system







MARION  
INSTITUTE

**YOU'RE INVITED:**

**October 25, 2023,  
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm**

# **VIRTUAL FOOD SUMMIT 2023**

The Office of Senator Mark Montigny and  
The Marion Institute invite you to Food Summit 2023:

## ***Food Recovery and Food Waste and Its Impact on Climate Change***

Our keynote speaker, Laha Suarez, Associate Manager from the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Sustainable Management of Food program, will share how food recovery and waste critically impact our climate and food insecurity. Our Emcee, Christine Belling, Project Engineer, also from the EPA's Sustainable Materials Management program, will guide our panel of experts through a discussion. Using the EPA's Food Recovery Hierarchy, panelists will share their perspectives on challenges to food waste and recovery, how their work influences the climate, and what people can do in the face of the increasing need for food and the urgency to mitigate harmful environmental impacts.

### **Panelists:**

- **Source Reduction:** **Khrysti Barry**, Customer Relations Lead from Center for Eco-Technology
- **Donate to Food Relief:** **Vanilla Silva**, Food Pantry Manager for M.O.L.I.F.E. Food Pantry
- **Diverting Food to Animals:** **Geoff Kinder**, Co-Founder and Agripreneur of Round the Bend Farm in Westport, MA
- **Industrial Uses, provide waste oils for rendering and fuel conversion and food scraps for digestion to recover energy:** **Daniel Buonagurio**, Chief Financial Officer for Recycleworks
- **Composting:** **Andrew Brousseau**, co-founder of Black Earth Compost
- **Landfill and Incineration:** **Marissa Perez-Dormitzer**, Waste Reduction Manager for The Greater New Bedford Regional Refuse Management District

Register for the virtual event here: [bit.ly/virtualfoodsummit2023](https://bit.ly/virtualfoodsummit2023)

*Sponsored by Office of Senator Mark Montigny, & The Marion Institute*



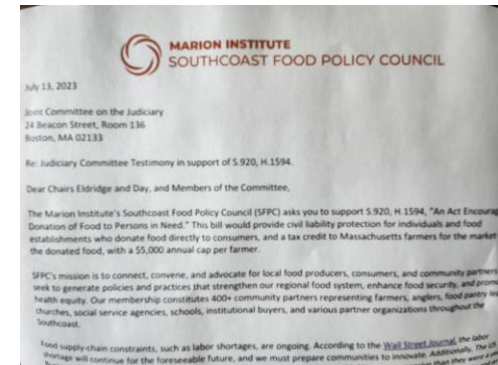
MARION INSTITUTE  
SOUTHCOAST FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

# Policy Working Group

**Top Priority:** Establish an engaged coalition of food system advocates to support equitable policies.

**Key Activities:** Strengthen relationships with advocates and elected leaders, track legislation, and train networks to provide testimony and letters of support.

- Healthy Incentive Program (HIP)
- Food Literacy
- Farm-to-School Grant
- Equity in Agriculture
- Protecting Soil from PFAS
- An Act Encouraging the Donation of Food to Persons in Need
- Establishing basic needs assistance for Massachusetts immigrant residents
- Food System Budget items such as SEMAP, Mass in Motion, FSIG, MEAP, UMass Extension, FPCs, Project Bread Hotline, Universal School Meals, Farm Bill issues.

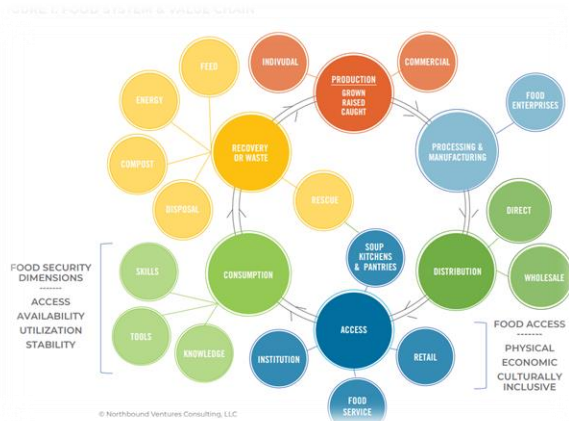




# Capacity Building Working Group

Top Priority: Build networks and infrastructure critical to a vibrant, regional food system.

Key Activities: Map out food system assets, grow at-large membership, strengthen distribution channels, achieve food system efficiencies, and increase composting and food waste solutions.

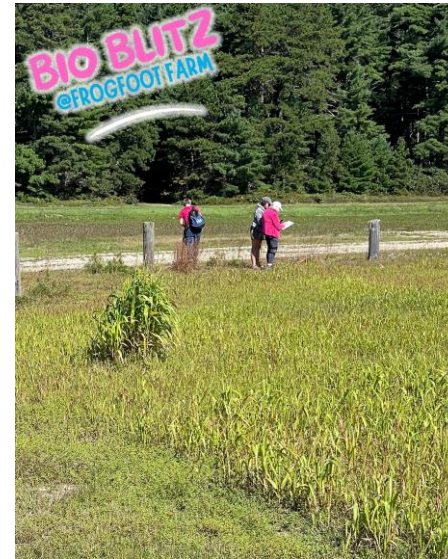


# Birthered from the SFPC Food Access Working Group: Frogfoot Farm Neighbors feeding Neighbors



**Top Priority:** Increase the availability of healthful, culturally relevant, local food for all.

**Key Activities:** Establish a Farm-to-Food Relief Program and recruit volunteers to establish a regional Gleaning Program.





MARION  
INSTITUTE

# Boogie at the Bog Fundraiser



## Farm to Food Relief

- Volunteer
- Donate
- Help Food Pantries provide nutritious local food to our neighbors





# Food Access Working Group

Top Priority: Increase the availability of healthful, culturally relevant, local food for all.



## Cooking with Crock Pots

Thursday, August 24  
5:30 - 7:30 PM

Keith Middle School  
Community Room  
225 Hathaway Blvd, New Bedford

Join us for an interactive Cooking with Crock Pots workshop! Participants will sample simple recipes prepared in a crock pot and learn how to easily prep and cook their own meals.

Each participating family will receive a crock pot, recipes, basic cooking supplies, and will leave with 1-2 prepared meals.



Families are strongly encouraged to attend together. Children must be 5 or older. Scan the QR code to register. Space is limited. Transportation will be provided by SRTA from Fall River.

Cooking with Crock Pots is presented to the SouthCoast by



Family Resource Centers, Health First Fall River, New Bedford Public Schools, Partners for a Healthier Community, Southcoast Food Policy Council, SRTA, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, WIC, YMCA Southcoast



# Friday Emergency Food Coordination Meetings

**Join us Fridays at 11 am**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84025596278>**

- **Hear from your local Food Pantries and emergency food providers the challenges and listen to possible solutions.**
- **Migrant Families**
- **Share your voice on possible solutions.**
- **Be part of the Food Coordination!**

# Food Equity Advisors

## **People in our community with lived experience of food and nutrition insecurity.**

- Two from Fall River and two from New Bedford. Provide stipends from grants.
- Attend Working Group meetings, provide their thoughts, and advocate for particular action or we meet 1-1.
- Provide written testimony during hearings over the last 2 years.
- Provide video to White House Listening session in the fall of 2022, and interviewed by the press in 2022 and 2023.
- Put together a list of culturally appropriate food for food pantries and asked the food pantry to order that food.
- Love being heard and finding a new identity.



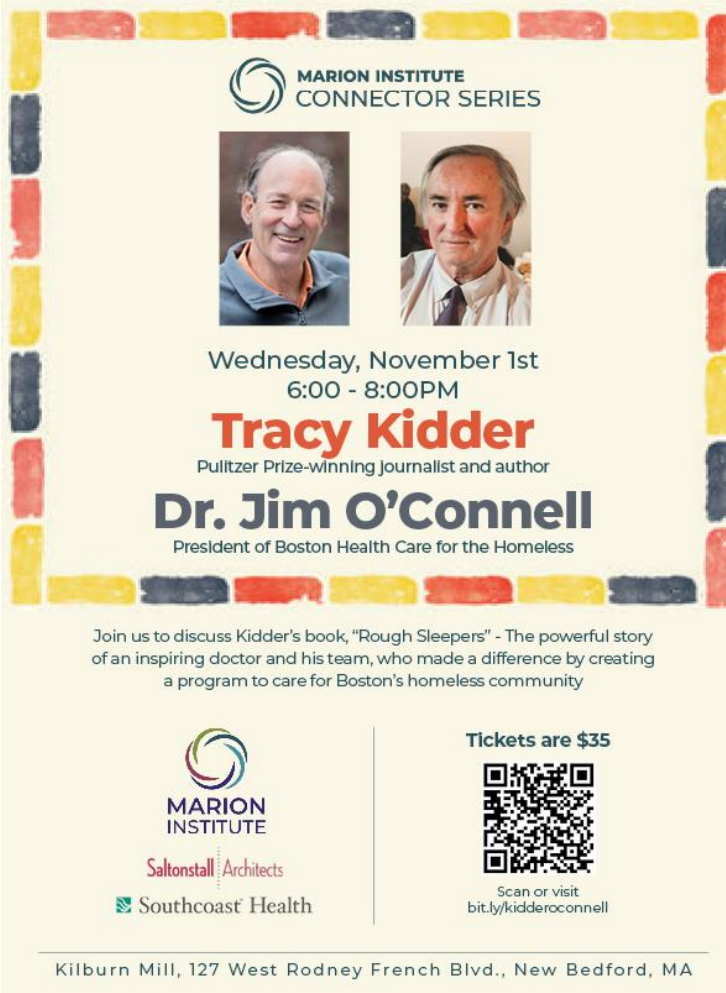
# Grant opportunity





## Health Resources in Action

*Advancing Public Health and Medical Research*

# Postponed: Connector Series



MARION INSTITUTE  
CONNECTOR SERIES



Wednesday, November 1st  
6:00 - 8:00PM

**Tracy Kidder**  
Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and author

**Dr. Jim O'Connell**  
President of Boston Health Care for the Homeless


Join us to discuss Kidder's book, "Rough Sleepers" - The powerful story of an inspiring doctor and his team, who made a difference by creating a program to care for Boston's homeless community

MARION INSTITUTE

Saltonstall Architects

Southcoast Health

Tickets are \$35



Scan or visit  
[bit.ly/kidderoconnell](http://bit.ly/kidderoconnell)

Kilburn Mill, 127 West Rodney French Blvd., New Bedford, MA





# Contact information

Christine Smith

[csmith@marioninstitute.org](mailto:csmith@marioninstitute.org)

Rita Higgins

[rhiggins@marioninstitute.org](mailto:rhiggins@marioninstitute.org)

Liz Wiley

[lwiley@marioninstitute.org](mailto:lwiley@marioninstitute.org)

