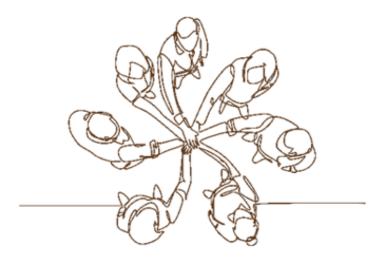


# June Farm to Food Assistance Community of Practice Call

June 13, 2024

# **FSLN CULTURAL AGREEMENTS**

- We honor and celebrate our collective wisdom together, we know a lot!
- We are mindful of our power, privilege, and how much space we are taking up.
- We take responsibility for impact, regardless of intent.
- We give grace to one another and approach conflict with curiosity.
- We challenge assumptions, respect our differences, and speak from our own experience.
- We honor confidentiality lessons leave, stories stay.
- We take care of our own physical, mental, and emotional needs.
- We meet each other where we are. Showing up is enough, and listening is participating.



## Agenda

- Objectives
  - Connect and learn from one another and address your technical assistance needs
  - O Learn about and the research that Wallace Center has done with the Farm to Food Assistance Learning Lab
- Presentations from Ree Ree Wei, Executive Director of Transplanting Traditions Community Farm in Chapel Hill, NC and Taylor Ryan, Executive Director of Change Today, Change Tomorrow based in Louisville, KY. Plus, we'll hear from all of the 10 F2FA Learning Lab teams!
- Breakouts facilitated by Learning Lab Team Members and a Full Group Discussion and Q&A
- Closing
  - Next call: July 11



# How we got here

- Pandemic impacts--> lots of new farm to food assistance efforts, and asks for help and information
- Farmers to Families Food Box TA, research, and internal advocacy
- LFPA Announced
- Gathering funding to support this work
- Rolling out research and support





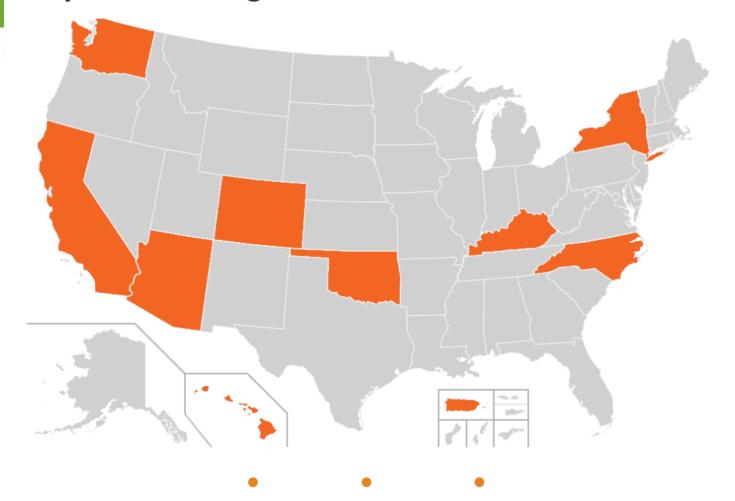
# Learning Lab Overview

#### Building the field of F2FA

- Gain a deeper understanding of F2FA programs
  - Co-production of knowledge on:
    - Key factors in success
    - Challenges
    - Sustainability
- Capacity building for 10 F2FA programs
  - Peer learning
  - Access to advisors
  - Flexible funding (\$20,000/team)



# **Map of Learning Lab Team Locations**





# **Learning Lab structure**

- September call- Kickoff, getting to know each other on monthly calls
- October call Developing a shared analysis of the system
- Oct 31-Nov 3- In person retreat
- Nov-June calls- Trainings, Peer learning
- Between monthly cohort calls 1-1 Advisor support, research (surveys & interviews)





### **Research Questions**

- **MODELS:** What do **community-driven and equity-centered** F2FA programs look like? What strategies/tactics/practices shift power and build community food sovereignty (not just food security)? What strategies/tactics/practices make them sustainable?
  - How do the economics of these more transformative approaches work?
  - What are the outputs (externalities) of a community driven system?
- **CHALLENGES:** What are the main challenges and barriers to creating equity-centered and community-driven F2FA programs? What are the oppressive systems at play?
- **CHANGES**: What technical assistance, resources, and support are needed to address these challenges? What tangible recommendations would make these programs more durable/available?
- **ENABLING FACTORS:** What are the "keystone enabling factors" (relationships, skills, resources) for successful, community-driven, equity centered farm to food assistance programs? Where should investment be prioritized?



