

"MOVING FORWARD, LOOKING BACK"

HEAL FOOD ALLIANCE
**YEAR IN
REVIEW**
2022



2022

A NOTE FROM OUR CO-FOUNDERS

**This year, the HEAL Food Alliance turned 5!
As we move forward, we do so with an eye to the past.**

The principle of “moving forward, looking back” is embodied in the Akan concept of “Sankofa”. Symbolized by a bird who is walking one way as its head and neck are turned backwards, Sankofa is relevant to our current moment.

There is so much for our Alliance to be proud of: Our School of Political Leadership has trained 47 people to advance transformative campaigns in their communities. With members, we began a grassroots process that's moved over \$1 million to the frontlines. We've organized to support justice for Black farmers, fought for worker protections, taken on corporate control, and advanced our vision of community-based, climate resilient food systems. We build on these achievements as our membership continues to grow.

But it's not just our successes that inform our future - it's also the challenges. 2022 has been a year of continued crisis: terrorism in a Buffalo grocery store, rights gutted by the Supreme Court, deadly heatwaves and flooding, an ongoing war - events underscoring that the forces of repression are not going away.

When we launched HEAL, we did so on the shoulders of our ancestors - blood and political. We move forward knowing that their struggle continues, and we are fortified by their strength. We are united as we continue to fight for their dreams and ours, a freedom song.

In solidarity,



Navina Khanna
Co-Founder
HEAL Food Alliance



Kwesi Anim Steel
Co-Founder
HEAL Food Alliance



ABOUT HEAL

Our Mission

The HEAL Food Alliance builds collective power to create food and farm systems that are healthful for all families, accessible and affordable for all communities, and fair to the working people who grow, distribute, prepare, and serve our food—while protecting the air, water, and land we all depend on.

Our Vision

For all people and all communities to have the right and the means to produce, procure, prepare, share, and eat food that's nourishing, free from exploitation of themselves and any other people, and to be in their full power in harmony with the rest of the natural world.

Our Alliance

HEAL is a national multi-sector, multi-racial coalition led by our member organizations, who represent over 2 million rural and urban farmers, ranchers, fishers, farm and food chain workers, indigenous groups, scientists, public health advocates, policy experts, community organizers, and activists. We organize to move from an extractive and exploitative economic model towards community controlled food systems rooted in care for the land, meaningful labor, and healthful communities while supporting the sovereignty of all living beings.



CORE METHODS: HOW WE WORK



HEAL connects and unites groups across race, sector, and geography.

We strengthen relationships between organizations and sectors by facilitating collaboration, growing alignment, and organizing to support each others' campaigns.



We organize resources for a BIPOC-led grassroots movement for change.

HEAL partners with the philanthropic community to democratize decision-making and redistribute resources, while organizing for policy change.



We connect and nurture existing and emerging campaigns.

By organizing in solidarity with each other, HEAL members are able to achieve more together than any one of our organizations can achieve alone.



We're advancing a shared narrative.

Our narrative work values life, labor, and the land, uplifting our members and our movement while advancing the solutions outlined in our Platform for Real Food.



Political education and analysis are key components of our work.

We know that the transformation we seek is not yet politically possible—it is up to us to make it so. We build political alignment across groups, cultivate shared understanding of policy and the political landscape, and take powerful action as opportunities emerge.



OUR MILESTONES

Our incredible staff, supporters, and Alliance members helped to make 2022 a powerful year, moving us closer to achieving our shared mission and vision.

CONNECTING & UNITING GROUPS

- **A Growing Alliance:** This year we welcomed 4 core members and 4 connecting members, bringing our total to 36 member organizations united across race, sector, and geography.

ORGANIZING RESOURCES FOR A BIPOC-LED GRASSROOTS MOVEMENT FOR CHANGE

- **Redistributing Resources:** HEAL members officially formed the Liberating Investment for the Food and Farm Ecosystem (LIFE) coalition, which to date, has moved over \$1 million towards BIPOC-led organizations working towards food and agricultural justice, and recently secured another \$3.5 million for redistribution.
- **Regranting:** Thanks to our community's incredible generosity, HEAL redirected over \$400,000 to 19 organizations in 2022, including \$52,000 via our crowdsourced Rapid Response Fund.



CONNECTING AND NURTURING EXISTING & EMERGING CAMPAIGNS

- **Redirecting Purchasing Power:** The Good Food Communities (GFC) team made real progress in two states, launching a statewide Good Food Taskforce via the Illinois Governors' office, and introducing statewide legislation in New York. The team also completed an intensive research project on the policies and practices that support GFC's goals to redirect public purchasing dollars to sustainable, fair suppliers, and to build racial, environmental, worker justice, and transparency in our food system.
- **Challenging Corporate Greed:** HEAL's FACE (Fighting Against Corporate Evil) workgroup convenes 13 member and ally organizations dedicated to breaking up corporate power in our food and farm system while remaining committed to racial justice. Together, we're developing a strategy to move control of our food and farm system out of corporations, and into communities, through federal policy that breaks up consolidation and ensures antitrust enforcement.

ADVANCING A SHARED NARRATIVE

- **Growing Narrative Power:** HEAL uplifts solutions led by our members. In 2022 our work received over 30 media mentions in major and local news outlets, and coverage in radio, podcasts, and magazines. Additionally, we secured 13 media placements for our member organizations to ensure widespread community reach.
- **Advancing Sustainable Agriculture:** To drive engagement with our Platform for Real Food, we created a toolkit for Plank 8 of our Platform (on phasing out factory farming) and hosted a webinar attended by over 100 supporters.

POLITICAL EDUCATION & ANALYSIS

- **Developing Political Power:** To date, HEAL has graduated 47 leaders from our School of Political Leadership, including the 12 leaders who completed the program in 2022. Alumni are making waves in their communities, building on the skills and relationships that they've cultivated through the program.
- **Engaging in Federal Policy Advocacy:** We advocated for more just food and farming policies among key decision makers through meetings, listening sessions, petitions, and letters. HEAL wrote or signed onto 30 advocacy letters, including urging the Federal Trade Commission and Department of Justice to begin enforcing the blocking of illegal mergers; blocking an Executive Order to establish factory farms in oceans; submitting recommendations for the White House Conference and Strategy on Hunger, Nutrition, and Health.
- **Pushing for Fair Lending:** In 2022, HEAL collaborated with partners to host three listening sessions with BIPOC farmers across the country, documenting their stories of discrimination in commercial lending to advance policy that protects them. Representatives from the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau attended all three sessions to hear from our speakers.
- **Dismantling White Supremacy:** Our AWARE (Alliance of White Accomplices for Racial Equity) working group hosted a year-long racial justice training for 12 HEAL member and ally organizations. The curriculum is grounded in dismantling white supremacy and anti-Blackness in movement organizations.



OUR PEOPLE

HEAL CORE MEMBERS

American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
Brandworkers*
Chicago Food Policy Action Council
Community Alliance for Agroecology
Cooperative Food Empowerment Directive
Cultivate Charlottesville
Farmworker Association of Florida
Food Chain Workers Alliance*
Fair World Project
Healthcare Without Harm
HOPE Collaborative
I-Collective
Idaho Organization of Resource Councils
Kitchen Table Advisors
Land Stewardship Project
La Semilla Food Center*
North American Marine Alliance
National Farm to School Network
National Black Food and Justice Alliance*
Nihkeya
Northeast Farmers of Color Land Trust
Operation Spring Plant*
Pesticide Action Network North America
Public Justice
Rural Advancement Foundation International
Real Food Generation*
Real Food Media*
Restaurant Opportunities Center United
Rural Community Workers Alliance
Soul Fire Farm
Union of Concerned Scientists*
Warehouse Workers for Justice

* Organization serves on HEAL's Steering Council

HEAL CONNECTING MEMBERS

Earthjustice
Food Animals Concern Trust
Food Culture Collective
National Resources Defense Council



OUR PEOPLE



HEAL STAFF

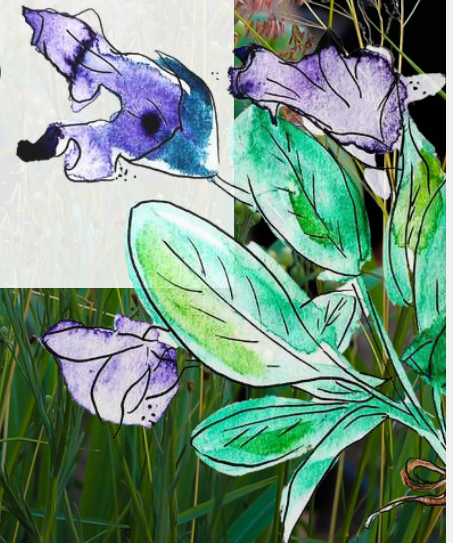
Five new staff members joined HEAL in 2022.
Our awesome team is now 12 strong:

Ashley Fent, Campaigns Researcher
Candace Clark, LIFE Coordinator
Celize Christy, Organizer
Eloni Porcher, Communications Manager
En Strader, Communications Designer
Jose Oliva, Campaigns Director
Maleeka Manurasada, National Organizer
Marla Karina Larrave, Political Education Director
Marlene Manzo, Political Leadership Coordinator
Navina Khanna, Executive Director
Neshani Jani, Communications Director
Rosie Fitz, Operations & Events Manager

WITH GRATITUDE

HEAL extends a huge thank you to our individual supporters and foundation partners for your generosity. We are deeply grateful to everyone who makes our mission possible.

11th Hour Project
Ceres Trust
Chicago Region Food System Fund
Claneil Foundation
Clif Bar Family Foundation
Dr. Bronner's Family Foundation
Food and Farm Communications Fund
GRACE Communications Foundation
Johnson Ohana Foundation
Hidden Leaf Foundation
Honeybee Fund of Common Counsel Foundation
Leading Edge Fellowship Program
Lumpkin Family Foundation
Margot and Thomas Pritzker Family Foundation
Mosaic
New York Community Trust
Orange Door Fund
Panta Rhea Foundation
Patagonia Works
Rural Democracy Initiative
Stupski Foundation
Surdna Foundation
Waverly Street Foundation
WE LEAD (Project of Tides Foundation)





OUR STORY CONTINUES

2022 has continued to make it clear:

HEAL's work is needed, our team is strong, and our membership is building power to collectively achieve our shared vision.

While there is still much work to be done, we are encouraged by our shared successes, which have built a strong foundation for meaningful impact.

We are looking forward to all that 2023 brings, as we continue to build power and gain movement momentum.

Thank you for your continued support of our work to fight for fair and democratic systems that meet the needs of our communities and respond to the urgency of this moment to protect our earth, land, water, and air.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Graphic Design by
Neshani Jani and En Strader

Illustrations by
Marissa Katarina Bergmann
(aimari.com)

PHOTO CAPTIONS

Page 1: HEAL staff at Garden Unidos farm in Oceanside, CA during a 2022 team retreat. *(Photo credit: Eunique Deeann, selfstudylab.com)*

Page 6: The Food Justice at UF Coalition, who is a member of Good Food Communities, boycotted Aramark on campus, which, along with other organizing tactics, led to University of Florida ending their 25 years of contracting with the company. *(Photo courtesy of: Food Justice at UF Coalition)*

Page 7: Members of the HEAL School of Political Leadership 2022 cohort, representing the Together Honoring Earth's Mycelia (T.H.E.M.) team from Advocates for Urban Agriculture. *(Photo courtesy of Advocates for Urban Agriculture)*

Page 9/10: HEAL staff at Garden Unidos farm in Oceanside, CA during a 2022 team retreat. *(Photo credit: Eunique Deeann, selfstudylab.com)*

LET'S CONNECT!
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