



Fruits of our Labor and the Latest Podcast

Dear Doris,

The Fall season is offering some bountiful news we are excited to share!

Non-partisan District 12 Assembly Candidate Forum



A non-partisan forum held in Petaluma on September 8 produced a very educational evening with candidates [Sara Aminzadeh](#) and [Damon Connolly](#). Running to represent Marin and Southern Sonoma County they answered questions from a panel and the audience. ROC co-sponsored the event with Agricultural Community Events, Agricultural Institute of Marin, California Food & Farming Network, Community Alliance with Family Farmers, Lideres Campesinas, Interfaith Sustainable Food Collaborative, Marin Food Policy Council, North Bay Jobs with Justice, SF Marin Food Bank, and Sonoma County Food System Alliance.

For those of you who could not attend, click on the link below to the **live Facebook streaming of the event**:

[Click Here: Live Facebook Streaming Link](#)



Sarah Aminzadeh speaking with Steve Schwartz, Interfaith Food Systems Collaborative, Jennifer Fearing, lobbyist, and Michael Dimock, Roots of Change.



Damon Connolly in conversation with members of the audience.

Success all Around in California's Budget and Promising Developments in DC



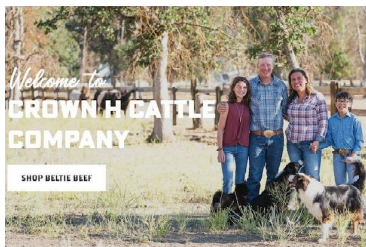
Extreme drought, heat, fire, superstorms and malnutrition abound. Luckily governments at all levels are slowly building up steam to address these threats born of climate change, racism and poverty. I am especially pleased by the progress made this year with our allies from the [Food and Farm Resilience Coalition](#). We successfully advocated for over \$700 million approved in the [2022-23](#)

[California budget](#). Add that to the \$1.3 billion in the [2021-22 budget](#) and we can comfortably claim that \$2 billion will accelerate transformation of our food system. I think you will agree **if you hit the READ MORE link** to review the amazing array of programs that were part of our Coalition's advocacy goals. [READ MORE](#)

California's Real Rural

Siskiyou County sits atop the state on the Oregon border, sandwiched between Del Norte and Humboldt counties to the west and Modoc County to the east. It is very rural and very beautiful, high plateau country. It is a great place to raise livestock and grow grains and fodder

crops. Michael Dimock was recently there with Dr. Tom Tomich from the [UC Davis Food Systems Lab](#) to meet with UC Cooperative Extension [Livestock Advisor Grace Woodmansee](#) and an inspiring group of ranchers and rural economic developers, and a processor, creating direct relationships with those who seek high quality meat. A series of informative meetings revealed deep commitment to innovation, collaboration and forming strong links with the buyers in the Sacramento and Bay Area markets. Check out the ranches below, from which you can buy high quality meat directly that will be shipped to your home! Also see the link to Michael's latest podcast with Grace and Tom. Watch for continuing developments around our [USDA-funded Regional Food System Partnership](#) project. Over three years our team will create two new supply chains from family operations using wild-life friendly, regenerative, grassfed, and/or organic methods. This is another important ROC effort to cross the urban-rural, producer-eater divides and to bring good meat to eaters.



[Crown H Cattle Company](#)
Pastured and farm-finished dry-aged beef from Belted Galloway cattle



[Jenner Family Beef](#)
Pastured and farm finished angus beef



[StarWalker Organic Farms](#)
Pastured and farm-finished organic pork and beef

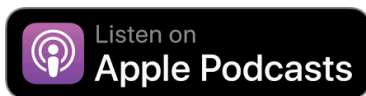
Flipping the Table Podcast, Season 4, Episode 10:

How Siskiyou County Might Save Good Ranches and Healthy Meat in the Age of Industrial Concentration and Climate Change

A Conversation with Grace Woodmansee and Tom Tomich

You have probably heard how challenging it is to keep a farm or ranch alive in today's industrial food

system. Low prices, high barriers to market entry and climate impacts are killing off the family ranches that are the primary sources of meat. Big corporations are capturing the vast majority of the wealth and impoverishing rural communities. Hear about one attempt to turn the tide in one of the most rural regions of California, which is home to many good people and beautiful ranches seeking more direct relationship to urban eaters. Listen on one of the podcast sites below:



ROC's Statement on the White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health



The [White House Conference on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health](#) held on September 28th shone a long overdue spotlight on the enmeshed crises of food insecurity, diet-related diseases, and health inequities in the United States. The Conference served as the launchpad for the [White House's National Strategy](#) to

achieve its stated goals of ending hunger, increasing healthy eating and physical activity, and reducing health disparities by 2030.

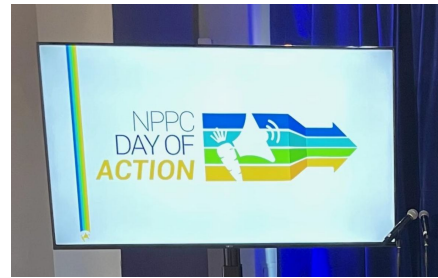
Roots of Change stands in solidarity with these goals and applauds the National Strategy's inclusion of food system initiatives that have long been at the core of ROC's mission, including: expanding federal nutrition incentive programs, integrating nutrition and health with food as medicine interventions, and increasing access to local food sources.

As acknowledged in the National Strategy, climate change "has direct relevance for the future of food security and human health." ROC will continue advocating for a local food system infrastructure that enables regional foods from organic and sustainable producers to be available to SNAP and WIC participants and others in need of nutrition security.

ROC's Policy Specialist Attended Washington D.C. Conferences



The annual [International Fresh Produce Association](#) Washington Conference took place in Washington, D.C. at the end of September. The conference is an opportunity for industry members and nutrition advocates to discuss key policy and regulatory issues that impact the fresh produce industry, such as food safety, nutrition policy, labor, infrastructure, and transportation. A central theme at this year's conference was **food as medicine and the important role the fresh produce industry can play in reducing diet-related diseases**. Lesley Kroupa, Policy Specialist, Roots of Change, was in attendance.



The [National Produce Prescription Collaborative \(NPPC\)](#) Convening and Day of Action was held on September 29th in Washington, D.C. NPPC's mission is to advance federal and state policy change that leverages produce prescriptions as prevention & intervention for diet-related disease and further embeds this effective model into healthcare and food retail systems. Amy DeLisio, Director, Center for Wellness and Nutrition, and Lesley Kroupa, Policy Specialist, Roots of Change, joined practitioners of and **advocates for produce prescriptions from all over the country to learn from each other's experiences and strategize next steps for expanding the reach of these promising programs**.

ARC Project: New Audio Alert System Launches to Protect Farmworkers from Wildfire Smoke

Wildfire smoke and climate change are growing threats to farmworkers, who must often continue to work in the fields during wildfires and extreme heat events. Last week, [PHI's Achieving Resilient Communities \(ARC\)](#)

partnered with the Ventura County Air Pollution Control District, Mixteco Indigena Community Organizing Project (MICOP), Líderes Campesinas and Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy (CAUSE) to launch new



updates to the county's emergency alert system, which will now include audio messages in Mixteco and Zapoteco that would notify farmworkers when air quality reaches unhealthy levels due to wildfire smoke. [READ MORE](#)

Thank you for your interest and support!

*Doris Meier
Editor of the PULSE
Roots of Change*

For updates on the array of ROC projects, click on links below:

[Current Projects](#)
[2022 Policy Work](#)
[Flipping the Table Podcasts](#)

Please [support our work](#).
Roots of Change is a program of the [Public Health Institute](#).

 **Roots of Change**



mail@rootsofchange.org | www.rootsofchange.org

Roots of Change | 555 12th Street, 16th Floor, Oakland, CA 94607

[Unsubscribe mail@rootsofchange.org](#)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data](#)
[Notice](#)

Sent by mail@rootsofchange.org powered by



Try email marketing for free today!