

2025-2027

Strategic Plan

**RI FOOD
POLICY
COUNCIL**



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Introduction

The Rhode Island Food Policy Council was founded by a group of visionary leaders on World Food Day in 2011 and has been making a growing impact across the state since then. In our first five years we helped pass the state's Local Agriculture and Seafood Act Grant Program and were instrumental in establishing the position of Director of Food Strategy in state government. In recent years, we have educated thousands of Rhode Islanders about good food policy, raised the capacity of hundreds to advocate for issues that make a difference in their communities, and established high-impact programs, projects, and pilots aimed at catalyzing progress toward a just and resilient state food system.

The need for the Rhode Island Food Policy Council is urgent. As we enter our second decade, we know we have more work to do, especially when it comes to centering racial justice and climate change in our network's activities. The primary beneficiaries of our efforts are Rhode Islanders who suffer from inequalities inherent in the food system - lack of access to food, nutrition, transportation, land, capital, infrastructure, clear air and water, healthy soils, economic mobility, and a supportive policy environment - but our work to improve the environmental sustainability and economic strength of our food system benefits all Rhode Islanders.

In early 2024, we began a process of determining how the Rhode Island Food Policy Council can best direct our efforts to build momentum toward reaching our mission to create a more equitable, accessible, economically-vibrant, and environmentally sustainable food system. The results are presented in this three year Strategic Plan (2025-2027).

The plan is intended to be a living document that provides the Rhode Island Food Policy Council board, staff, funders, members, consultants, and other key partners with clear, concise information about our theory of change, mission, vision, values, goals, objectives, and key results. It strengthens our organizational capacity and our network, and helps to ensure that the state is moving its food system forward toward justice and resilience for all Rhode islanders.

Situational Analysis

Strengths

RIFPC has a number of strengths that enable it to deliver impact. The organization has a committed professional staff that provides a strong backbone for everything RIFPC does. RIFPC also has strong partnerships with state agencies. Starting with administering the state LASA Grant Program, RIFPC has become a trusted partner for RI DEM, RIDOH, Commerce RI, and other state agencies. We are similarly known by a core group of legislators who are leading the charge for bills that contribute to a just and resilient food system in the state. Most importantly, RIFPC has created a broad network of volunteer members who shape policy, provide expertise across a wide range of food system issues, and power our advocacy efforts. Over 200 active members participated in our work groups in 2023, dozens provided expert testimony at the RI Statehouse and with our federal delegation, hundreds participated in our monthly Zoom meetings and educational webinars, and thousands connected with us through newsletters and social media. We are recognized as the foremost convenor and connector on food system issues and programs across the state.

Our internal expertise on subjects like local farm business advising, individual capacity building for advocacy, and our support for leveraging state and Federal funds are highly valued by our partners and members. We have diverse funding sources and a core of consistent funders, as well as several multi-year private and public grants. Together, our staff, board and volunteer member network have created a clear statement of commitment to equity, have received ongoing equity facilitation training, and actively use an "equity tool" in our work groups in order to ensure they are asking questions that help center equity when assessing potential policy priorities and advocacy strategies. All staff have completed a course in Facilitation for Racial Justice at the Boston-based Interaction Institute for Social Change and other targeted professional development opportunities about program management, facilitation, and other Council activities.

We continuously build on our network strength, both within RI and regionally. A group of volunteer network members guide staff in organizing relational events that support equitable network building. Our communications and engagement team goes out into communities regularly to meet people and invite them to join in Council activities. Many staff and volunteer network members participate regularly in regional food policy organizations and meetings. We were co-leads with the RI Nursery and Landscape Association in launching a new Associate Degree program at CCRI in sustainable agriculture and management that has grown to a record level of enrolled students to 57 in fall 2024.

Challenges

Despite our many strengths, RIFPC also faces challenges. In May 2023, RIFPC members decided to alter the network's structure to open up membership to anyone who commits to active participation and adherence to our shared meeting agreements. This shift has created stresses and challenges, but it is also critical to getting more perspectives represented and broadening our expertise across all food system issues. Onboarding, orientation and volunteer management needs were greatly amplified and we have been intentionally bulking up our orientation supports as a result. These tasks have taxed existing resources needed to address these needs, which are now stretched thin. We are responding by doing more and different educational and engagement activities and experimenting with different communication and organizing processes. Engagement by more individuals with lived experience of inequities in the food system is critically important now, as is continuing to deepen engagement with subject matter experts in our program and project areas. Related to this, we face challenges in clarifying the difference between RIFPC as a network of volunteer members and RIFPC as an umbrella organization; people are not always clear about the functions of the volunteer network members vs. the general public vs. the staff. In essence, the volunteer member network is just one activity of the organization called the Council. Finally, what we do is complex and encompasses many different program areas, and this makes clear messaging about who we are and what we do – and even what policy is and how it is made – more difficult.

Other challenges are internal to our staff organizational structure and processes. Due to our rapid growth in the last two years, our administrative processes are not strong enough nor up-to-date with our current staff levels, and at times we have challenges balancing new priorities and projects with current work. We have a nascent and incomplete understanding of opportunities for collaboration. Most of our staff is still new, which creates training and onboarding challenges. Most of our funding sources are project specific and limited to a year or two, rather than providing long-term general operating funding, which makes it more difficult to develop long-range campaigns for systems change, a challenge common to many if not most nonprofit organizations. Although we work well remotely with regular in-person meetings, remote work limits natural networking, staff collaboration, and reliance on technology can lend to communication and collaboration challenges especially as staff size grows. The lack of racial diversity in our staff creates challenges in changing organizational culture to accommodate a more diverse volunteer member network. A notable threat is presented by the fact that our funding is largely program/project specific and doesn't support advocacy per se, while advocacy is a core function of our organization. Program staff can have challenges in balancing staff workload appropriately to meet funding commitments and commit time and effort needed for

effective advocacy and our ability to invest in high-powered advocacy tools like outside PR and lobbying resources has been very limited.

Summary

Externally, RIFPC is faced with both opportunities and threats. The growing body of public resources, regulations, public support, and organizational capacities focused on mediating and addressing the damages of our climate crisis present many opportunities to develop new programs, projects and partnerships focused on improving the environmental sustainability of Rhode Island's food system. Similarly, increasing levels of public financial and regulatory support for addressing inequities in access to resources in our food system and increased understanding of and support for public health, in the wake of the COVID pandemic will provide more opportunities to increase our work in this area. Internally, we have a huge opportunity to grow more and stronger working relationships, including relationships with elected officials, state and federal advocacy organizations, and coalitions, and with community members. We need to reach community members in new and different ways, consistently, with a focus on strategic outreach to high-priority and currently underrepresented communities and groups. Other specific groups that we must focus on cultivating are municipal leaders and educators. Expanding and evolving our educational and capacity-building work is key. Growing staff diversity is also critical, as is expanding our funder base. We also need to be aware of the main threats we face, which are both internal (e.g., the pace of our growth creates the potential for staff and volunteer burnout, weakening of shared values and mission, and communication gaps) and external (e.g., competing interests at the State House, lack of interest and support within the Governor's Office, reductions in federal support programs and funding) .

It is our hope that this strategic plan and a long-term fundraising strategy that will emerge from it, will help RIFPC leverage its strengths/opportunities and address its challenges/threats.

Strategic Planning Process

The process of creating this strategic plan was led by Executive Director Nessa Richman. The timeline started in January 2024 and extended through the calendar year. 2023-2024 Board members Diane Lynch, Courtney Bourns, Thea Upham, Amber Jackson, and Steve Arthurs played a primary consulting role, informing process and plan over the course of the timeline. 2024-2025 Board Members Charlene Traynum, Julius Searight, and Dominique Resendes also provided valuable insight and advice. Our work was guided by several key questions:

- **Values:** What values can we identify, define, and apply to make optimal decisions, guide our organization, and achieve our mission and vision?
- **Vision:** How do we describe the future we work toward with imagination and wisdom? What mental picture can best be used to direct our actions?
- **Mission:** Is our mission statement compelling? Does it accurately embody our vision and values?
- **Theory of Change:** How can we clearly and concisely describe an explicit method of how and why we believe our activities will lead to our desired outcome of a just and resilient food system?
- **Power:** Are our decision makers and stakeholders clearly aligned and committed to our mission, vision and values? How can we best balance power across the network and its supporting structures to get our work done?
- **Organizational structure:** What organizational structure will support all the components of our work (board, staff, volunteer members, partners, programs, policy advocacy) to work efficiently and effectively together, while honoring individual needs for self-care and avoiding burnout? Are our current activities aligned with our mission? Where should we expand and contract?
- **Resources:** What is the optimal set of funding sources, staff, board, volunteers and other inputs that we need to meet our mission? What is working well now, and what needs to be improved?

The Executive Director reached out to volunteer members on the Steering Committee, Equity & Outreach Work Group, and other key partners in food systems work in Rhode Island for their input at key points during the process. We are grateful to Angel Mendez, Dana Siles, Ella Kilpatrick Kotner, Lauren Amos, Jeanette Nessett, Vernon Martin, Maggie Longo, Tess Feigenbaum, Thea Upham, Greg Gerritt, Stacy Entel, Emilyn Addison, Kristina Contreras Fox, Heather Beauvais, Mark Hamin, David Dadekian, Patrick Baur, Lorenzo Macaluso, Sammie Paul, Randi Belhumeur, and Eva Agudelo for their thoughtful reflections on a draft of our Theory of Change, Vision,

and Values statements. Thanks also are due to staff members Josh Daly, Rachel Newman Green, Max Mason De Faria, Allison Montagnon, Isaac Bearg, and Rozie Schleinig who provided input at several key points on organizational strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats, values, theory of change, and other elements.

This plan is designed to provide “room to grow” for the organization, and we intend to come back to it regularly as we face challenges and assess opportunities through the end of 2027.

Mission: Our organization’s purpose

To create a more equitable, accessible, economically-vibrant, and environmentally sustainable food system in the State of Rhode Island

Vision: Our organization’s desired future

Through the work of the Rhode Island Food Policy Council and its partners, Rhode Island will have a just and resilient food system that provides routes to economic success for all food businesses and their employees, responds to pressing climate change and other environmental issues, and ensures access to fresh, nutritious, community-grown and culturally-preferred food for all.

Theory of Change: How we will achieve our mission and reach our vision

We convene, educate, and empower a network of diverse food system stakeholders; catalyze high-impact projects that address systemic and structural inequities; and support civic engagement and community-based advocacy that drives good food policy forward in order to achieve a just and resilient food system for all Rhode Islanders.

Values

The Rhode Island Food Policy Council’s values reflect our collective aspirations and guide us in carrying out our mission. They reinforce each other, and are to be viewed holistically.

Because we value **collaboration**, we prioritize working with others to create and uphold a shared mission and vision, agree upon and abide by community agreements, decide together on policy priorities, and take collective action to move the local food system forward.

Because we value **equity**, we work explicitly and consistently to eliminate racial, cultural, and economic disparities, both in our network and across our whole food system, in order to improve outcomes for everyone by prioritizing the people most affected by food system inequities.

Because we value **community**, we cultivate fellowship among our members by surfacing shared interests and goals, and by establishing relationships that leverage our unique personal identities and histories and allow us to work together in a spirit of trust, respect, and generosity.

Because we value **diversity**, we acknowledge and celebrate differences between our members, actively engage with communities across the state to share our mission and vision, seek perspectives from people who directly experience structural inequality, and consistently invite and welcome new members to join the network.

Because we value **empowerment**, we cultivate capacity, expertise, authority, and influence within our network and we encourage our members to use that power to take collective action for change that aligns our shared mission, vision, and values.

Goals, Objectives, and Key Results

The following goals and objectives will guide the Rhode Island Food Policy Council's work from 2025-2027. Annually, our Executive Director will consult with staff and community partners and prepare a detailed work plan in support of each objective. This will be shared with RIFPC's Board of Directors, who will help monitor progress in achieving the key results laid out for these goals and objectives, while ensuring we remain true to our mission, vision, and values.

Advance Equitable Food Systems Education, Advocacy, and Engagement

We build the capacity of Rhode Islanders to advocate for food system changes that are important to them and their communities through education and training, and support them in meeting each other, building collective power, and advocating for policy and regulatory improvements they want to see made.

Increase Food Access & Nutrition Security

We engender strategic coordination and strengthening connections that result in the establishment and support of statewide programs, policies, and structures that ensure that all Rhode Islanders can affordably and consistently eat well.

Support Underserved Farm, Seafood, and Food Businesses

We nurture trust-based relationships with farmers, fishers, and other food business owners, and communicate about the current state of market opportunities for local and regional food products in order to ensure that

business owners in this sector have every opportunity to survive, thrive, and contribute to a strong and growing agricultural and seafood sector.

Increase Food System Climate Resilience and decrease environmental impacts

We convene food waste stakeholders to drive increased excess food donation and food waste composting by advancing policy and regulatory improvements, supporting municipal and nonprofit partners in accessing funding for food waste initiatives, and educating residential, commercial, and institutional food waste generators about how reducing food waste can feed hungry people, create healthy soils, and support a sustainable food system.

Ensure Organizational Sustainability and Impact

We support the board, staff and volunteer member network with professional development and appropriate resources and benefits, establish and implement effective strategic direction and procedures for day-to-day operations; create appropriate plans for executing and reporting on a program of evaluation, and ensure funding is available through public and private grant writing.

Advance Equitable Food Systems Education, Advocacy, and Engagement

We build the capacity of Rhode Islanders to advocate for food system changes that are important to them and their communities through education and training, and support them in meeting each other, building collective power, and advocating for policy and regulatory improvements they want to see made.

RIFPC is a strong leader in food policy and civic education with many state partners. Our data sources are well-known and respected. Our events are growing in reputation among key decision makers. The advocacy trainings and food systems education we offer is popular and sought-after including among RIDOH's Health Equity Zones. Over the next three years, we will work to grow new partnerships with front line organizations, especially those that serve younger and older adult populations. Concurrently we will seek to boost dedicated funding for this work.

OBJECTIVES

- Build capacity through the *Policy for the People, Food Leaders Lab, Bill Tracker*, and other freely available advocacy learning for new network members and those most impacted by food system inequities to engage in food system advocacy

- Increase understanding of injustices in the current food system and opportunities to build equity and resiliency through educational resources like RIFPC's *Data Dashboard*, annual *Food System Factbook*, and *Municipal Food System Fact Sheets*
- Engage elected officials at all levels about the need for just, local food policy through meetings and events such as our *Farm Visit with Legislators* and *Good Food Policy Day* at the State House
- Foster a culture where work groups, partners, and network members embrace equity, community outreach, education, and policy advocacy as intrinsic to our work

KEY RESULTS

- Increased number of individuals engaging in food systems advocacy
 - ◆ Increased number of new attendees at Policy for the People, Good Food Policy Day, and other advocacy events *as evidenced by attendance sheets and manual tracking of participation.*
 - ◆ Increased number of written and oral testimonies submitted by RIFPC network members *as evidenced by manual tracking of participation.*
 - ◆ Increased number of new individuals engaging with RIFPC's advocacy efforts *as evidenced by attendance sheets, manual tracking of participation, and Food Leaders Lab post-training surveys.*
 - ◆ Successful execution of Food Leaders Lab pilot trainings *as evidenced by pre- and post training surveys.*
- Increased visibility and circulation of key RIFPC educational resources
 - ◆ Increased number of visits to website-based resources (Data Dashboard, Food System Factbook, Municipal Fact Sheets, and others) *as evidenced by internet tracking data.*
 - ◆ Increased engagement on social media and YouTube channels *as evidenced by social media tracking data.*
 - ◆ Increased understanding about injustices of the current food system and opportunities to build equity and resiliency through a local food system as evidenced by data from our biennial network survey *as evidenced by data collected through our biennial Network Survey.*
- Updated **Data Dashboard/Factbook**, **RI Stories**, and **Food System Fact Sheets** *as evidenced by the existence of our published and updated online resources.*

- Increased recognition by elected officials at all levels as a leading food system resource as evidenced by increased number of elected officials attending RIFPC policy-events, such as *Farm Visit with Legislators* and *Good Food Policy Day*

Increase Food Access & Nutrition Security

We engender strategic coordination and strengthening connections that result in the establishment and support of statewide programs, policies, and structures that ensure that all Rhode Islanders can affordably and consistently eat well.

RIFPC has a close relationship with the Rhode Island Department of Health, developed through several years of partnership in coordinating the state Hunger Elimination Task Force. They support our Statewide Produce Prescription Initiative and other Food Is Medicine (FIM) work. We have also established trust with hundreds of community advocates and frontline food security workers as well as healthcare Accountable Entities, academic advisors, and subject matter experts. Over the next three years, we will work to find dedicated funding for the advancement of our projects and general funding that allows for support of member advocacy on policy priorities, and further establish the need for a statewide produce prescription initiative.

OBJECTIVES

- Increase access to fruits and vegetables for residents who experience food insecurity and are diagnosed with diet-related diseases by coordinating the *Rhode Island Produce Prescription Initiative*
- Ensure that food insecure residents have more consistent access to fresh, local, culturally-appropriate food by connecting RI food producers, aggregators, and organizations that provide food to food insecure Rhode Islanders to build markets through the *Rhody Feeding Rhody Alliance*
- Provide subject matter expertise to state planning and implementation processes related to food access and nutrition security
- Educate, connect and mobilize community advocates and those with lived experience of food insecurity to advance statewide policy priorities by coordinating RIFPC's *Food Access & Nutrition Security Work Group*

KEY RESULTS

- Increased statewide capacity to provide produce prescriptions to Rhode Islanders experiencing food insecurity and diet-related disease

- ◆ Increase in the number of produce prescriptions provided *as evidenced by aggregate partner tracking numbers.*
 - ◆ Increase in the amount of local and culturally appropriate foods provided using an established baseline *as evidenced by product lists and sample recipes provided by food suppliers.*
 - ◆ Positive perception and reception of PRx program among receiving participants *as evidenced by survey data from external USDA LFPP evaluator and participation in Rhody Feeding Rhody Alliance meetings.*
- Increased connections and expanded markets that link Rhode Island food producers and aggregators to organizations that provide food to food insecure Rhode Islanders *as evidenced by survey data from external USDA LFPP evaluator and participation in Rhody Feeding Rhody Alliance meetings*
 - A more supportive policy environment for food- and nutrition-insecure Rhode Islanders *as evidenced by state legislative and regulatory improvements made*
 - Increase in the number of community advocates and people with lived experience of food insecurity who engage in statewide policy change *as evidenced by participation data from our biennial network survey and post-training surveys of food leaders lab graduates.*

Support Underserved Farm, Seafood, and Food Businesses

We build trust-based relationships with farmers, fishers, and other food business owners, and communicate about the current state of market opportunities for local and regional food products in order to ensure that business owners in this sector have every opportunity to survive, thrive, and contribute to a strong and growing agricultural and seafood sector.

Strategic Objective-Specific Situational Analysis

RIFPC has a positive reputation with value chain stakeholders including farmers, fishers, and food business owners as well as agencies and non-profit organizations. We support policy and investment priorities and execute projects that support each other. In the next three years, we will build means of coordinating with other producer service providers and ensure that program planning continues to prioritize the needs of historically underserved farmers, fishers, and other food business owners.

OBJECTIVES

- Support small and beginning farmers through customized programs and assistance in navigating and accessing appropriate resources
- Facilitate establishment and growth of local and regional markets for value-added products
- Ensure equitable access for underserved business owners to capital, technical assistance, and other resources
- Operate an open Food Business and Economy Work Group that successfully advances priority policies

KEY RESULTS

- More small farm and food businesses that are viable and owned by people from diverse communities, cultures, and backgrounds *as evidenced by data collected for the USDA BFRDP program*
- Bigger, more consistent values-based supply chains leading to a more robust and resilient local/regional food system *as evidenced by data collected for the USDA BFRDP program and the New England Feeding New England 'Local Food Counts' project.*
- A more supportive policy environment for farm and food businesses and organizations dedicated to helping them succeed *as evidenced by participation data from our biennial network survey and post-training surveys of food leaders lab graduates.*

Increase Food System Climate Resilience and decrease environmental impacts

We convene food waste stakeholders to drive increased excess food donation and food waste composting by advancing policy and regulatory improvements, supporting municipal and nonprofit partners in accessing funding for food waste initiatives, and educating residential, commercial, and institutional food waste generators about how reducing food waste can feed hungry people, create healthy soils, and support a sustainable food system.

Our network of composters and surplus food advocates are committed to expanding composting programs large and small. Our state legislature and agencies are increasingly engaged and supportive of reducing food waste. We have committed public and private funding sources. In the next three years we will diversify our private

funder base and build our capacity to work at the municipal level, with a dedicated focus on serving environmental justice communities. We will also educate residents and other community stakeholders about the importance of reducing food waste to achieving climate goals, and work with state agencies to address insufficient infrastructure and NIMBY concerns.

OBJECTIVES

- Reduce wasted food and increase the equitable availability and utilization of compost
- Establish, coordinate, and facilitate a new Statewide Food Waste Solutions Action Network, and develop a comprehensive Statewide Food Waste Solutions Plan including recommendations for implementation and evaluation.
- Operate an open Food Climate, and Environment Work Group that successfully advances priority legislation
- Run educational programs that support understanding of the importance of food waste reduction in achieving climate goals and address NIMBY concerns
- Diversify private funder base

KEY RESULTS

- Higher amounts of food waste being diverted away from the landfill and toward commercial and community composting locations, reducing methane emissions and prolonging the useful lifespan of the central landfill, including in low-income communities *as evidenced by evaluation data collected for the EPA CCG grant program.*
- A collaboratively developed pathway leading toward a future where excess food and food waste are eliminated from the waste stream, leading to increased public and private investment in food waste composting *as evidenced by participation data from the Statewide Food Waste Action Network process and evaluation data collected for the EPA CCG grant program.*
- A more supportive population of residents and stakeholders, and a more supportive policy environment for food waste composting and surplus food donation *as evidenced by increased and diversified attendance at the Compost Conference and post-event survey data from that event.*
- Key food systems stakeholders can identify key metrics of the food system environment impact similar to identifying the impact of current GhG drivers as

evidenced by downloads of the Statewide Food Waste Action Plan and registrants for the associated webinar.

- Increase breadth of funding sources for this programmatic area *as evidenced by an increased number of funders making grants.*

Ensure Organizational Sustainability and Impact

We support the board, staff and volunteer member network with professional development and appropriate resources and benefits, establish and implement effective strategic direction and procedures for day-to-day operations; create appropriate plans for executing and reporting on a program of evaluation, and ensure funding is available through public and private grant writing.

Our organizational structures, procedures, and policies have evolved greatly in the past few years. We need to become more skilled in providing a clear, compelling story and brand aligned with our vision, mission, and values, which in turn supports effective fundraising and volunteer network member engagement processes. We do a good job of programmatic evaluation. In the next three years, we will continue to mature our organizational structure, procedures, and policies. We will develop our understanding of systems change needs, our capacity to grow the size and diversity of our volunteer member network and execute collective decision-making processes, and opportunities for collaboration with partners and grow our capacity to develop coalitions. We will evaluate the outputs, outcomes, and impacts of our network as well as our programs.

OBJECTIVES

- Hone and share our story of impact through key annual reports, presentations, meetings
- Broaden our funder base, including more multi-year and unrestricted grants
- Support core partners in leveraging transformational funding sources
- Set and meet ambitious, achievable annual work plans and associated fundraising goals
- Ensure solid internal operations (e.g., processes and procedures, work-place norms)
- Clarify roles and relationships between volunteer network members, staff, board and external partners

KEY RESULTS

- Increased capacity to deliver mission-aligned results across network and programs *as evidenced by a budget with dollars and FTEs broken down by network and program activities.*
- Maintain a well-supported staff and board who have what they need to work effectively *as evidenced by a report on professional development investments and data from an employee satisfaction survey.*
- Engender a Rhode Island community, including a Rhode Island funding community, who are aware and provide consistent support to the Rhode Island Food Policy Council *as evidenced by an increase in the number of funders, multi-year commitments, and dollars from continuing and new funders plus to measure network awareness measurement of key communications indicators including newsletter open rates, social media views, and our biennial network survey.*
- Improved clarity across our network of how the various parts of the RIFPC work together *as evidenced by data collected through our biennial network survey.*

Appendices

Structure

Non-Profit Status

The Rhode Island Food Policy Council is a 501(C)3 organization registered in the State of Rhode Island.

Personnel

The Board of Directors, which always includes at least two Council members by our Bylaws, steers RIFPC towards a sustainable future by adopting sound, ethical, and legal governance and financial management policies, as well as by making sure it has adequate resources to advance its mission.

At the end of 2024, RIFPC's full-time staff included an Executive Director, an Associate Director, an Engagement Manager, three Program Directors, one Manager, and one part-time seasonal program associate (7FTEs). In 2025 we will add one program associate, two additional managers, and a Grant and Finance Director, bringing total FTEs to 12.

Volunteer network members comprise an important part of the Rhode Island Food Policy Council. They support RIFPC's mission by attending networking and educational events, developing policy, joining work groups, and advocating for good food policy.

Consultants and interns are hired on an ad-hoc basis to fulfill specific needs. These may include research, evaluation, design, and communications needs, among others.

Programs

Food Access & Nutrition Security

Program description here.

Food, Climate, & Environment

Program description here.

Food Business & Economic Development

Program description here.

Funders

Foundations

11th Hour Racing (Schmidt Family Foundation)

Angell Foundation

Island Foundation

Kendall Foundation

Rhode Island Foundation

Point32 Foundation

UNFI Foundation

Government

Rhode Island Commerce Corporation

Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management

Rhode Island Department of Health

USDA AMS (Agricultural Marketing Service)

USDA Rural Development

Contracts

ASPIRES (University of Vermont)

Rhode Island Association of Conservation Districts