

PULSE

OF THE FOOD MOVEMENT

Catalyzing Change

Greetings!

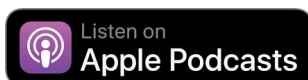
Below are brief recaps for our 2019 work as well as what we see for 2020.

Fostering Many Dialogues

Dialogues are conversations in which people think together to derive more understanding and conviction and they are the center of our ***Flipping the Table*** podcast. I have wonderful memories of podcasts with many powerful leaders. If you've not begun to listen, please do [from this page](#). I think you will be as inspired and uplifted as I have been. In season II, we feature many entrepreneurs changing our world through their businesses, some key activists at the center of the food movement and writers and thinkers who ignite hope and wonder in me. **This Thursday, January 9th look for our first 2020 episode featuring Peter Hoffman**, the brilliant chef who brought the farm to table concept to New York City in the early 1990s.



Listen to Our Latest "Flipping the Table" Podcasts



Working with the [UC Davis Agricultural Sustainability Institute](#), with funding from Kat Taylor and Tom Steyer, we are hosting and facilitating ten conversations about rural community resilience with farmers, ranchers, environmental justice advocates and climate scientists. These are rich exchanges that increase knowledge, dispel misconceptions and improve research agendas. When we have completed our statewide series next summer, we will issue a white paper with findings for researchers and policymakers as well as practical information sheets for

farmers and ranchers seeking to build soil.

Image credit: UCDAISI

I am excited to announce that **we have just received a five-year grant from [Cigna](#)**, the health care services company, to model community-led resilience planning. We will work with three scientists from our home institution, [Public Health Institute](#), to protect and enhance air and water quality and local food systems in three California communities. I am extremely excited about this because resilience planning around food systems is essential to California's future. Look for updates on this and all our work by [subscribing to our newsletter](#).



Share This Newsletter With Your Network



Changing Policy in Sacramento



Although there were fewer policy wins in 2019 than past years, **we believe that Governor Newsom is strategically focused on food, farms and rural communities** and he supported some very important wins.

Last spring ROC joined [CalCAN](#)'s day of advocacy in the State Capitol and helped arrange key meetings with policymakers that shape the budget. With their support and that of Governor Newsom, the groundbreaking

[Healthy Soils Program](#) received nearly double the funding, up to \$28 million from \$15 million in 2018. Soil building and carbon capture will accelerate. [READ MORE](#)

Annual Food Movement Event in Sacramento: Tuesday, January 15th, 5:30pm- 8:00pm

The California Food & Farming Network, a group of more than 60 organizations working across the food & farming chain, is excited to announce the release of the 2019 Food & Farm Scorecard on January 15th, 2020. The annual scorecard is developed by dozens of local and state organizations, tracks the voting records of California state legislators, and honors a select few that have stood out. Please join us in celebration of the scorecard and honoring these

champions!

Award recipients are:

- **Assemblymember Cecila Aguiar-Curry** (AD-04), and
- **Assemblymember Monique Limón** (AD-37)

Last year, CDFA Secretary Karen Ross was awarded for her great work over many years.

The event is hosted by Mulvaney's B&L. The 7th annual scorecard builds upon prior years work of both Roots of Change and the California Food Policy Council. Doors open at 5:30pmm, program begins at 6pm. Food & drinks will be served.



Please RSVP by January 10, 2020 [here](#).

Support ROC's Work

In 2020, we will pursue smart policies related to enhancing rural broadband, continue those related to healthy food access and ecological agriculture, and giving small farmers a fair shot at the marketplace.

Roots of Change made progress in 2019 and we will make more in 2020 with your continued support and interest. **Please become a contributor to our work.**

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Spotlighted Ally: The Wild Farm Alliance

The Wild Farm Alliance (WFA) was founded 20 years go by [Dan Imhoff](#), a ROC advisor and noted author on the federal farm bill and ecological farming. Dan's intention has been to bring nature back to farms because nature enhances farm and ranch resilience and as he often says, "nature also has rights." Due to the huge decline in bird populations, with 3 billion lost in the recent decades, WFA has a focus on helping agriculture develop habit for birds, many of which are excellent pest control allies. The



great conservationist and philosopher Aldo Leopold, whose work helped inspire Dan to launch WFA, said, "a thing is right when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community. It is wrong when it tends otherwise." WFA is helping agriculture to support biotic communities. As a member of the board of the [Wild Farm Alliance](#), I invite you to have a look at the Wild Farm Alliance website and to become a contributor for the next three years as it begins to scale up its important work.

Image credit: Wild Farm Alliance

Thank you for your interest and support!

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Michael Reid Dimock
President
Roots of Change
A Program of the Public Health Institute

Roots of Change



mail@rootsofchange.org | www.rootsofchange.org