



Where Are We Now: Recommendations in Action

Friday, November 7, 2014

10 AM to 12 PM

Coffee and Tea available at 9:30 AM

Lunch served after meeting

Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission

The ACP Building - 8th Floor
190 N. Independence Mall West
Philadelphia, PA 19106-2582

Speakers' Biographies

Molly Riordan

Molly Riordan is the Interim Procurement Manager and Special Projects Coordinator at Common Market Philadelphia. Her work spans the organization, working with growers, customers, and food system stakeholders to scale our food system sustainably and safely. Molly earned a Masters in Regional Planning with a focus on Urban-Rural Economic Development, and she sees scalability, land preservation and intelligent infrastructure management as the keys to growing rural wealth through greater marketability of locally produced foods.

Deb Bentzel

Deb Bentzel serves as Senior Associate to The Food Trust's Consulting Team, with a focus on farm to school, farm to preschool, and other local food initiatives and systems projects. She also acts as the Mid-Atlantic Regional Coordinator for the National Farm to School Network, providing training and technical assistance to schools and childcare centers, suppliers and farmers, and other groups interested in implementing or enhancing farm to school practices in the region's six states and Washington, DC. Before joining The Food Trust, Deb served as Fair Food's Farm to Institution Program Manager, connecting higher education institutions, hospitals, schools, and eldercare facilities to local food and sustainable food service practices. Deb has over 12 years of experience in public health, nutrition, and clinical research and programming. She earned her Master of Public Health degree in 2003 from Boston University.

Peggy Fogarty

Peggy Fogarty, Executive Director of Keystone Development Center who work with emerging, start-up and established cooperatives and businesses throughout the Mid-Atlantic Region. Peggy is a skilled cooperative developer who was instrumental in the start-up of Lancaster Farm Fresh Cooperative. Peggy's entrepreneurial spirit, vision and ability to leverage community partners are key ingredients to her client's success in import phases of development and expansion. Her leadership skills have helped to re-establish our local food system. She is a resource for farmers, fisheries and agricultural businesses by focusing on the need to develop physical and social infrastructure.



Lance Loethen

Lance Loethen is a Research Associate with The Reinvestment Fund (TRF). He has more than 10 years of experience with economic analysis and socioeconomic research methods and helps TRF and numerous clients evaluate programs and develop strategies for community and economic development.

In 2007, as part of the Pennsylvania Fresh Food Financing Initiative, Lance began developing methods for identifying communities with limited access to healthy food retail, eventually leading to a nationwide geospatial model for understanding healthy food access – TRF’s Limited Supermarket Access (LSA) analysis. His current research includes a geospatial model of regional food supply chains, illustrating the potential economic connectivity between a region’s food producers and processors.

Mr. Loethen holds an M.A. in Urban and Regional Planning from Virginia Commonwealth University and a B.S. in Economics from the University of Kansas.