

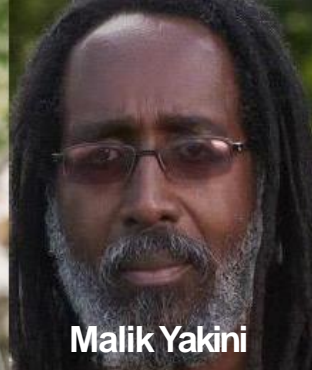
# Spring 2019 Community Food Systems Mentorship Program



**Amy Kincaid**



**Anupama Joshi**



**Malik Yakini**



**A-dae Romero Briones**



**Angel Mendez**



**Paula Daniels**



**Miles Gordon**



**Neelam Sharma**



**Karen Spiller**

## About the Program:

The goals of this mentorship program are to build solidarity and relationships across the good food movement, create a space for proven leaders to share their knowledge and expertise with others, and strengthen the leadership capacity of food systems leaders. This program is offered twice annually and includes 8 hours of one on one connection over a 4-month period.

**Spring 2019 Applications are open through January 15<sup>th</sup> for mentoring to take place February 15- June 15.**

## How to Apply in 3 easy steps:

**Step 1:** Join the Food Systems Leadership Network:

<https://foodsystemsleadershipnetwork.goentrepid.com/>

**Step 2:** Review the mentors' profiles on the Mentorship page and select your top 2

**Step 3:** Complete the application through the link on the Mentorship page



# 2019 Mentor Cohort

**A-dae Romero-Briones, JD,LLM (Cochiti/Kiowa), Director of Programs-Native Food and Agriculture Initiative, First Nations Development Institute (<https://www.firstnations.org/>)**

A-dae is from Cochiti Pueblo and the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma. She has been working with Indigenous food systems for most of her life. She is currently the Director of Programs for the Native Agriculture and Food Systems Initiative at First Nations Development Institute, which works with Indigenous community-based food projects throughout the nation.

**Amy Kincaid, Managing Director, Investing Impact and Change Matters (<https://bealocalist.org/>)**

Amy recently joined the team at BALLE in the role of Vice President for Programs, bringing over twenty years experience advising, raising capital, and measuring impact for nonprofits and social enterprises in her strategy consultancy ChangeMatters. In a body of work that emphasizes growth, impact, and social equity, she has raised over \$70 million for nonprofits, including a food hub operated by limited-resource farmers in the Mississippi Delta, and has presented hundreds of training and learning events.

**Angel Mendez, Director of Operations, Red Tomato ([www.redtomato.org](http://www.redtomato.org))**

Angel Mendez is the Director of Operations who works with Red Tomato, a small Food Hub based 45 mins south of Boston in Plainville, Massachusetts where he oversees finance, transportation logistics, and ERP systems. Having worked with Red Tomato for 17 years - since its initial startup phase - Angel has deep knowledge in strategic planning, finance/metrics, non-asset based distribution systems & ERP software.

**Anupama Joshi, Executive Director, Blue Sky Funders Forum and Co-Founder, National Farm to School Network (<https://blueskyfundersforum.org/>)**

Anupama is an accomplished leader in the non-profit and social sector in the United States and abroad. She has excelled in developing policies, programs and partnerships; fundraising; and managing organizations through phases of growth and change. She is a firm believer in the power of networks and collaboration to enable lasting change, and embodies that in her current role with the Blue Sky Funders Forum.

**Karen A. Spiller, Principal, KAS Consulting**

Karen Spiller is Principal of KAS Consulting, which provides mission-based consulting with a focus on resource matching, board development and strategic planning for health and equity-focused initiatives. She works with diverse stakeholders, including community residents and businesses, state and local agencies, policy makers, corporations, foundations, community-based organizations, and healthcare providers.

**Malik Yakini, Founder and Executive Director of the Detroit Black Community Food Security Network (<https://detroitblackfoodsecurity.org/>)**

Malik has been an activist in Detroit's African-American community for more than 40 years. He is the co-founder and Executive Director of the Detroit Black Community Food Security Network. They operate the seven acre D-Town Farm, the Food Warriors Youth Development Program and are spearheading the development of a co-op grocery store. Their work is justice-focused and is rooted in the African cultural continuum.

**Miles Gordon, Founder, the Gardens Project, and Principal, Kitchen Table Consulting (<https://www.kitchentableconsulting.com>)**

Miles Gordon has most recently served as the Food Systems Director for North Coast Opportunities (NCO), located in Mendocino and Lake Counties, California. Miles founded the Gardens Project of NCO to empower low-income, disenfranchised communities in California to grow food in community gardens through facilitated leadership development and self-management.

**Neelam Sharma, Executive Director, Community Services Unlimited Inc. (<http://csuinc.org/>)**

Neelam believes in place-based community driven solutions defined and spearheaded by those they seek to serve, in partnership with a broad range of individuals and entities. The world and its problems are now interconnected at an unprecedented level; our solutions while preferencing local knowledge, history and experience, must be equally embedded within a global framework.

**Paula Daniels, Co-Founder, Center for Good Food Purchasing (<https://goodfoodpurchasing.org/>)**

Paula Daniels is co-founder and Chair of the Center for Good Food Purchasing, a non-profit founded in July of 2015 as a national spin off from the Los Angeles Food Policy Council, which Paula founded in 2011. The Center for Good Food Purchasing uses the power of procurement to create a transparent and equitable food system that prioritizes the health and well-being of people, animals, and the environment.

