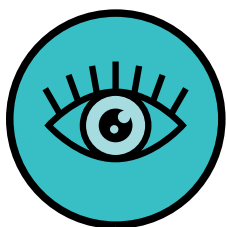




NEW MEXICO LOCAL FOOD COMMITMENT

These guiding principles were developed by the NM Value Chain Coordination Network, an initiative stewarded by the New Mexico Farmers' Marketing Association (NMFMA) and supported by a USDA Regional Food System Project (RFSP) grant. This collective impact work brought more than 50 partners working across the state together from 2021-2024 in an effort to build an equitable food system for New Mexico.

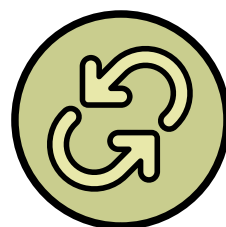
This values-based framework is intended to provide guidance and accountability for those working in food systems in New Mexico. Organizations are invited to voluntarily subscribe to this framework in their work and collaborations with others in the food system.



Vision

Embedded and ingrained as the vision of our work shall be a focus on the following priorities:

- We take responsibility in creating healthier communities in New Mexico with the utmost of seriousness and dedication.
- We promote diversity in size, scale, geographic locale, cultural implications, competency and choices.
- We maintain and demonstrate our strong beliefs in the urgency of decolonization in our decision making.
- We will remain results-oriented as we take intentional risks to identify and establish creative solutions.



Circular Economies

Sustainable economies are diverse, prioritize collaboration, and value stewardship:

- We strongly advocate for rejuvenating agriculture and economies through ethical principles.
- We are dedicated to fostering community-based economies centered on the well-being of individuals rather than focusing solely on financial gains.
- We are dedicated to adopting a comprehensive strategy to ensure competitive pricing of products while safeguarding the efforts and sustainability of farmers and ranchers.
- We aim to enhance the quality of life for New Mexicans by enabling individuals to pursue their passions and ensuring the prosperity of farmers.



Strong Relationships

Foundational to this generative work is a steadfast commitment to the value of relationships:

- We assume responsibility for ensuring equity and inclusion within our local food systems.
- We understand that our diversity strengthens our efforts.
- We firmly believe in dismantling barriers that hinder cooperation.
- We promote building relationships through shared values, collaboration, resource sharing, and honoring personal experiences and perspectives.



Equitable Labor Practices

Food producers and culinary professionals are frontline workers in transforming our food system:

- We honor the importance of food and have a profound respect for the value of it.
- We believe the process of cultivating, delivering and consuming food should be a source of great satisfaction and fulfillment.
- We advocate for the well-being of farmers, workers and consumers by promoting fairness, equity and safe work environments.



Nutrition Access

Good food access is a human right which cannot be divorced from food quality:

- We have a commitment to cultivate a food system that provides nourishing food and reduces hunger.
- We support increased access to culturally appropriate and locally produced foods in every New Mexico community.
- We believe in the transformative power of food sovereignty and uplifting strategies that center community knowledge.



Land Stewardship

Being in the right relationship with our ecosystems is imperative:

- We promote respect for land and its natural resources, for all living beings, and for the wisdom of cultural traditions.
- We actively advocate for ecological preservation and the protection of biodiversity to ensure long-term sustainability.
- We believe regenerative practices embody the wisdom of our ancestors and provide solutions for future generations.