



## Other Organizations Doing Good Work

There are a number of wonderful, dedicated organizations working to improve different aspects of our food and agricultural system. Click on the links to their websites below to find out more.

### Faith-Based Organizations Working on Food, Agriculture, and Faith

#### Local Groups

##### *Christian*

Presbytery of Baltimore Creation Care Group - <http://www.creationcarebaltimore.com/>

##### *Interfaith*

Baltimore Green Forum - <http://www.simplicity-matters.org/index.php>

Chesapeake Covenant Community - <http://www.chesapeakecovenant.org/>

Earth Forum of Howard County -

<http://firstpreshc.org/Care/EarthForum/tabid/47845/Default.aspx>

##### *Jewish*

Baltimore Jewish Environmental Network (BJEN) - <http://www.bjen.org/>

Kayam Farm at Pearlstone Conference and Retreat Center -

<http://www.pearlstonecenter.org/kayam.html>

#### National Groups

##### *Christian/Ecumenical*

Bread for the World - <http://www.bread.org/>

Campaign for Fair Food (Presbyterian Church USA) – <http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/fairfood/>

Christian Vegetarian Association - <http://www.all-creatures.org/cva/default.htm>

Churches' Center for Land and People - <http://www.cclpmidwest.org/>

Earth Ministry - <http://earthministry.org/issues/food-farming>

Environmental Partnerships, Inc. – <http://www.environmentalpartnerships.org/>

Faithful Harvest Campaign (National Council of Churches in Christ Eco-Justice Program) –

<http://www.ncecojustice.org/food/>

Maine Council of Churches Food and Faith Program - <http://www.mainecouncilofchurches.org/foodandfaith>  
National Catholic Rural Life Conference - <http://www.ncrlc.com/>  
Presbyterian Food and Faith Program – <http://gamc.pcusa.org/ministries/hunger/food-and-faith/>  
Presbyterian Hunger Program - <http://www.pcusa.org/hunger/>  
Quaker Earthcare Witness - <http://www.quakerearthcare.org/>

#### *Interfaith/Other*

Faith in Place – <http://www.faithinplace.org>  
Greenfaith - <http://greenfaith.org/resource-center/stewardship/food-and-faith>  
Interfaith Food and Farms Project, Interfaith Network for Earth Concerns, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon - [http://www.emoregon.org/food\\_farms.php](http://www.emoregon.org/food_farms.php)  
National Religious Partnership for the Environment - [http://www.nrpe.org/issues/food\\_intro01.htm](http://www.nrpe.org/issues/food_intro01.htm)  
Sacred Foods Project - <https://www.aleph.org/sacredfoods.htm>

#### *Jewish*

Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life (COEJL) - <http://www.coejl.org/index.php>  
Hazon – <http://www.hazon.org>  
Isabella Freedman Jewish Retreat Center - <http://www.isabellafreedman.org/>  
Jewish Farm School - <http://www.jewishfarmschool.org/>  
Jewish Vegetarians of North America - <http://www.jewishveg.com/>  
The Jew and the Carrot: Jews, Food, and Contemporary Issues (blog) - <http://jcarrot.org/>  
The Shalom Center - <http://www.theshalomcenter.org/>

### **Other Organizations Working on Food and Agriculture**

#### ***Agribusiness Accountability Initiative***

The Agribusiness Accountability Initiative (AAI) promotes collaborative responses to corporate power in the global food system. Co-sponsored by the [Center of Concern](#) and the [National Catholic Rural Life Conference](#), the AAI is a growing international network of academics, activists and food system experts from farm, labor, environment, consumer, church and development organizations, who challenge disproportionate power in the global food system and who recognize that corporate concentration among transnational agribusinesses threaten the sustainability of the global food system.

#### ***Agricultural Missions***

Agricultural Missions, Inc. is an ecumenical organization that accompanies rural peoples in their efforts to address the structural causes of impoverishment and injustice in their communities. Founded in 1930, the ministry of Agricultural Missions is an expression of the churches' commitment to the fulfillment of the Gospel's promises of "abundant life" for all.

### [\*The American Community Gardening Association\*](#)

The American Community Gardening Association (ACGA) was founded in 1979 to help gardening programs share their limited resources, and benefit from each other's experience and expertise. ACGA:

- Promotes the formation and expansion of national and regional community gardening networks,
- Develops resources in support of community gardening and greening,
- Encourages research on the impact of community greening, and
- Conducts educational programs.

### [\*Centers for Disease Control and Prevention\*](#)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) are dedicated to protecting health and promoting quality of life through the prevention and control of disease, injury, and disability. The CDC administers Communities Putting Prevention to Work grants that enable communities to engage in public health efforts that improve nutrition, increase physical activity, reduce obesity, and decrease tobacco use. They also fund Community Transformation Grants that support community-level efforts to reduce chronic diseases – many related to diet – such as heart disease, cancer, stroke, and diabetes.

### [\*Center for Food Safety\*](#)

The Center for Food Safety (CFS) is a non-profit public interest and environmental advocacy membership organization established in 1997 for the purpose of challenging harmful food production technologies and promoting sustainable alternatives.

### [\*Center for Science in the Public Interest\*](#)

The Center for Science in the Public Interest (CSPI) is a consumer advocacy organization whose twin missions are to conduct innovative research and advocacy programs in health and nutrition, and to provide consumers with current, useful information about their health and well-being. CSPI also coordinates National Food Day held every year in October.

### [\*Chefs Collaborative\*](#)

Chefs Collaborative is a national network of more than 1,000 members of the food community who promote sustainable cuisine by celebrating the joys of local, seasonal, and artisanal cooking.

### [\*Coalition of Immokalee Workers\*](#)

The CIW is a community-based worker organization whose members are largely Latino, Haitian, and Mayan Indian immigrants working in low-wage jobs throughout the state of Florida. The CIW fights for, among other things: a fair wage for the work its members do, more respect on the part of their bosses and the industries where they work, better and cheaper housing, stronger laws and stronger enforcement against those who would violate workers' rights, the right to organize on their jobs without fear of retaliation, and an end to indentured servitude in the fields.

### [\*The Color of Food\*](#)

The Color of Food includes a public network directory that lists farmers, urban growers, food activists, chefs, nutritional educators and other folks of color involved in the food system all over the nation, as well as internationally.

### [\*Community Alliance with Family Farmers\*](#)

The Community Alliance with Family Farmers is building a movement of rural and urban people to foster family-scale agriculture that cares for the land, sustains local economies and promotes social justice.

### [\*The Community Food Security Coalition\*](#)

The Community Food Security Coalition is active on a number of fronts.

- It actively promotes networking and information exchange on food security strategies through its newsletter, conferences, and queries. With the increasing sophistication of many food security practitioners and the burgeoning interest in community gardening and farmers' markets, both new and established organizations benefit from the experiences of each other.
- The Coalition encourages dialogue on food security issues as a way for communities and organizations to develop a vision for their activities and understand the "big picture".
- The Coalition is active on the national front in developing federal agriculture and food policy. It has authored and is advocating for the passage of the Community Food Security Act of 1995. It has also requested the USDA to conduct an internal review of its programs with regards to enhancing community-based solutions to local agriculture, hunger and poor nutrition problems.
- On more of a long-term front, the Coalition is building links between diverse and normally separate constituencies, such as sustainable agriculture, anti-hunger, environmentalists, and community development as a way of developing the political wherewithal to create a more sustainable food system.

### [\*Compassion in World Farming\*](#)

Compassion in World Farming was founded over 40 years ago by a British farmer who became horrified by the development of modern, intensive factory farming. Today it campaigns peacefully to end all cruel factory farming practices. CWF believes that the biggest cause of cruelty on the planet deserves a focused, specialized approach – so it only works on farm animal welfare.

### [\*The Ecological Farming Association\*](#)

The Ecological Farming Association is dedicated to the development of ecologically-based food systems, both domestically and throughout the world by educating farmers, the agriculture industry, and other stewards of the land about practical and economically viable techniques of ecological agriculture, informing consumers and policy makers about ecological food production and its connection to the health of people and communities, and promoting alliances between individuals and organizations who share its vision of a transformed global food system.

### [\*Farm Aid\*](#)

Working to keep family farmers on their land, Farm Aid brings together family farmers and citizens to guarantee family farm food is available to you. Farm Aid's mission is to build a vibrant family-farm centered system of agriculture in America.

### [Farm Bill 2012 Campaign, The American Farmland Trust](#)

What do school lunches, renewable energy, and clean water all have in common? The farm bill—often overlooked legislation that profoundly affects communities, the environment, health, and nutrition. *The farm bill dedicates more public dollars to resource protection than the Environmental Protection Agency*, but it's failing America's communities, farmers and consumers. American Farmland Trust is working to fix it.

### [Feeding America](#)

Feeding America—The Nation's Food Bank Network feeds America's hungry through a nationwide network of member food banks and engages our country in the fight to end hunger.

### [Food Alliance](#)

Food Alliance is a nonprofit organization that promotes sustainable agriculture by recognizing and rewarding farmers who produce food in environmentally friendly and socially responsible ways, and educating consumers and others in the food system about the benefits of sustainable agriculture. Food Alliance operates the most comprehensive third-party certification program in North America for sustainably produced food. Food Alliance Certified distinguishes foods produced by farmers, ranchers and food processors who use environmentally and socially responsible practice.

### [Food & Water Watch](#)

Food & Water Watch is a nonprofit consumer organization that works to ensure clean water and safe food. It challenges the corporate control and abuse of our food and water resources by empowering people to take action and by transforming the public consciousness about what we eat and drink. Food & Water Watch works with grassroots organizations around the world to create an economically and environmentally viable future. Through research, public and policymaker education, media, and lobbying, it advocates policies that guarantee safe, wholesome food produced in a humane and sustainable manner and public, rather than private, control of water resources including oceans, rivers, and groundwater.

### [Food First](#)

The Institute for Food and Development Policy better known as Food First--is a member-supported, nonprofit 'peoples' think tank and education-for-action center. Our work highlights root causes and value-based solutions to hunger and poverty around the world, with a commitment to establishing food as a fundamental human right.

### [FoodRoutes](#)

The FoodRoutes website is a project of FoodRoutes Network (FRN). FRN is a national nonprofit organization that provides communications tools, technical support, networking and information resources to organizations nationwide that are working to rebuild local, community-based food systems. FRN is dedicated to reintroducing Americans to their food – the seeds it grows from, the farmers who produce it, and the routes that carry it from the fields to their tables.

### [The Food Trust](#)

The Food Trust is responding to the contemporary epidemic of diet-related disease and malnutrition, by working to increase access to affordable and nutritious food and helping people to

improve their diets. Founded in 1992, the Trust's mission is to ensure that everyone has access to affordable, nutritious food.

In order to achieve this mission, The Food Trust is partnering with farmers, teachers, health practitioners, food retailers, nutrition educators, policy-makers, grassroots leaders, anti-hunger advocates, and nonprofit and for-profit entrepreneurs. Working collaboratively with community organizations, educational programs, hunger relief agencies, and public policy-makers, the Trust seeks to provide comprehensive solutions to combat the problems of poor food access and malnutrition.

### *Future Harvest CASA*

Future Harvest-CASA is a network of farmers, agricultural professionals, landowners and consumers living and working in the Chesapeake region. Future Harvest-CASA promotes profitable, environmentally sound and socially acceptable food and farming systems that work to sustain communities.

### *GRACE Factory Farm Project*

GRACE is a not-for-profit corporation established in 1996. The GRACE Factory Farm Project was established to eliminate factory farming in favor of a sustainable, economically viable and environmentally sound agricultural sector.

### *Grassroots International*

Grassroots International works to create a just and sustainable world by building alliances with progressive movements and joining those in the Global South in advocating for social change. Their primary focus is on land, water and food as human rights and nourishing the political struggle necessary to achieve these rights. Grassroots supports community-led sustainable development projects in the Middle East, Asia, Africa, and the Americas, concentrating their efforts in areas where U.S. foreign policy has been an obstacle to positive change and where creative grassroots movements build local solutions to global problems.

### *Heifer International*

Since 1944, when Heifer first shipped cows to impoverished families, it has known that livestock offer one of the best resources for ending the cycle of chronic hunger and poverty that plagues two-thirds of the planet. Over the last five decades, we've helped 4 million small-scale farm families on five continents, through efforts that are sustainable and which equip future generations to face the challenges in front of them. It trains farmers to use their land productively, and to restore and preserve the environment.

### *Humane Society of the United States, Animals and Religion: Food, Farming, and Faith*

The HSUS promotes an understanding of sacred food in various religious traditions and encourages support of agricultural practices that are sustainable and reduce animal suffering.

### *Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy*

The IATP works locally and globally at the intersection of policy and practice to ensure fair and sustainable food, farm and trade systems. Its program areas include: Trade and Global

Governance, Rural Communities, Food and Health, Environment and Agriculture, Forestry, and Local Foods.

### [\*Islamic Foundation for Ecology and Environmental Sciences\*](#)

Based in the United Kingdom, the IFEES works locally and globally to articulate an Islamic position on environmental protection and take a practical approach to resolving current issues. Involved with a number of different environmental initiatives, the group encourages sustainable agriculture in the developing and developed worlds.

### [\*The Keep Antibiotics Working Campaign\*](#)

[Keep Antibiotics Working](#) is a coalition of health, consumer, agricultural, environmental, humane and other advocacy groups with more than nine million members dedicated to eliminating a major cause of antibiotic resistance: the inappropriate use of antibiotics in food animals.

### [\*The Land Institute\*](#)

The Land Institute has worked for over 20 years on the problem of agriculture. Its purpose is to develop an agricultural system with the ecological stability of the prairie and a grain yield comparable to that from annual crops. It collaborates with public institutions in order to direct more research in the direction of Natural Systems Agriculture.

### [\*La Via Campesina\*](#)

La Via Campesina is an international movement of peasants, small- and medium-sized producers, landless, rural women, indigenous people, rural youth and agricultural workers from 56 countries from Asia, Africa, Europe, and the Americas. The principal objective of La Via Campesina is to develop solidarity and unity among small farmer organizations in order to promote gender parity and social justice in fair economic relations; the preservation of land, water, seeds and other natural resources; food sovereignty; sustainable agricultural production based on small and medium-sized producers.

### [\*Let's Move Faith and Communities\*](#)

Managed by the United States Department of Health and Human Services, First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move campaign provides resources to faith-based and neighborhood organizations working together to meet one or more of the following four challenges:

- Complete 500,000 Presidential Active Lifestyle Awards
- Collectively walk three million miles
- Host 10,000 community gardens or farmers' markets
- Host 1,000 new Summer Food Service Program sites

### [\*Michael Fields Agricultural Institute\*](#)

Founded in 1984, the MFAI is a non-profit organization with the mission to cultivate the ecological, social, economic, and spiritual vitality of food and farming systems through education, research, policy, and market development. The MFAI manages programs in Crop and Soil Research, Farm and Food Education, Integrated Farming Systems, and Public Policy.

### [\*National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition\*](#)

The National Sustainable Agriculture Campaign is a network of diverse groups whose mission is to shape national policies to foster a sustainable food and agricultural system -- one that is economically viable, environmentally sound, socially just, and humane.

### [\*National Family Farm Coalition\*](#)

The National Family Farm Coalition (NFFC) provides a voice for grassroots groups on farm, food, trade and rural economic issues to ensure fair prices for family farmers, safe and healthy food, and vibrant, environmentally sound rural communities here and around the world. The NFFC (founded in 1986) represents family farm and rural groups in 30 states whose members' face the challenge of the deepening economic recession in rural communities caused primarily by low farm prices and the increasing corporate control of agriculture.

### [\*Oxfam International GROW Campaign\*](#)

The GROW campaign is working to build a better food system: one that sustainably feeds a growing population (estimated to reach nine billion by 2050) and empowers poor people to earn a living, feed their families, and thrive. Specifically, it aims to:

- Increase the productivity, self-reliance, and economic opportunity of small-scale farmers, especially women, who depend on agriculture for income and food.
- Increase farmers' access to resources like water and land, and make sure they don't have to unfairly compete with big companies for ownership of these resources.
- Increase farmers' preparedness in the face of more-frequent and more-extreme droughts, floods, and storms.
- Modernize food aid programs so they are more effective, efficient, and fiscally responsible, improving the global response to natural disasters and food crises.
- Hold governments and businesses accountable for the impacts of their policies and practices on global food security.

### [\*Permaculture International Limited Global Directory\*](#)

This directory allows you to search for permaculture and sustainable agriculture projects around the world as well as enabling you to locate more general information about these topics.

### [\*Pesticide Action Network of North America\*](#)

PANNA (Pesticide Action Network North America) works to replace pesticide use with ecologically sound and socially just alternatives. We link local and international consumer, labor, health, environment and agriculture groups into an international citizens' action network.

### [\*Public Health Institute\*](#)

The Public Health Institute generates and promotes research, leadership, and partnerships to build capacity for strong public health policy, programs, systems, and practices, including those related to nutrition and obesity prevention.

### [\*Public Health Law & Policy\*](#)

Policy can improve the food options for children and families by making it easier to find and obtain healthier foods. Public Health Law & Policy has developed innovative solutions such as

menu labeling ordinances requiring restaurants to publish nutrition information directly in their menus, and local policies to improve food retail options in a community with few grocery stores.

### [The Rodale Institute/The New Farm](#)

The Rodale Institute, a global leader in regenerative agriculture, is devoted to innovative agriculture research, outreach and training through The New Farm® programs. The Institute works with people worldwide to achieve a regenerative food system that renews and improves environmental and human health, working with the philosophy that "Healthy Soil = Healthy Food = Healthy People."

### [Rural Coalition](#)

The Rural Coalition/Coalicion Rural is an alliance of farmers, farmworkers, indigenous, migrant, and working people from the United States, Mexico, Canada, and beyond working together to build a more just and sustainable food system which brings fair returns to minority and other small farmers and rural communities, establishes just and fair working conditions for farmworkers, protects the environment, and brings safe and healthy food to all consumers.

### [Rural Advancement Fund International \(RAFI\)](#)

RAFI cultivates markets, policies, and communities that support thriving, socially just, and environmentally sound family farms. It works nationally and internationally, focusing on North Carolina and the southeastern United States. RAFI works to ensure that:

- Family farmers have the power to earn a fair and dependable income
- Everyone who labors in agriculture is respected, protected, and valued by society
- Air, water and soil are preserved for future generations
- The land yields healthy and abundant food and fiber that is accessible to all members of society.
- The full diversity of seeds and breeds, the building blocks of agriculture, are reinvigorated and publicly protected.

### [Slow Food Baltimore](#)

The local convivium of Slow Food USA, Slow Food Baltimore promotes the values of its parent organization by hosting monthly meet ups, sponsoring an Eat in Season Challenge for area restaurants, and holding other gatherings where people can gather together to enjoy healthy, sustainable food together.

### [Slow Food USA](#)

Slow Food USA envisions a future food system that is based on the principles of high quality and taste, environmental sustainability, and social justice – in essence, a food system that is good, clean and fair. It seeks to catalyze a broad cultural shift away from the destructive effects of an industrial food system and fast life; toward the regenerative cultural, social and economic benefits of a sustainable food system, regional food traditions, the pleasures of the table, and a slower and more harmonious rhythm of life.

### [Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education](#)

The Sustainable Agriculture Network (SAN) is the communications and outreach arm of the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) program. SARE is a U.S. Department of

Agriculture-funded initiative that sponsors competitive grants for sustainable agriculture research and education in a regional process nationwide. SAN is dedicated to the exchange of scientific and practical information on sustainable agriculture systems using a variety of printed and electronic communications tools. SARE works to increase knowledge about -- and help farmers and ranchers adopt -- practices that are economically viable, environmentally sound and socially responsible.

### [Sustainable Table](#)

Sustainable Table celebrates the sustainable food movement, educates consumers on food-related issues and works to build community through food.

### [Union of Concerned Scientists](#)

Sustainable agriculture practices can protect the environment and produce high-quality, safe, and affordable food. UCS' goal is to promote such practices while eliminating harmful "factory farming" methods and strengthening government oversight of genetically engineered food.

### [United States Department of Agriculture](#)

Federal agency whose mission is to provide leadership on food, agriculture, natural resources, and related issues based on sound public policy, the best available science, and efficient management.

### [WHY Hunger](#)

WHY is a leading advocate for innovative, community-based solutions to hunger and poverty. WHY challenges society to confront these problems by advancing models that create self-reliance, economic justice, and equal access to nutritious and affordable food.

### [World Society for the Protection of Animals Factory Farming Program](#)

WSPA is campaigning for sustainable farming systems that are kinder to animals and the environment, and benefit human health and reduce poverty. It works in Latin America and Asia, where factory farming is expanding rapidly. It has a Model Farm Project that demonstrates how humane farming can be cost-effective and create a sustainably and secure food supply.

### [Worldwatch Institute](#)

Founded in 1974 by farmer and economist Lester Brown, Worldwatch was the first independent research institute devoted to the analysis of global environmental concerns. Worldwatch develops innovative solutions to intractable problems, emphasizing a blend of government leadership, private sector enterprise, and citizen action that can make a sustainable future a reality.

Worldwatch's Food & Agriculture program highlights the benefits to farmers, consumers, and ecosystems that can flow from food systems that are flexible enough to deal with shifting weather patterns, productive enough to meet the needs of expanding populations, and accessible enough to support rural communities.

Their [Nourishing the Planet](#) project assesses the state of agricultural innovations—from cropping methods to irrigation technology to agricultural policy—with an emphasis on sustainability, diversity, and ecosystem health, as well as productivity. The project aims to both inform global efforts to eradicate hunger and raise the profile of these efforts. The project also considers the institutional infrastructure needed by each of the approaches analyzed, suggesting what sort of

companion investments are likely to determine success—from local seed banks to processing facilities, from pro-poor value chains to marketing bureaus.

*Yale Rudd Center for Food Policy & Obesity*

The Rudd Center for Food Policy & Obesity is a non-profit research and public policy organization devoted to improving the world's diet, preventing obesity, and reducing weight stigma. The Rudd Center works to build broad-based consensus to change diet and activity patterns, while holding industry and government agencies responsible for safeguarding public health. The Center serves as a leading research institution and clearinghouse for resources that add to our understanding of the complex forces affecting how we eat, how we stigmatize overweight and obese people, and how we can change.

For other organizations working on Sustainable Agriculture, including those operating within different regions, please visit the [USDA's List of Sustainable Agriculture Organizations and Information Providers](#).