

SOIL TO SOUL FOOD WEB

VISION OF LENA BOSWELL

VISION

What change do you wish to see in the food system?

I am fighting for Black people to reclaim the land, establish new food systems, and grow Black food sovereignty, beginning with my community and spreading throughout the nation.

PROBLEM

What's keeping your vision from happening?

What is the root of the problem?

- The life expectancy of a resident of Hough is 25 years less than a resident of Lyndhurst.
- 80% of people live in cities and less than 1% of food is grown in cities.

TRANSFORMATION PROPOSITION

My vision for food systems change helps Black and indigenous communities achieve food sovereignty by establishing a hyper-local food system, workforce development program, and a community sustainability education program.



HOW CAN YOU GET INVOLVED?

- Funding for garden needs and for events
- Partners – people of like-mind to form a coalition to help run the movement
- Volunteers and workers to build gardens
- Community buy-in
 - “If we build it, we will come.”
- Social media or marketing expertise

IMPACT METRICS

How will you know when you have changed the food system?

- A local community food system will be established that sustains the neighbors in my community reducing their dependence on the current charity model of food banks.
- We will see an increase in percentage of Black farmers from the current 1% to at least 30% with the long-term goal of 50%.

KEY PARTNERS

- Black Food Justice Alliance
- Detroit Black Communities Food Security Network
- Black Urban Growers BUGs
- Blacks in Green BIG
- Soul Fire Farm (Farming While Black)
- Village Family Farm
- League Park Farm
- Youth Opportunities Unlimited
- Cuyahoga County Land Bank
- Dunham Tavern Museum (Fiscal Agent)

*Seeding Sovereignty...
the Recipe for Resilience!*



LENA BOSWELL

Lena Boswell comes to the cohort with deep-rooted connections, both local and national, to gain and maintain Black food sovereignty. Ms. Boswell seeks to strengthen resources to increase Black and indigenous communities' access to land so they can nurture and grow new food systems.

Contact me via email to learn more about how to get involved: lenaboswell54@gmail.com

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