



BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS TO SUPPORT FOOD SOVEREIGNTY IN AFRICAN AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

December 3, 2019 Webinar

**Racial Equity in the Food System Workgroup
(REFS)**

MSU Center for Regional Food Systems

POLL QUESTION

To what extent does your organization (in your state or region) work with communities that are predominately African American? (Pick one response)

1: Work extensively with communities that are predominately African American

2: Work to a limited extent with communities that are predominately African American

3: Do not work at all with communities that are predominately African American

4: I do not know



RACIAL EQUITY IN THE FOOD SYSTEM WORKGROUP (REFS)

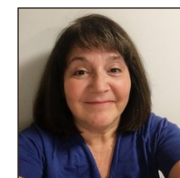
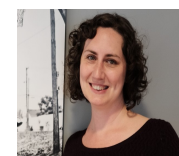
WHEN: Initiated in 2018

WHAT: A community of Cooperative Extension professionals and community stakeholders who *connect, learn, and collaborate* to facilitate change within our institutions and society to build racial equity within the food system.

HOW: Funded in part by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation; coordinated by the MSU Center for Regional Food Systems (CRFS)

RACIAL EQUITY IN THE FOOD SYSTEM (REFS) WORKGROUP STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Shorlette Ammons, NC State Extension
Aurora Buffington, University of Nevada Extension
Kimberly Carr, MSU (CRFS and C4i)
Lucy Diekmann, University of California Extension
Vanessa Garcia Polanco, Michigan State University
Heather Heyden, University of Kentucky Extension
Rachel Lindvall, South Dakota State University
Lindsey Lunsford, Tuskegee University
Shatomi Luster-Edward, University of Missouri
Erin Peot, University of Wisconsin Extension
Rich Pirog, Michigan State University - CRFS
Diego Thompson, Mississippi State University
Courtenay Simmons, Consultant
Gizem Templeton, Duke University
Crystal Tyler-Mackey, VA Coop Extension - VA Tech
Reneé V. Wallace, Doers Consulting Alliance
Dwayne Wharton, Consultant





Kimberly Carr, MPH, PhD Candidate

**Post-Doctoral Research Associate, Food
Sovereignty and Racial Equity**

MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

Center for
Regional Food Systems

MSU CENTER FOR REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS



- Shared collaboration with Michigan State University's Center for Interdisciplinarity
- Racial Equity in the Food System Workgroup, Committee Member
- Receiving PhD in Integrative Biosciences, Tuskegee University, Historically Black College/University (HBCU)
- Master in Public Health (M.P.H.) degree, Morehouse School of Medicine, Historically Black College/University (HBCU)

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY AND RACIAL EQUITY IN MICHIGAN

INSIGHTS/ APPROACH

- **Food sovereignty and racial equity is multi-dimensional**
- **Systems-thinking**
- **Comprehensive narrative frames and/or lens**
 - Food system, justice (e.g., environmental, food, social) racial equity
- **Change in paradigm (from academic community):**
 - **Deficit Model** (what's the problem?) to **Asset Model** (what assets can be uplifted to empower?)

RESEARCH

Goal: Develop a curriculum module used in institutional classrooms and/or by MSU Extension to implement in local communities

Process:

- Conduct preliminary study(ies) using Michigan Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS)
- Conduct future studies using qualitative and/or mixed methodology

Building Partnerships to Support Food Sovereignty in African American Communities

Dec 3, 2019

Malik Yakini



Lilly Fink Shapiro



Jerry Hebron



Enslavement
Sharecropping
Terror Campaigns
Black Land Theft

These and other historical attacks on Black sovereignty have left African-Americans particularly vulnerable to exploitation and injustice by a food system deeply immersed in white supremacy and capitalism.



TKO Farms, McCool, MS



Cooperation Jackson, Jackson, MS



D-Town Farm, Detroit, MI



Truly Living Well, Atlanta, GA



Afri-Can Food Basket, TO

Black Food Sovereignty Efforts



www.blackfoodjustice.org

4 years of Food Literacy for All

2017-2020

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
INVITES YOU TO

Food Literacy for All

FEATURING

- 1.17.17 FRANCES MOORE LAPPE
- 1.24.17 RICARDO SALVADOR
- 1.31.17 RAJ PATEL
- 3.14.17 SARU JAYARAMAN
- 3.21.17 MONICA WHITE
- 3.28.17 MICHAEL TWITTY
- 4.4.17 WAYNE ROBERTS
- 4.11.17 KELLY BROWNELL

Tuesday Evenings

6:30-8:00 PM
Angell Hall, Auditorium B
Winter semester 2017
NRE.639.038

This community-academic partnership course will be co-led by **Jennifer Blesh**, agroecologist and Assistant Professor in the School of Natural Resources and Environment, and **Malik Yakini**, Executive Director and a co-founder of the Detroit Black Community Food Security Network. UM students can enroll in the course for credit and community members can attend the series for free.

UM Sustainable Food Systems Initiative

FOOD LITERACY FOR ALL

Planting Seeds of Resistance

Winter 2019

Featuring

- 1.22.19 Mónica Ramírez
- 1.29.19 Chef Sean Sherman
- 2.12.19 Paul Greenberg
- 2.19.19 Elizabeth Yeampierre
- 3.12.19 Anna Lappé
- 3.19.19 Christopher Gardner
- 3.26.19 Shirley Sherrod
- 4.2.19 Samina Raja
- 4.9.19 Dara Cooper

Food Literacy for All is a community academic partnership course at the University of Michigan. UM students can enroll in the course for credit and community members can attend the series for free.

The course is co-led by:
Lesli Hsey | Tausman College
Jerry Ann Hebron | Oakland Ave. Farm
Lilly Fink Shapiro | SFSI

In partnership with:
Detroit Food Policy Council
FoodLab Detroit

Tuesdays 6:30 - 8:00PM
Angell Hall, Auditorium B | University of Michigan
EAS 639.038 ENVIRON 314 URP610 URP 402



Food Literacy For All

Setting the Table for Health Equity

Winter 2020

The course is co-led by:
Cindy Leung | School of Public Health
Jerry Ann Hebron | Oakland Ave Farm
Lilly Fink Shapiro | SFSI

In partnership with:
Detroit Food Policy Council
FoodLab Detroit

Tuesdays 6:30-8pm

Community members can attend for free

UM students can enroll for credit

Angell Hall Auditorium B
University of Michigan

EAS639.038
ENVIRON314
PUBHLTH318
NUTR518

Food Literacy For All course will bring national leaders to Michigan for lecture series

Posted By [Tom Perkins](#) on Wed, Dec 26, 2018 at 11:22 am



 Listen to an Audio Version of the Article
03:05  Powered by [Trinity Audio](#)



Photo courtesy of Food Literacy for All
Dara Cooper, co-director of the National Black Food and Justice Alliance.



February 13, 2017

Share on:  

New food systems course opens doors to community

By [Safiya Merchant](#)
The University Record

Topics: [Academics](#), [Campus News](#), [Sustainability](#)

Mike Levine represents one of the original cornerstones of the global food system: farmers.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

FACULTY INSTRUCTOR

DETROIT CO-INSTRUCTOR

COURSE DIRECTOR

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

2017

Jennifer Blesh
SEAS 2017

Malik Yakini



Detroit Black
Community
Food Security
Network
2017 - 2018

*Lilly Fink
Shapiro*

SEAS



2018

Catherine Badgley
LSA 2018

Jerry Ann Hebron



Oakland
Avenue
Farm
2019 - 2020



2017
2018
2019
2020

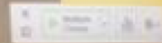


2020

Cindy Leung
SPH 2020

**This is why
We fight.**

Real
Har
Vi



**NORTH AMERICA'S
HISTORY
BEGINS WITH
INDIGENOUS HISTORY**

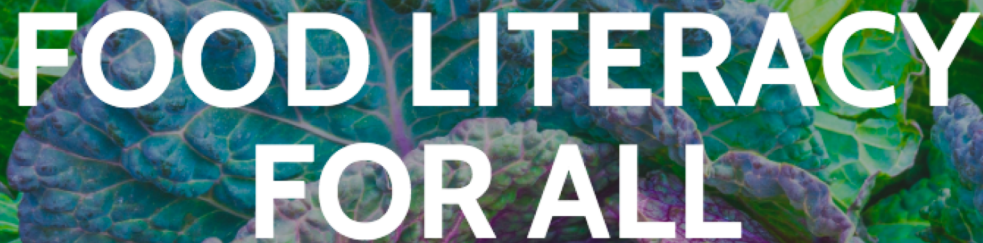




The Long Green Revolution

University of Michigan
Sustainable Food Systems Initiative
January 2017

@_RajPatel
Lyndon Baines Johnson School of Public Affairs
University of Texas at Austin

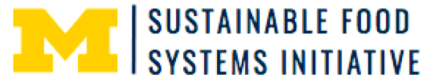


FOOD LITERACY FOR ALL

FREE SHUTTLES FROM DETROIT

Tuesday Jan 29, 2019	Chef Sean Sherman
Tuesday March 12, 2019	Anna Lappé
Tuesday March 26, 2019	Shirley Sherrod
Tuesday April 9, 2019	Dara Cooper

Shuttles will depart from the UM Detroit Center (3663 Woodward) at 5:15 pm and arrive at the University of Michigan. Seats must be reserved for this free, round trip shuttle. Please contact Kibibi Blount-Dorn (kibibi@detroitfoodpc.org) to sign-up by the Wednesday before each lecture.



Why does our partnership work?

- Trust
- Equal partnership at every step
- Value of community based knowledge
- Location of meetings
- Multi directional Learning
 - ← Students →
 - ← Community attendees →
 - ← Course Leadership Team →
 - ← Guest speakers →



All classes are filmed and available to watch for free

□ Food Literacy for All

Paul Greenberg |
“Four Fish: The
Future of the Last
Wild Food”



[READ MORE](#)

Panel Discussion |
“Radicalizing Food
Systems Education:
Perspectives from
Detroit to Chiapas”

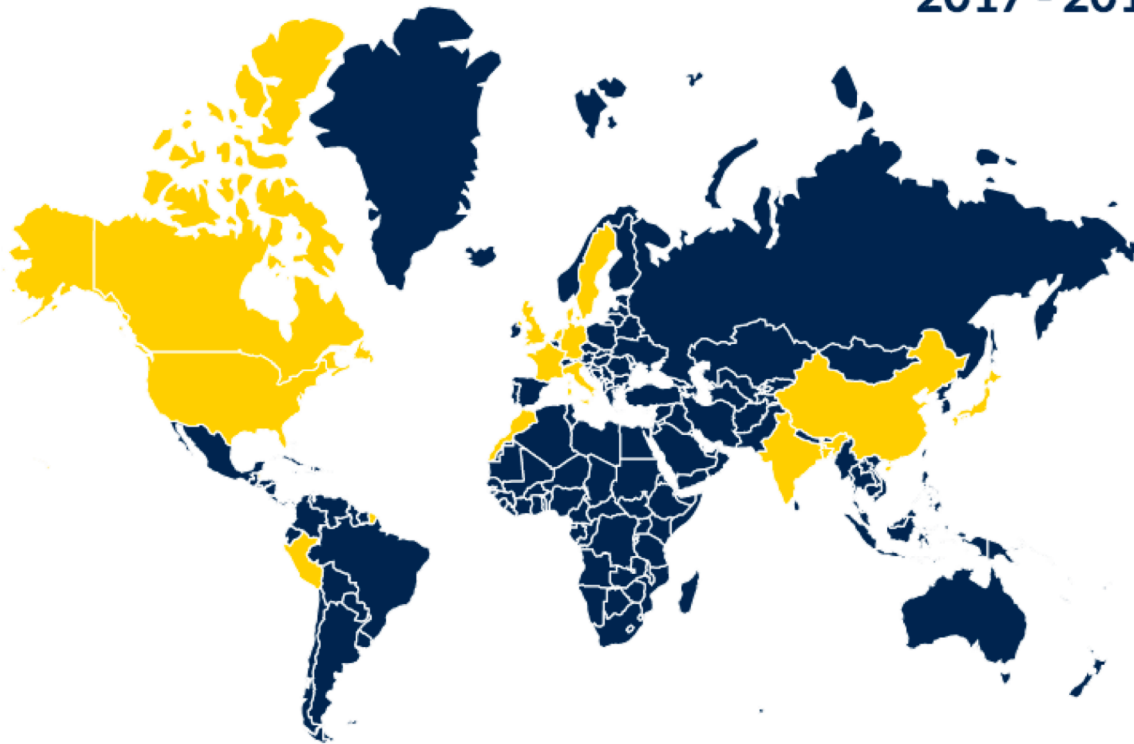


Dara Cooper | “Black
Feminist Freedom
Dreams: Food
Sovereignty and the
Urgency of
Intersectional
Movement Building”



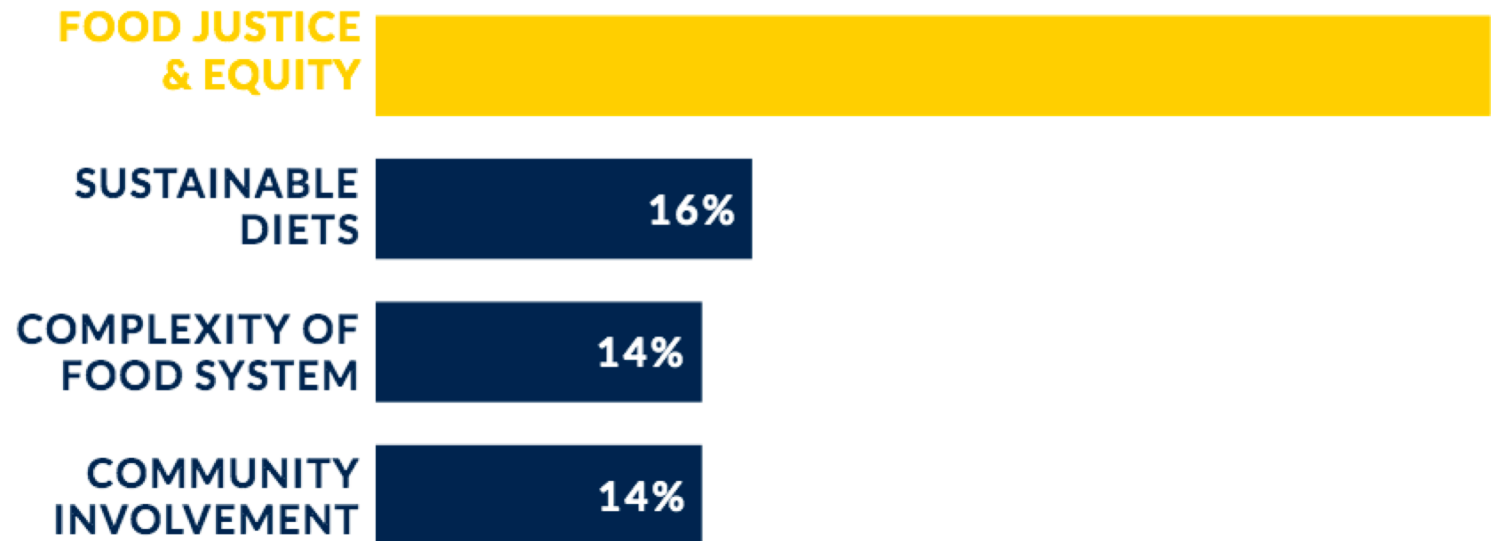
REMOTE ENGAGEMENT

Food Literacy for All has been watched all **over the world**
2017 - 2019

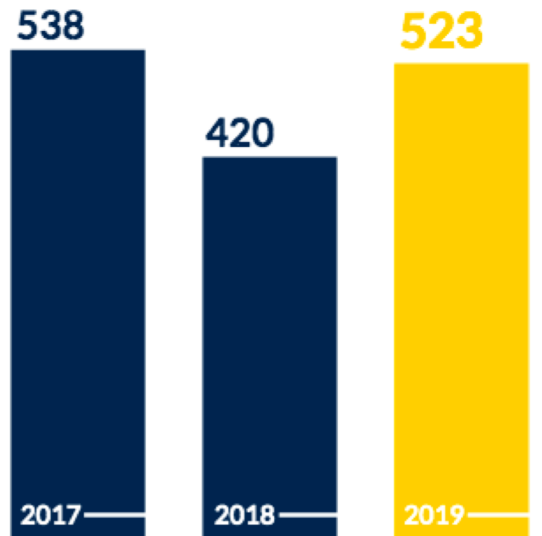


COURSE THEMES

47% OF ATTENDEES found themes of **FOOD JUSTICE & EQUITY** to be the most memorable

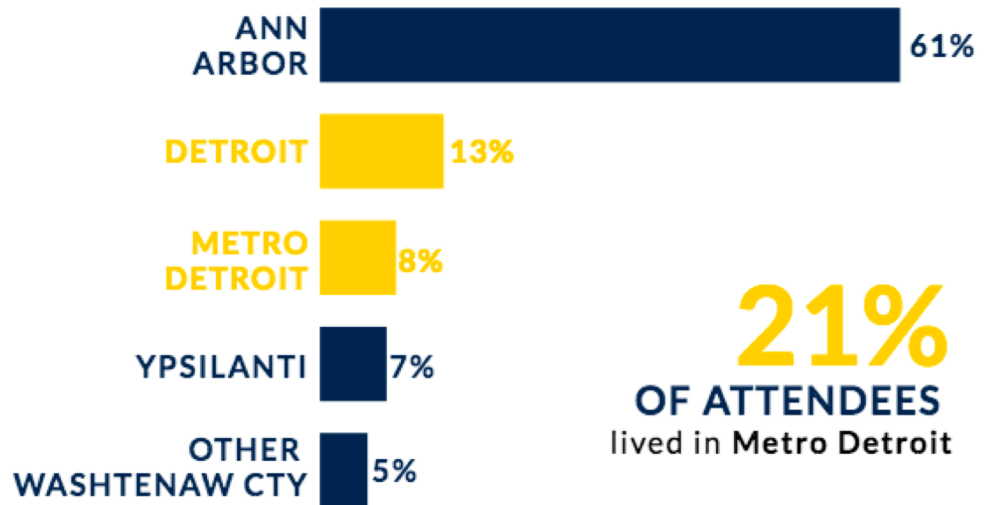


COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



OVER **1400** COMMUNITY MEMBERS engaged since 2017

IN 2019 **39%** lived outside Ann Arbor



21% OF ATTENDEES lived in Metro Detroit

Attendees also reported living in Trinidad and Tobago, Flint, Toledo, Grand Rapids, Mexico, East Lansing, and Brooklyn.

Deepening our Partnership: UM Interns in Detroit



Deepening our Partnership: UM Interns in Detroit



Deepening our Partnership: UM Interns in Detroit



Deepening our Partnership: UM Interns in Detroit





Food Literacy



For All

Setting the Table for Health Equity

Winter 2020



Food Literacy



For All

Tune in this semester or to our previous sessions!
Link in webinar

Setting the Table for Health Equity

Winter 2020

Racial Equity in the Food System workgroup (REFS)

- To join the EQUITYFOOD list serv, find other resources, and see who serves on the committee, go to:
- <https://www.canr.msu.edu/racial-equity-workgroup/>



Thank You....and Until Next time

- Link to webinar recording and slides will be sent to all webinar registrants
- Funding support for REFS comes in part from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation

Peace and Respect to All...

Racial Equity in the Food System Committee (REFS)