



## Virtual Meeting Agenda

### Food for a Healthier America 2020 Fall Forum

*Support provided by The Colorado Health Foundation*

#### Monday, November 16

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

#### **What Now? Opportunities to Improve Food Access and Security Policy**

Welcome: Cara V. James, *Grantmakers In Health*

Stacy Dean, *Center on Budget & Policy Priorities*

Crystal FitzSimons, *Food Research & Action Center*

Eyang Garrison, *Deputy Chief of Staff & Legislative Director for Representative Marica L. Fudge (OH-11)*

The last year has seen significant challenges for communities and families being able to access healthy food. From efforts to reduce the federal food safety net to the response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the country is having to seriously examine its food policies. This session will discuss the current state of federal food and nutrition policy, the potential impact of the 2020 election on the policy agenda, the implications for communities, and the opportunities and challenges funders should be prepared to navigate moving forward into 2021 and beyond.

#### Tuesday, November 17

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

#### **Advancing Together to Address Food Equity and Justice**

Ma'raj Sheikh, *Chicago Food Policy Action Council*

Michael N. Turnage Young, *NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund*

Kolu Zigbi, *WKZ Consulting*

The COVID-19 pandemic and the civil uprisings stemming from police violence have elevated the continued inequities in food access and

security for communities of color. While the challenges these communities face are not new, the events of 2020 have given these issues greater weight and urgency. Food is an urgent health challenge and an important social issue for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC). This session will address the food needs of BIPOC communities; the opportunities to support equitable food policies; and ways philanthropy can authentically partner with BIPOC communities to champion policy changes, both large and small, that create a more equitable and just food system.

## Thursday, November 19

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

### **Learning from 2020: Investing in a Better Food System**

Marcus Coleman, *Grow Louisiana Beginning Farmer Training Program*

Abbey Piner, *Center for Environmental Farming Systems*

Rich Pirog, *Michigan State University Center for Regional Food Systems*

While it is easy to get lost in national trends and large systems change, 2020 has laid bare the gaps in and inadequacies for our local and regional food systems. Whether it is the inability to transport healthy food to rural communities in need, the challenges facing workers and smaller producers, or examples of food waste, it is apparent that investments are needed at the local level. This session will focus on how funders of all sizes can move their grantmaking strategies further upstream to build a better system.