



Action-Packed Advocacy & Project Updates

Greetings!

We hope you're enjoying this beautiful, albeit unseasonably warm and worrisome drought weather. And if you are experiencing climate change related emotions, we invite you to check out Dr. Britt Wray's [newsletter](#) (she is a previous guest on our Flipping the Table podcast) and an article she refers to by the leading eco-emotions researcher Panu Pihkala's, [Toward Taxonomy of Climate Emotions](#), a look at what is meant by climate related emotional responses.

Updates on ROC Projects

Health Equity & Racial Justice Fund

We need your help in educating the members of our legislature over the next few weeks. They must understand the need to fund a core piece of our state's public health infrastructure: **community-based organizations (CBOs) which were left out of the Governor's budget proposal.** *Image: Shane Rounce, Unsplash*



Make Your Voice Heard Tomorrow

Call in to the Budget Hearing on Friday, 2/18 at 9:00am

Note: you will see the Senate health committee info at this link. Once the hearing starts there will be a link to "watch or listen"

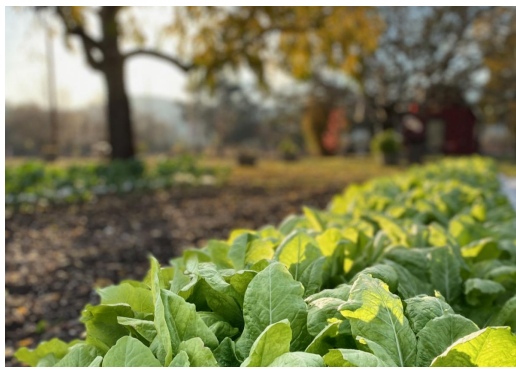
[Call instructions in English](#)

[Call instructions in Spanish](#)

Post on your social media and sign on today; together we can make funding for equity and justice a reality!

[Email Governor Newsom](#)

[Health Equity & Racial Justice Fund - Learn More](#)



Policy Update - AB 125 Coalition Becomes the Food and Farming Resilience Coalition

Given another year of a huge projected budget surplus for the state, no bonds will advance. The Legislature and Administration would rather pay for programs

now than saddle the state with more debt. We are committed to advocating for the investments that AB 125 outlined, so we changed course and renamed our effort. It is now called the **Food and Farming Resilience Coalition**. We will advocate through the budget process—which yielded incredible success last year with more than \$1 billion in investments for our coalition's priorities. Help us fund change by taking action below. See details of our budget request in our letter to the Legislature.

If your organization would like to sign onto this year's budget letter please email [Arohi Sharma \(asharma@nrhc.org\)](mailto:asharma@nrhc.org) with your name, title, and logo by COB **Tuesday, February 22nd, 2022.**

Local Regenerative Meat Project

We are part of the national effort to bring back regional meat processing. In collaboration with UC Davis Food Systems Lab we have received a USDA Regional Food System Partnership grant with three years of funding. We will help producers, processors and



buyers establish two high quality regional meat supply chains, one on the North Coast and the other in the Upper Sacramento Valley. A key partner could be the newly opened Bay Area Ranchers Cooperative (BAR-C) mobile processing facility, featured in this article. Jenny Lester Moffitt, former ROC Fellow and now USDA Under Secretary overseeing the nation's \$1 billion processing initiative, stopped in for the BAR-C plant inauguration last weekend and to record a podcast segment for Flipping the Table. Next month we'll share our plans and list of partners!

Image: Doris Meier



Achieving Resilient Communities (ARC): Stories of resilience

We are really impressed with the "Stories of resilience" video series about farm workers, co-produced by the

ARC Project and StoryCenter, and would like to share them with you.

As recently stated in the Tracking California newsletter, Farmworkers are 20 times more likely to die from heat stress than the US civilian workforce overall. As climate change exacerbates heat and wildfire smoke, resilience

efforts in farmworker communities will be crucial. To help increase awareness of these issues, farmworker leaders from the ARC farmworker advisory committee participated in a digital storytelling workshop to develop short videos that share their personal lived experiences with heat and wildfire smoke. This effort was led by [StoryCenter](#) and the [ARC Project](#), in collaboration with the California Department of Public Health.

Image: Still from StoryCenter video

Watch the
powerful
video series
here →



Statewide Budget Proposal: \$30 million for Community Food System Organizing



In collaboration with the [California Food Policy Council](#), we are in consultation with several legislators who may carry a budget request for capacity funding. The groundswell of support from currently 43 organizations (and growing) provides compelling incentive to champion our request. Join us by signing on to support [here](#). We will keep you informed on our

progress.

Image: Doris Meier

**Support \$30 million for community food system
organizing: [SIGN-ON HERE](#)**

Flipping the Table Podcast Season 4, Episode 2



Protecting Farmworkers by Achieving Resilient Communities, Part II

Michael Dimock talks with John Krist about protecting farmworkers from heat illness. John is the recently retired Chief Executive Officer of the Farm Bureau of Ventura County. This second episode on the ARC project highlights the different perspectives of the ag industry and the advocates, but also reveals where they share some common ground.



Future Podcast Topics

Below is the podcast line-up for the first half of 2022. We hope you enjoy listening and learning about what's going on in the frontlines of our food system work with partners from across the state and country.

- 3/01/22: Let's Feed Los Angeles: Covid Food Emergency Response
- 3/15/22: California's Meat Processing Challenges & Solutions
- 3/29/22: The Struggle for the Health Equity & Racial Justice Fund
- 4/18/22: Food as Medicine: Produce Rx & Medically Tailored Meals
- 5/17/22: Undoing the Knot Halting Needed Federal Agriculture Policy
- 5/31/22: The Budget Battle for a Just & Regenerative CA Food System
- 6/21/22: Lobbyists Weigh-in: How is the Movement Doing Politically
- 7/19/22: From the Frontline: Are We Making Progress on Food Justice



ROC is excited to announce a new PHI policy position related to our work and that of our allied PHI program, the Center for Wellness and Nutrition. Check it out and apply to work with a dynamic team doing big things in the local, state, national and global regenerative agriculture, nutrition access and regional food system spaces. We need you to help us change the world.

Policy Associate II - Apply Here

DONATE

We work for a just and healthy agriculture and food economy that is a solution to the many challenges of our time: the climate crisis, health disparities, racial injustices, the wealth gap, rural degradation due to food chain worker's low wages, and outdated policies that favor industrial food corporations over small and mid-scale farms and ranches. We cannot do this work without your support. Please think of us as you make your donations to those seeking to improve our world.

Thank you for your support!

Doris Meier
Editor of the PULSE
Roots of Change
A Program of the Public Health Institute

Roots of Change

