



Call for Mentors

Support the work of the Food Systems Change Fellowship Presented by the Modeling the Future of Food in Your Neighborhood Study (foodNEST 2.0)

About foodNEST 2.0

The Modeling the Future of Food in Your Neighborhood Study (foodNEST 2.0) is a project of the Mary Ann Swetland Center for Environmental Health at Case Western Reserve University, School of Medicine. It is conducted in partnership with multiple stakeholders from diverse sectors in Greater Cleveland. Working together, this team developed a [Menu of Actions](#) focused on potential leverage points for jumpstarting community driven food system changes that lead to:

- Households with financial strength and food security,
- Neighborhoods with fair access to affordable, fresh, and healthy foods, and
- Communities that are strong in body, mind, and spirit.

About the Food Systems Change Fellowship

In 2021, the Swetland Center is launching the Food Systems Change Fellowship that serves as a “test kitchen” for incubating ideas related to potential leverage points identified in the [Menu of Actions](#). The fellowship will provide support for local leaders to develop and validate their ideas while growing partnerships essential for bringing an idea to life. The fellowship will conclude with a pitch to potential partners and funders who may provide support for implementing the idea in the future. Ideal fellows come to the “test kitchen” with passion and creativity for food systems change combined with openness to trial new ideas while getting feedback from others. The fellowship is not designed to support an existing idea that is ready to implement.

Mentor Engagement & Commitment

Each Fellow will have the opportunity to select up to three mentors to support their efforts to advance community driven food systems change. Mentors are asked to meet formally with their fellow at least three times during the six-month fellowship from February 15–July 31, 2021. Additional ad-hoc mentoring meetings may be scheduled, as needed. Meetings will be organized by the fellow at a time that is convenient to both fellows and mentors. All mentors will be invited to join the final “Pitch” session—the culminating experience of the fellowship, which will tentatively occur in late July or early August 2021. In addition, mentors will be invited to take part in efforts to evaluate the impact of the fellowship program. Mentors will have a chance to voluntarily participate in these efforts.

**Sign up to support the
2021 Cohort of Food Systems Change Fellows**