



## Sustainable Food Systems and Public Health

April 8, 2016

Teachers College, Columbia University  
525 W 120th St 10027  
Zankel, Rm 408

This meeting will demonstrate why it is important for nutrition and public health professionals to incorporate practices that promote sustainable food systems. We will learn how an organization is prioritizing sustainability and the impact that sustainable practices can have on the land and the quality of food.

8:30 – 9:00                      Registration and Networking

9:00 – 9:10                      Welcome

**Brett Klein, MSc, RD, CDN**

Chair of NYCNEN

9:15 – 9:40                      **Jasia Steinmetz, PhD, RD, CD**

Professor and Director of Didactic Program in Dietetics, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point  
*Opportunities for Food and Nutrition Practice in the Anthropocene*

9:45 – 10:10                      **Andra Benson**

Farmer, Bensvue Organic Dairy Farm  
*Bensvue Farm Organic and Happy*

10:15 – 10:40                      **Toni Liquori, EdD, MPH**

Founder and Executive Director, School Food FOCUS  
*Transforming food options for children in urban schools.*

10:45 – 11:00                      Break

11:05 – 11:30                      Question & Answer

11:30 – 12:00                      Meeting Adjourned & Networking

*NYCNEN thanks the Program in Nutrition at Teachers College Columbia University for their ongoing support.*

#### Speaker Bios

##### **Jasia Steinmetz, PhD, RD, CD**

Professor and Director of Didactic Program in Dietetics, University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point

Jasia is a professor of food and nutrition, with degrees in dietetics, nutritional sciences and epidemiology. She developed and directs the University of WI program in dietetics, coordinates the MS-Sustainable & Resilient Food Systems program and helped develop the B.A.-Sustainable Food System degree. She currently chairs the Advisory Committee for Public Policy in the Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior and the Hunger and Environmental Practice Group in the Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics and is past chair of the Division of Sustainable Food Systems in SNEB. She is the author of "Eat Local: Simple Steps to Enjoy Real, Healthy and Affordable Food" and cofounder of Central Rivers Farmshed, a nonprofit that is dedicated to local food education.

##### **Andra Benson**

Farmer, Bensvue Organic Dairy Farm

Andra is a dairy farmer with her husband in Lansing, NY. After many years of conventional dairy farming, 10 years ago they converted to 100% organic, raising all the animals and the crops according to organic standards. They are now members of the Organic Valley Cooperative and have never been happier! Andra graduated from Cornell University with a BS in Nutrition and spent two years with her husband in the Peace Corps in Columbia. Over the past 35 years, Andra and her husband raised 8 children (4 birth and 4 adopted), cared for over 80 foster children and hosted 50+ foreign exchange students. She was on the Lansing School Board for 10 years, helped create the Lansing Youth Services [for at risk kids], started the Breakfast Program and After-School Program at their Elementary School, and began the Drop-In Center for pre-schoolers run by their town. She currently serves as a Trustee on the Lansing Community Library Board and was recently elected to the Town Council. Andra is also Director of Religious Education at All Saints Catholic Church in Lansing.

##### **Toni Liquori, EdD, MPH**

Founder and Executive Director, School Food FOCUS

Toni is the founder and executive director of School Food Focus, a national collaborative that leverages the knowledge and procurement power of large school districts to make school meals nationwide more healthful, regionally sourced, and sustainably produced. She is a public health nutrition scholar and a long-time faculty member of Teachers College at Columbia University. More than a decade ago, she developed the CookShop Program, a now-beloved food and nutrition education program in New York City schools. Toni serves on the Advisory Board to both the AFRI research project, Enhancing Food Security in the Northeast through Regional Food Systems and the Thriving Schools initiative of Kaiser Permanente in California. Toni is also the founder of the NYC Nutrition Education Network.