

**We envision** a food system in which all individuals—regardless of race, class or gender—have equal access to healthy, affordable, culturally appropriate food. This system is characterized by equity, shared power and accountability.

**Our mission** is to create a just food system by drawing and acting upon our collective understanding of race, class and gender disparities

**alliance** [*uh-lahy-uhns*]

A merging of efforts or interests for mutual benefit

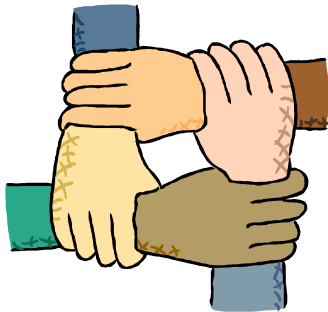
An ally: *Listens*

*Is present*

*Opens doors (uses privilege and power)*

*Takes chances*

*Gets support*



Interested?

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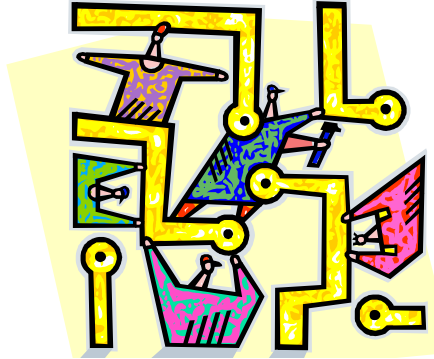
# Minnesota Food and Justice Alliance



Working to build a just  
local food system

The Alliance formed on March 30, 2008

when forty or so persons who were familiar with or had attended Will Allen's Growing Power workshops gathered to discuss issues related to food, sustainable agriculture, and social justice. The aim at that meeting was to enhance understanding of the issues—from a multi-cultural and multi-racial perspective—and connect people by sharing experiences and activities. We emphasized cultural and community competency, focusing specifically on persons in our society who are disadvantaged or traditionally excluded from the conversation.



Since then a small group has been meeting regularly as a leadership team to expand on accomplishments of the first meeting, strengthen relationships and further articulate the Alliance's vision and mission.



We have grown

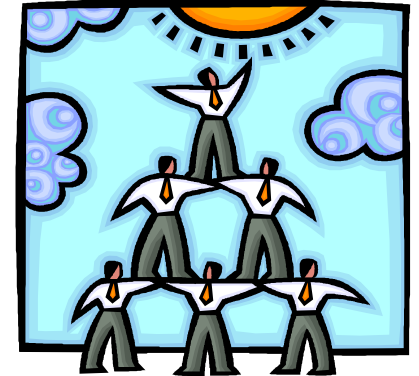
to an alliance of approximately 200 individuals who share a common interest in undoing racism and improving equitable access to healthy, affordable, culturally appropriate food. We believe that food is an important aspect of building and strengthening community identity.

We have a common interest in moving beyond the buzz around local food

We dare to talk about dismantling racism

We offer

- Information and resources
- Awareness of and sensitivity to other perspectives about local food
- Access to proven models, mentors and movement leaders
- Customized workshops that engage participants in dialogue on shared leadership and power, inclusiveness, multiculturalism, and the causes and effects of personal and systemic racism



We experience

- Self-validation
- Affirmation
- Hope
- Acceptance
- Forgiveness
- Mutual accountability

As a result

- We feel safe discussing issues related to race, class and gender
- We examine our roles as both oppressors and the oppressed
- We feel supported in taking action on the issues in our personal and professional lives
- We validate the challenges faced by marginalized persons

and finally ... Reconciliation