

NATIONAL WEBINAR – SEPTEMBER 16TH

Food Sovereignty and the Role of Extension: Partnerships that Work

Webinar offered by:

Racial Equity in the Food Systems Workgroup (REFS)

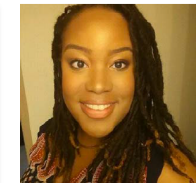
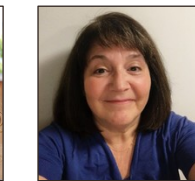
<https://www.canr.msu.edu/racial-equity-workgroup/>

MSU Center for Regional Food Systems

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/foodsystems/>

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

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



REFS - 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.

POLL QUESTION

To what extent does your organization work with First Nations communities in your state or region?

- I am a member of a First Nations community
- I am a member of a First Nations community and work within Extension
- Work extensively with First Nations communities
- Work to a limited extent with First Nations communities
- Do not work at all with First Nations communities
- I do not know



Food Sovereignty

Janie Hipp, JD, LLM (Chickasaw) - Chief Executive Officer
Native American Agriculture Fund (NAAF)



Native American Agriculture Fund

The Native American Agriculture Fund (NAAF) is the largest philanthropic organization solely devoted to serving the Native American agriculture community. NAAF is a twenty-year private charitable trust that will be in existence until September 2038. The mission of the NAAF is to provide grant funding in the following areas:

- Business Assistance
- Agriculture Education
- Technical Support
- Advocacy

The NAAF is allowed, by the terms of its Trust Agreement, to fund the following types of eligible entities:

- 501c3 organizations
- CDFIs
- Educational Organizations
- State or Federally-recognized Tribal governments.



Creation of NAAF

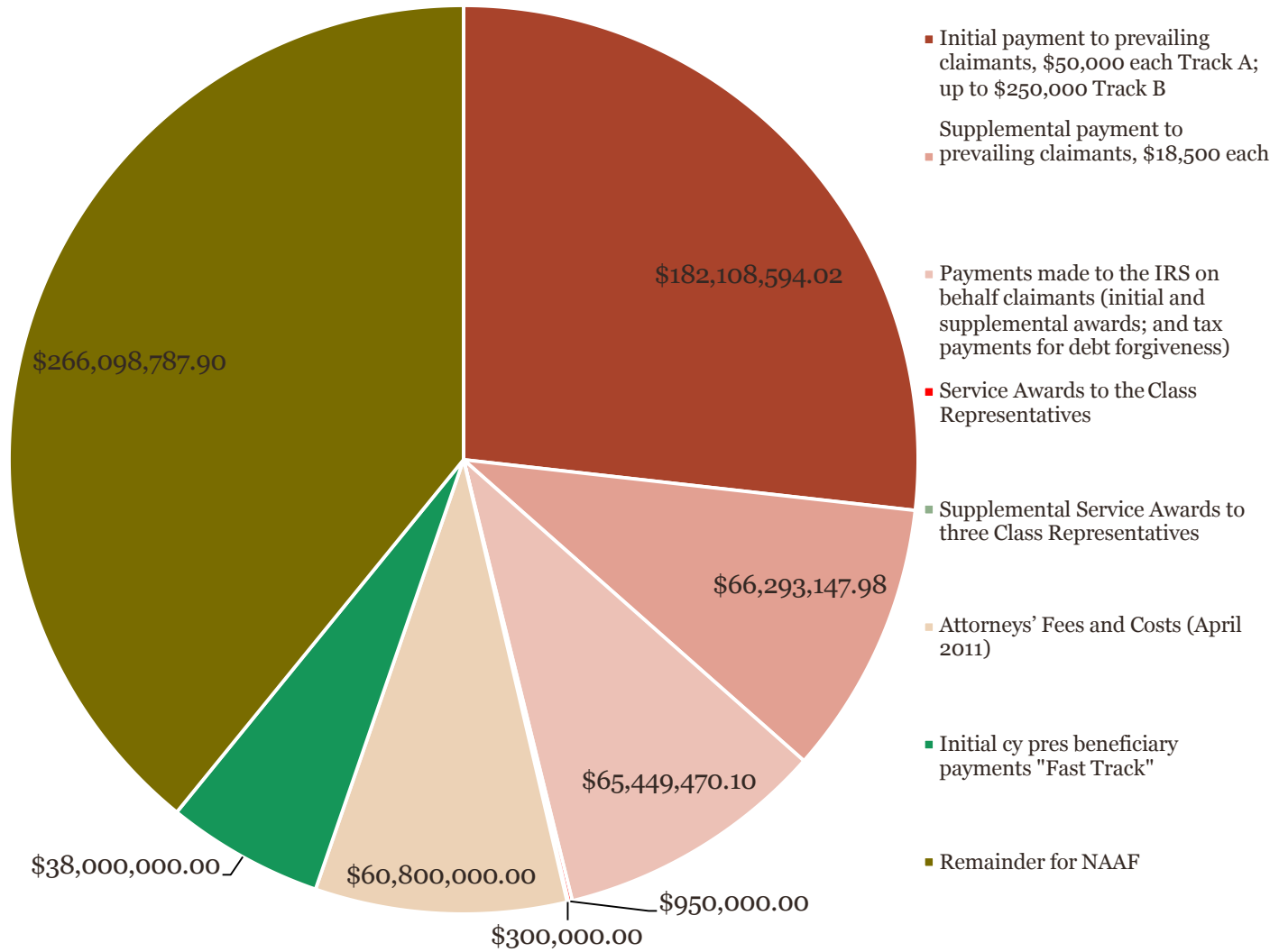
The *Keepseagle* v. Vilsack Settlement

The *Keepseagle* lawsuit filed in the 1990s claimed that the USDA denied thousands of Native American farmers and ranchers the same opportunities to receive farm loans or loan servicing that were given to white farmers and ranchers. Plaintiffs also claimed that the USDA did not provide outreach to Native American farmers and ranchers or provide them with the technical assistance they needed to prepare applications for loans and loan servicing.

The U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia approved a \$760 million settlement agreed upon by the *Keepseagle* Class and the Department of Agriculture in April 2011. In addition to the monetary award, USDA agreed to “Programmatic Relief”.

Following an initial claims period, further negotiation over a period of years led ultimately to an additional claims period, the creation of a fast track fund and ultimately the creation of NAAF.

The Trust Agreement providing the foundation for NAAF was signed in late July 2018.



Qualifications of Trustees for NAAF:

- At Least 2/3 of Trustees shall have substantial knowledge of agriculture issues, the needs of Native farmers and ranchers, or other substantive knowledge relevant to accomplishing the NAAF’s mission.
- Financial experience - - at least 1 Trustee shall have professional finance and investment experience
- Grantmaking Experience - - at least one Trustee shall have professional grantmaking experience

Who are the Trustees?

ELSIE MEEKS (OGLALA LAKOTA) CHAIR	RICHARD WILLIAMS (OGLALA LAKOTA) VICE CHAIR
Claryca Mandan (Three Affiliated Tribes)	Pat Gwin (Cherokee)
Porter Holder (Choctaw)	Dr. Joe Hiller (Oglala Lakota)
Sherry Salway Black (Oglala Lakota)	Ross Racine (Blackfeet)
Paul Lumley (Yakama)	Monica Nuvamsa (Hopi)
Charles Graham (Lumbee)	Marilyn Keepseagle (Standing Rock Sioux) – Lead Plaintiff; rancher; replaced by Dave Archambault, Sr.
Michael Roberts (Tlingit)	Janie Simms Hipp (Chickasaw); appointed as Executive Director (now CEO) of NAAF



Restrictions on funding

Private inurement

- No part of the net earnings of NAAF shall inure to the benefit of any private person.

Lobbying

- No part of the activities of NAAF shall consist of carrying out propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation. Trust may educate the public on agricultural issues, the needs of Native farmers and ranchers and matters related to NAAF's mission, including by advocating for a particular position or viewpoint, so long as it presents a sufficiently full and fair explanation of the pertinent facts so as to permit an individual or the public to form an independent opinion or conclusion.

Political Activity

- NAAF shall not participate in or intervene in (publishing or distributing of statements) any political campaign.

Grants to Individuals

- No grants to individuals - however may make grants to eligible grant recipients that make grants to individuals; NAAF may not earmark the use of the grant for any named individual

Litigation

- NAAF shall not make grants for the purpose of supporting litigation.



Tribal Food Sovereignty

What is Tribal Food Sovereignty?

Prior to European contact, Native communities thrived on ancient food systems.

Through careful management of natural resources and agricultural practices, well balanced diets rich with nutrients were maintained. In return, so was the health of the people.

During colonization, relationships with the land and knowledge systems were severed and became increasingly challenged. As a result, Tribal communities are now and remain among the most food insecure in the country.

Food Sovereignty is defined as the inherent right of a people to define their own diet, and therefore shape their own food systems.



Tribal Food Sovereignty

Good food is essential to healthy, strong Tribal nations. Having enough good food to eat – food security – is just one element of food sovereignty.

involves controlling and managing all of the factors that contribute to a sustainable food system: environmental assets, economic assets, cultural assets and more.

Communities that exhibit *Tribal food sustainability* and *food sovereignty* as those that:

- Have access to healthy food

- Have access to foods that are culturally appropriate

- Grow, gather, hunt and fish in ways that are maintainable over the long term

- Distribute foods in ways that ensure and improve health among communities

- Adequately compensate the people who provide the food; and

- Utilize Tribal treaty rights and uphold policies that ensure continued access to traditional foods.



Food Sovereignty Definition (1996) Via Campesina

- Focuses on Food for People
 - Sufficient, healthy and culturally appropriate food as the center for all food policy
- Values Food Providers
- Localizes food Systems
 - Brings local food providers and consumers together
- Puts Control Locally
 - Rights of food providers to land, seeds and water (rights are established in law)
- Builds Knowledge and Skills
 - Local Knowledge & skills; sustainable food production free from technologies that undermine health/well-being
- Works with Nature
 - Improves resiliency in the face of climate change and works with the local ecosystem



Forum for Food Sovereignty (Mali, 2007)

- Food Sovereignty is the right of peoples to healthy and culturally appropriate food produced through ecologically sound and sustainable methods
- Rights to define their own food and agriculture systems
- Places those who produce, distribute and consume food at the heart of the food systems and policies rather than the demands of markets and corporations
- Defends the interests and inclusion of the next generation
- Priorities local and national economies and markets
- Empowers farmer-driven agriculture, artisanal fishing, pastoralist-led grazing and food production, distribution and consumption
- Based on environmental, social and economic sustainability



Food and Agriculture Policy

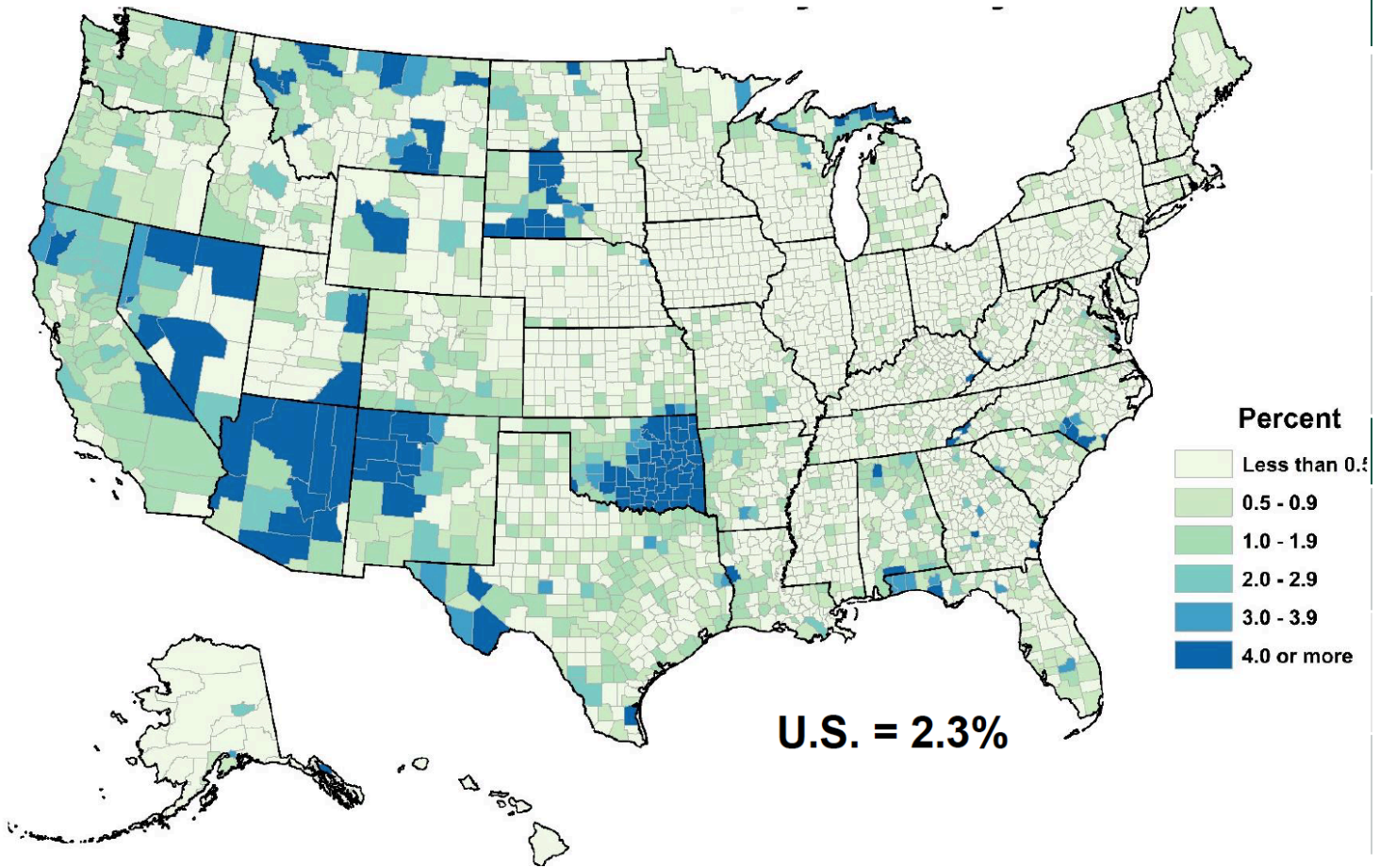
- International Law – large # of conventions and agreements related to food
- Federal agriculture and food law and policy
 - Farm Bills (most recent 2018)
 - Food Safety Modernization Act of 2010
 - Other federal laws relevant to food and agriculture, natural resources, lands, forests, commercial obligations, interstate commerce, intellectual property, etc.)
- State laws
 - Most domestic US laws in food and agriculture are found at the state level
- Local laws
 - Local governments also act in food and agriculture policy development
- Tribal laws
 - Tribal laws enacted by Tribal governments control in Tribal jurisdictions, along with federal laws

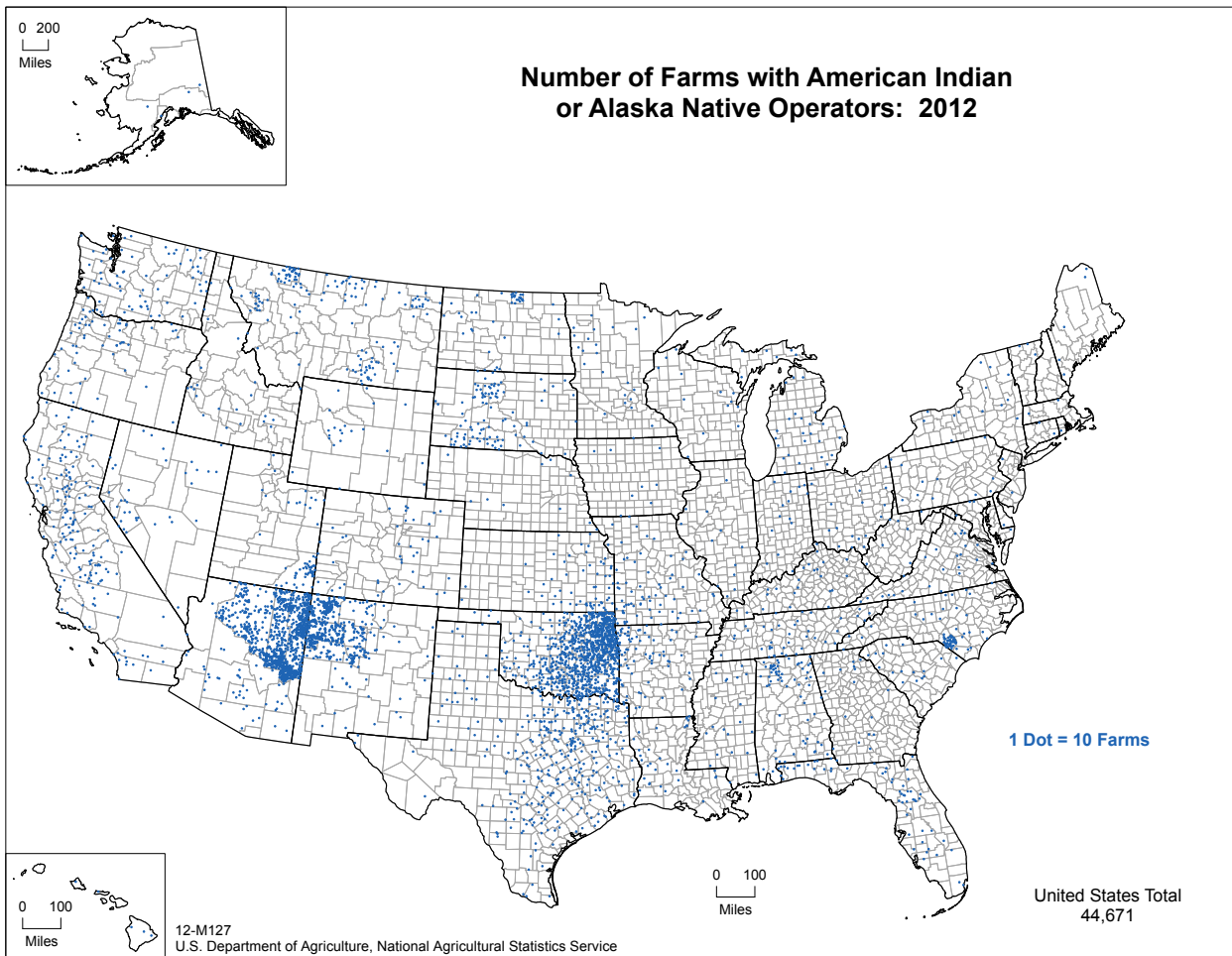


Native Food and Agriculture Policy

- Tribal government role in food sovereignty
 - Provide resources to identify all traditional plants, medicines and foods
 - Establish and defend protection for those unique cultural foods and seeds through
 - Written policy
 - Infrastructure development
 - Continual propagation, storage and protection
 - Identification of location and sites and preserving of those locations
 - Establish staff in government infrastructure to lend assistance to citizenry
 - Establish and maintain importance of food and agriculture and support community engagement
 - Assist communities in identifying key food needs
 - Invest in agriculture development
 - Interface with other Tribal governments; anticipate and prepare for future challenges; embrace food production; address food security; improve business opportunities in food and agriculture
 - Support food people, farmers and ranchers
 - Recapture community health through more robust food systems

American Indian Producers as a Percent of Total Producers, 2017 Census of Agriculture (USDA/NASS)





American Indian Producer & Farm Demographics, 2017 & 2012 Census of Agriculture (USDA/NASS)

Producers	2017		2012	
	American Indian	All	American Indian	All
Number	79,198	3,399,834	71,947	3,180,074
Average age	56.6	57.5	55.5	56.3
Farms				
Number	60,083	2,042,220	56,092	2,109,303
Average farm size (acres)	978	441	1,021	434
Average TVP	\$58,885	\$190,245	\$57,801	\$187,097

According to the 2017 Census of Agriculture:

- American Indian average farm size is 222% of the general population average farm size.
- American Indian average total value of products is 31% of the general population average total value of products.

Percentage of American Indian Producers by Age and Gender, 2017 Census of Agriculture (USDA/NASS)

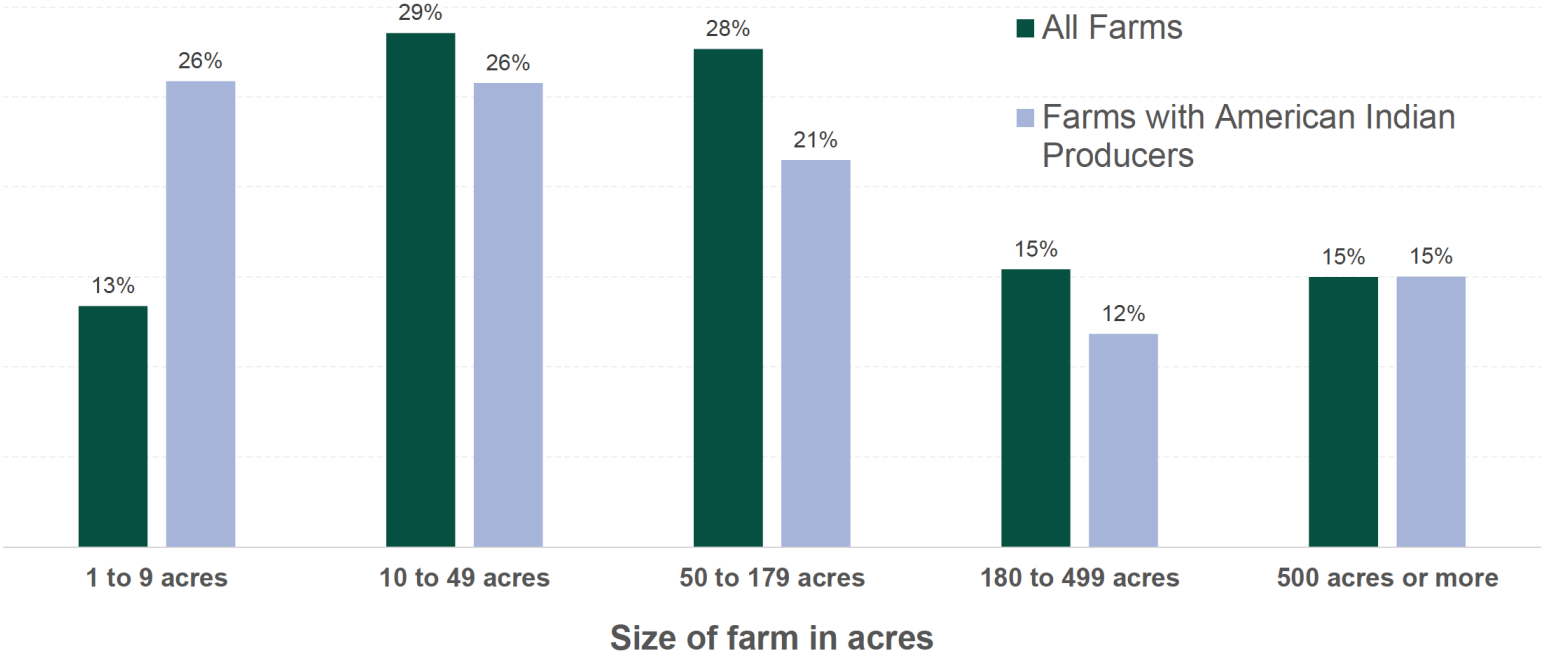
	American Indian Producers	All Producers
Percent of total		
Sex		
Male	56	64
Female	44	36
Age		
< 35	10	8
35 – 54	32	30
55 – 64	27	28
65 or over	32	34

- American Indian producers are younger than producers in the general population.
- American Indian producers are more likely to be female than producers in the general population.

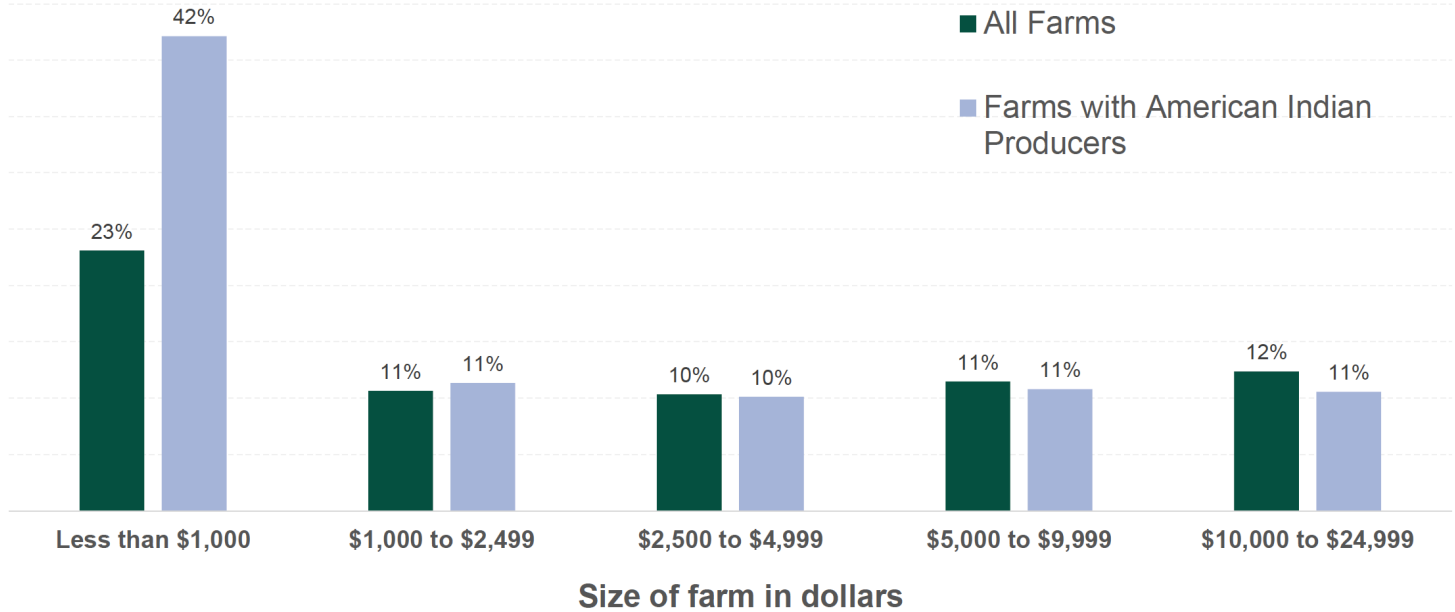
American Indian Operated Farms: Top States, 2017 Census of Agriculture (USDA/NASS)

States	Number of Farms
Oklahoma	13,935
Arizona	11,729
New Mexico	6,211
Texas	4,883
California	2,153
Montana	1,696
Missouri	1,322
Oregon	1,104
Arkansas	1,098
Washington	1,049
Alabama	1,042

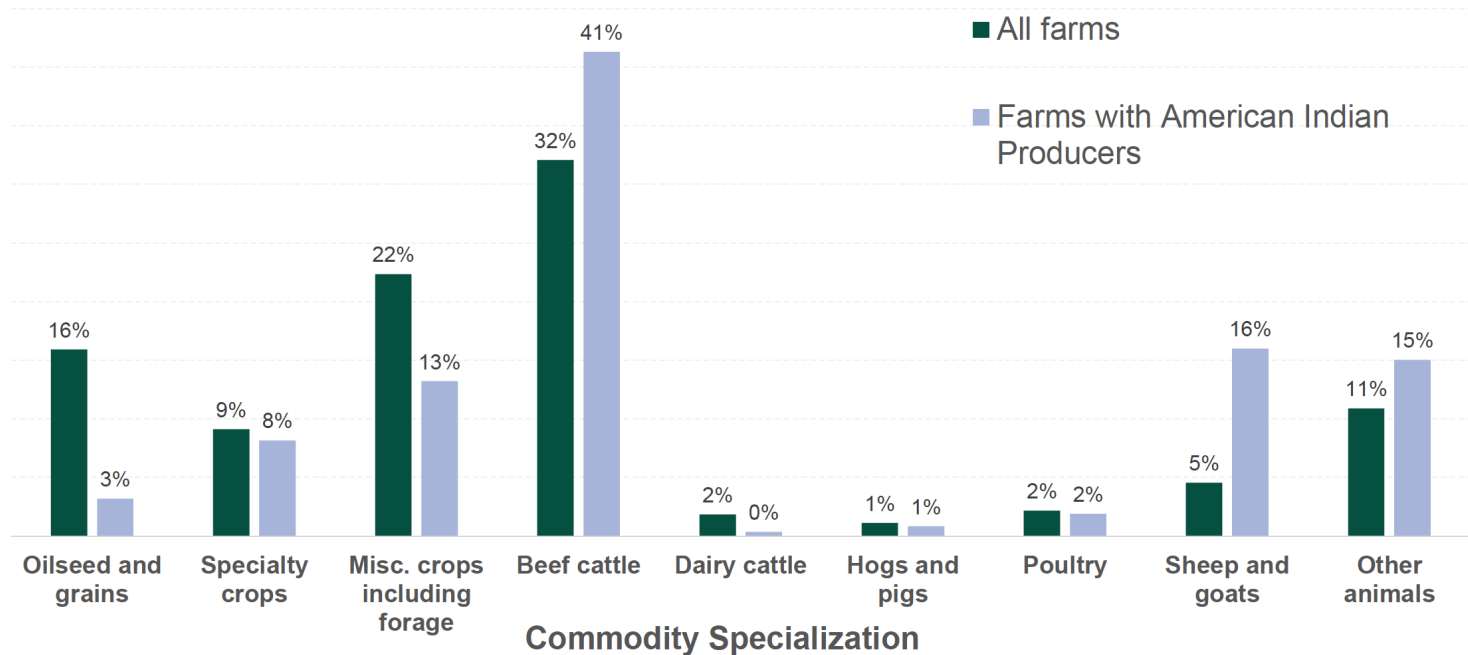
Percent of Farms by Size in Acres, 2017 Census of Agriculture (USDA NASS)



Percent of Farms by Size in Dollars, 2017 Census of Agriculture (USDA NASS)



Percent of Farms by Commodity Specialization, 2017 Census of Agriculture (USDA NASS)



American Indian producers are more likely to specialize in beef cattle, sheep and goats, and other animals than producers in the general population.

County Data, 2017 Census of Agriculture (USDA/NASS)

The following slides are the top counties per state and region where many American Indian producers are located.

Please note: the county comparisons are for ALL producers in the county, not just American Indians. This is meant to give some context to the areas where American Indian producers are operating.

A deeper analysis must be performed when determining specific characteristics of Native producers location by location.

Apache County, AZ

Category	2017	2012	Change
Number of farms	5,551	5,591	-1%
Land in farms (acres)	5,554,963	5,597,672	-1%
Average size of farms (acres)	1,001	1,001	--
Market value of products sold (\$1,000)	18,003	24,194	-26%
Crops, nursery, & greenhouse (\$1,000)	3,613 (20%)	13,197 (55%)	-73%
Livestock, poultry & products (\$1,000)	14,390 (80%)	10,998 (45%)	+31%
Average per farm (\$)	3,243	4,327	-25%
American Indian producers	8,408	8,713	-4%

Becker County, MN

Category	2017	2012	Change
Number of farms	943	1,107	-15%
Land in farms (acres)	367,799	434,917	-15%
Average size of farms (acres)	390	393	-1%
Market value of products sold (\$1,000)	174,531	261,493	-33%
Crops, nursery, & greenhouse (\$1,000)	103,639	177,232	-42%
Livestock, poultry & products (\$1,000)	70,892	84,261	-16%
Average per farm (\$)	185,081	236,218	-22%
American Indian producers	23	40	-43%

Glacier County, MT

Category	2017	2012	Change
Number of farms	637	602	+6%
Land in farms (acres)	1,185,873	1,570,323	-24%
Average size of farms (acres)	1,862	2,609	-29%
Market value of products sold (\$1,000)	106,537	105,579	+1%
Crops, nursery, & greenhouse (\$1,000)	58,386 (55%)	68,173 (65%)	-14%
Livestock, poultry & products (\$1,000)	48,151 (45%)	37,405 (35%)	+29%
Average per farm (\$)	167,247	175,380	-5%
American Indian producers	568	437	+30%

Robeson County, NC

Category	2017	2012	Change
Number of farms	722	941	-23%
Land in farms (acres)	263,740	265,546	-1%
Average size of farms (acres)	365	282	+29%
Market value of products sold (\$1,000)	385,759	409,627	-6%
Crops, nursery, & greenhouse (\$1,000)	104,041 (27%)	144,335 (35%)	-30%
Livestock, poultry & products (\$1,000)	281,719 (73%)	265,292 (65%)	+6%
Average per farm (\$)	534,293	435,310	+23%
American Indian producers	405	503	-19%

McKinley County, NM

Category	2017	2012	Change
Number of farms	2,441	2,297	+6%
Land in farms (acres)	2,569,810	3,022,704	-15%
Average size of farms (acres)	1,053	1,316	-20%
Market value of products sold (\$1,000)	8,139	8,389	-3%
Crops, nursery, & greenhouse (\$1,000)	636 (8%)	623 (7%)	+2%
Livestock, poultry & products (\$1,000)	7,502 (92%)	7,766 (93%)	-3%
Average per farm (\$)	3,334	3,652	-9%
American Indian producers	3,244	2,882	+13%

Cherokee County, OK

Category	2017	2012	Change
Number of farms	1,200	1,233	-3%
Land in farms (acres)	217,176	236,042	-8%
Average size of farms (acres)	181	191	-5%
Market value of products sold (\$1,000)	67,592	138,691	-51%
Crops, nursery, & greenhouse (\$1,000)	30,105 (45%)	105,174 (76%)	-71%
Livestock, poultry & products (\$1,000)	37,487 (55%)	33,517 (24%)	+12%
Average per farm (\$)	56,326	112,483	-50%
American Indian producers	619	649	-5%

Dewey County, SD

Category	2017	2012	Change
Number of farms	310	342	-9%
Land in farms (acres)	1,136,564	1,181,719	-4%
Average size of farms (acres)	3,666	3,455	+6%
Market value of products sold (\$1,000)	58,712	69,267	-15%
Crops, nursery, & greenhouse (\$1,000)	13,658 (23%)	29,240 (42%)	-53%
Livestock, poultry & products (\$1,000)	45,504 (77%)	40,026 (58%)	+14%
Average per farm (\$)	189,394	202,534	-6%
American Indian producers	194	239	-19%

Yakima County, WA

Category	2017	2012	Change
Number of farms	2,952	3,143	-6%
Land in farms (acres)	1,781,463	1,780,498	--
Average size of farms (acres)	603	566	+7%
Market value of products sold (\$1,000)	1,988,027	1,645,510	+21%
Crops, nursery, & greenhouse (\$1,000)	1,417,026 (71%)	1,069,497 (65%)	+32%
Livestock, poultry & products (\$1,000)	571,001 (29%)	576,013 (35%)	-1%
Average per farm (\$)	673,451	523,548	+29%
American Indian producers	96	98	-2%

Role of Extension



- NAAF is not meant to replace the role that Extension has had a responsibility to fulfill since its inception
- Extension, as an organization, has not yet fulfilled its responsibility to Native communities
- 1994 Tribal Colleges and Universities play an important role within Native communities, but do not exist in all Native communities
- Understanding the Native Food Sovereignty movement currently sweeping Indian Country is a predicate to starting to meet Extension's responsibility
- Working as a servant partner to your counterparts in 1994 Tribal Colleges is critical; working as a servant partner to Tribal governments and Native communities is critical
- Your work must be preceded by understanding and improving your own knowledge



Janie Simms Hipp, JD, LLM (Chickasaw)

Agriculture and Food Lawyer

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MENOMINEE FOOD SOVEREIGNTY

**Jennifer K. Gauthier,
Community Extension Educator**



Extension

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
MENOMINEE COUNTY



MAMĀCEQTAWAK



**Orange area shows
Menominee ancestral
territory**

**The small white box is our
current reservation**

**10,000,000 acres to just over
235,000 acres**

No migration story

**Hunters, gatherers, and this
areas first agriculturalists**

Map. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://wisconsinfirstnations.org/map/>



OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH FOOD



(n.d.). photograph, Milwaukee.



COUNTY HEALTH RANKINGS

County Health Rankings

- Menominee County has ranked 72 of 72 counties

Diabetes Prevalence

- diabetes prevalence is 13% (9% WI)

Physical Activity

- 30% of adults are physically inactive (21% WI)

Premature Death

- In Menominee, 16,300 years of potential life are lost before age 75 per 100,000 population (6,300 WI)

Adult Obesity

- The prevalence of adult obesity is 45% (31% WI)

Access to Exercise

- 2% of the county population has access to exercise opportunities (86% WI)

Children in Poverty

- In Menominee, 44% of people under the age of 18 were in poverty (15% WI)

Poor or Fair Health

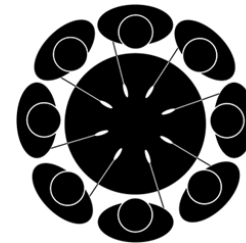
- 35% of adults report poor or fair health (15% WI)

Limited Access to Healthy Foods

- 11% of the population has limited access to healthy foods (5% WI)

Rankings. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://www.countyhealthrankings.org/app/wisconsin/2019/rankings/menominee/county/outcomes/overall/snapshot>

MENOMINEE FOOD SOVEREIGNTY: OUTREACH, EDUCATION, BUILDING CAPACITY



MENOMINEE FOOD SOVEREIGNTY: UNDERSTANDING LOCAL NEEDS

Food Sovereignty Assessments
Surveys
Program evaluation
Continually refine and adapt work





Merominee Food Sovereignty: Eneq's Sikwanaeseneyah





MENOMINEE FOOD SOVEREIGNTY: HARVESTING



MENOMINEE FOOD SOVEREIGNTY: AGRICULTURE AND GARDENING





WORK WITH NON-NATIVE PARTNERS



Indigenous seeds
research



Indigenous Planning
Summer Institute

Manomin Women's
Group



Indigenous Knowledge
Exchange

Turtle Island Tales

Menominee is leading the work
Local values are ingrained into the work
Menominee has to lead the research

LAND GRANT TO LAND GRANT: THE EXTENSION AND COLLEGE OF MENOMINEE NATION PARTNERSHIP

- Invaluable partnership between an 1862 land grant and 1994 land grant
- Reciprocity
- Trust
- Collective
- Common goal





Wāewāenen!!

**And thank you for
allowing us to share
our work and our
collective journey**

Eneq!

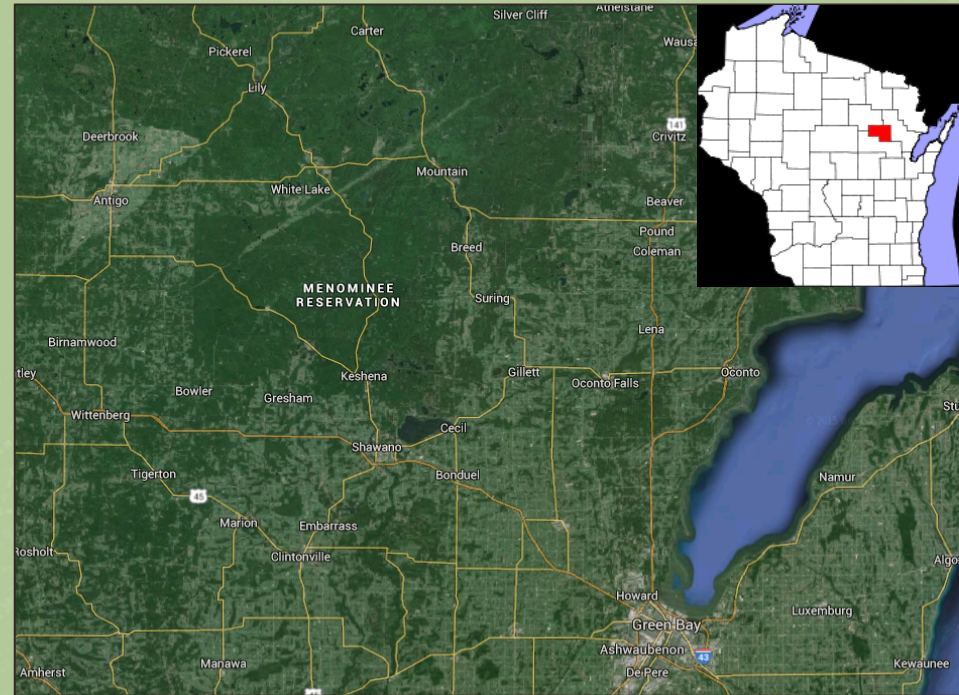




Addressing food sovereignty, education, and access to healthy foods

Brian Kowalkowski

- 4,522 population
- 235,000 acres of heavily forested land with about 95% of it held in what is known as Sustained Yield Forest
- Menominee County ranked the 72nd unhealthiest community in the State of Wisconsin out of 72 counties
 - Diet related diseases
 - Designated Food Desert
- Generational poverty



MENOMINEE RESERVATION

COLLEGE OF MENOMINEE NATION

Chartered by Menominee People in 1993

Land Grant College in 1996

Keshena and Green Bay Campuses

Food Sovereignty

- *Department of Continuing Education*
 - *TCU/VISTA*
- *Sustainable Development Institute*
- *UW-Extension*



MENOMINEE RESERVATION AGROFORESTRY: A.D. 800-1450

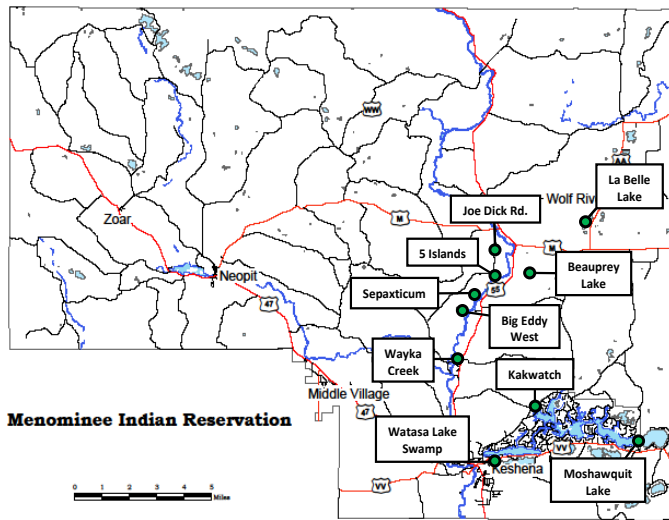
Tribal Archaeologist – Dr. David
Overstreet

Menominee Tribal Enterprise – Forestry
Department

USDA-NIFA Tribal College Research –
Sustainable Organic Agriculture – a
Menominee Legacy – 2012

Raised garden beds and storage pits
near Wolf River

Expansive gardening throughout forest
among the Menominee people



Ancient Menominee Sites



Raised garden beds



Storage pits



Soil amendments

Menominee Youth Heritage



- 12 local Menominee youth age 13-18 participated in summer program
- Engaged in a multidisciplinary approach to researching the raised agricultural field sites
- Students visited numerous prehistoric sites including the Great Cahokia Site.

FOOD SOVEREIGNTY PARTNERSHIP GOALS – UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN EXTENSION

Collaborate with communities and identify educational needs

Build on local knowledge and assets to develop educational programs which address identified needs.

Utilize University of Wisconsin Extension(UWEX) resources to enhance educational program outcomes.

Programs in Agriculture, Family Living, Youth Development and Community Resource Development





BUILDING OF RELATIONSHIPS

Listening

Putting egos aside

Trying on other cultural perspectives

Focusing on separating intent from impact

Relationships built from upper administration on down

BROUGHT TO THE TABLE

There are times in a partnership where each separate partner brings something to a project that is important and we sought out where each one of us was strong and built on that.

CMN sometimes has access to a number of partners in the community and should lead, where other times UWEX takes the lead.

UWEX has more resources available throughout the UW system.

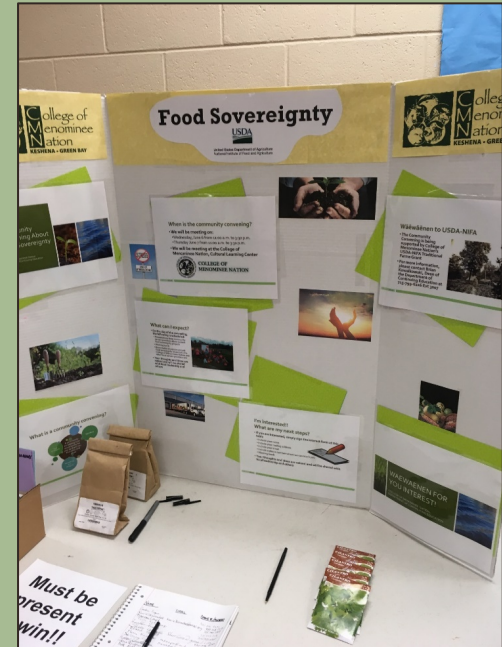
Lastly, and most importantly, we have been able to have frank conversations with each other about who should lead at any given point.

ROAD BLOCKS

Understanding that there will be roadblocks.

Overcoming institutional memory of time when there was no partnership.

Financial



Thank you!!



QUESTION & ANSWER - COMMENTS

September 16, 2019 - WEBINAR:
**Food Sovereignty and the Role of
Extension: Partnerships that Work**

RACIAL EQUITY IN THE FOOD SYSTEM WORKGROUP (REFS)

To join the EQUITYFOOD list serv, and find other resources, go to:

<https://www.canr.msu.edu/racial-equity-workgroup/>

NEXT REFS WEBINAR

Food Sovereignty:

African American Communities and Perspectives

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