

# NYS Council on Hunger and Food Policy

## 2025 Members and Affiliates

In 2025, the Council was coordinated by Kate Fullam and Kendall Hough of the Department of Agriculture and Markets. Special contributions were made by Ashmita Das, a Science Policy Fellow from the Rockefeller Institute for Government. Following is a list of members and affiliates.

\* This member serves in a formal capacity per Section 16 of Agriculture and Markets Law.

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
Richard A. Ball, Commissioner*	Department of Agriculture and Markets
Kristine Ellsworth, Environmental Engineer	Department of Environmental Conservation
Amy Gildemeister, Associate Director of Nutrition Policy and Partnership on behalf of James McDonald, Commissioner* Stacey Hale, Director, Division of Nutrition	Department of Health
Laura Gonzalez-Murphy, Executive Director Elizabeth Hradil, CNY Immigrant Community Liaison	Department of State, Office for New Americans
Viviana DeCohen, Commissioner	Department of Veterans' Services
Allison Stark, Senior Director, Industry Development on behalf of Hope Knight, Commissioner*	Empire State Development
Greg Olsen, Acting Director*	Office for the Aging
Dr. DaMia Harris-Madden, Commissioner Dana Boylan, Special Advisor	Office of Children and Family Services
Jeanette Moy, Commissioner Nicholas Barber, Food Distribution Director Gabrielle Viens, Food Distribution Administrator	Office of General Services
Ann Sullivan, Commissioner Merrill Rotter, Medical Director Cheryl Gerstler, Prevention Specialist	Office of Mental Health
Susan Zimet, Food and Anti-Hunger Policy Coordinator on behalf of Barbara C. Guinn, Commissioner*	Office of Temporary Disability Assistance
Gemma Rinefierd, Assistant Commissioner for Student Support Services on behalf of Betty A. Rosa, Commissioner*	State Education Department
Kristen McManus, Associate State Director	American Association of Retired Persons
Steve Terzo, Director of Business Development*	American Dairy Association and Dairy Council
Allison DeHoney, Executive Director	Buffalo Go Green
Jerome Nathaniel, Director, Policy & Government Relations*	City Harvest
Justin Rogers, Executive Director*	Cornell Cooperative Extension Niagara County

Angela Odoms Young, Associate Professor Tashara Leak, Associate Professor	Cornell University
Julie Suarez, Associate Dean for Land Grant Affairs*	Cornell University College of Agriculture & Life Sciences
Jeff Crist, Owner	Crist Brothers Orchards
Tessa Edick, Founder & Board Chair	FarmOn! Foundation
Dan Egan, Executive Director Kathleen Stress, Interim Executive Director	Feeding NYS
Karen Erren, President and CEO*	Feeding Westchester
Joshua McGuire, Program Director: Double Up Food Bucks	Field and Fork Network
Leslie Gordon, President & CEO* Camesha Grant, Vice President	Food Bank for NYC
Mark Bordeau, President & CEO Sarah DeFrank, Director of Advocacy & Education	Food Bank of the Southern Tier
Natasha Pernicka, Executive Director*	Food Pantries for the Capital District The Alliance for a Hunger Free New York
Judiann Carmack-Fayyaz, Executive Director*	FoodLab at Stony Brook University
Mitch Gruber, Chief of Strategy & Partnerships*	Foodlink
Kathleen Finlay, President	Glynwood Center for Regional Food and Farming
Fran Barrett, NYS Interagency Coordinator for Nonprofit Organizations	Governor's Office
Richard de Graff, Owner	Grindstone Farm
Marcel Van Ooyen, President & CEO*	Grow NYC
Kate Van Tassel, Director of Special Projects	Homes & Community Renewal
Joel Berg, CEO*	Hunger Free America
Krista Hesdorfer, Director of Public Affairs on behalf of Andres Vives, Executive Director*	Hunger Solutions New York
Randi Shubin Dresner, President & CEO	Island Harvest Food Bank
Dickran Jebejian, Director of Policy, on behalf of David Greenfield, CEO	Met Council
Larry Tse, Farm Organizer	National Young Farmers Coalition & Choy Commons
Kat Slye-Hernandez, Senior Associate Director of Public Policy, on behalf of Renee St. Jacques, Senior Associate Director of Public Policy and Promotion & Education* Jeff Williams, Director of Public Policy	New York Farm Bureau

Andrew Barrett, Program Officer Julia McCarthy, Senior Program Officer Liz Ward, Program Assistant	New York Health Foundation
Caitlin Lazarski, Director of School Nutrition	New York School Nutrition Association
Rachel Sabella, Director	No Kid Hungry New York
Robert Deschak, Deputy Chief Executive Officer*	NYC Department of Education
Ellie Wilson, Registered Dietitian Nutritionist*	Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics
Karen Washington, Co-Owner/Farmer	Rise & Root Farm
Sue Jaffe, Owner*	Snowdance Farms
Dr. Melony Samuels, CEO & Founder*	The Campaign Against Hunger
Cheryl Huber, Vice President, Food & Benefits Access, on behalf of Grace C. Bonilla, President & CEO	United Way of NYC
Brian Reeves, Co-Owner	Reeves Farm