

**Nourish Colorado
Food Systems Law & Policy Roadmap Development
Equity Analyst**



February 2021 Request for Proposals

DATE ISSUED: FEBRUARY 1st 2021

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: FEBRUARY 19th 2021

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**Food Systems Law & Policy Roadmap Development
Equity Analyst RFP
COVER PAGE**

Agency/Organization Name:

Address:

Phone:

Contact Name:

Contact Phone:

Contact Email:

Total Proposal Budget, NTE \$13,000 (we will request a detailed budget from finalists):

Brief Proposal Summary (500 characters):

Nourish Colorado
RFP for Equity Analyst: Food Systems Law & Policy Roadmap

About Us

Nourish Colorado (www.nourishcolorado.org) is a Denver-based statewide non-profit in Colorado that recently rebranded from LiveWell Colorado. We work to transform the food system to ensure equitable access to nutritious foods for all Coloradans. At Nourish, we believe universal access to healthy, nutritious food is a fundamental human right. Through advocacy for better policies, statewide initiatives, and partnerships with communities and statewide and national organizations, we hope to create a new food paradigm.

Through our **Healthy Food Policy** work, we channel state and federal resources to communities while helping connect community voice and power to inform state and federal policy. Through our **Healthy Food in Institutions** work, we partner with entities that feed our kids in schools and help make our food system more resilient – from growers, to food retailers, to school districts, we leverage schools’ significant purchasing power to feed nourishing food to kids that have been systemically underserved. And through our **Healthy Food Incentives** work, we partner with food retailers and growers throughout the state to help individuals experiencing economic insecurity increase their purchasing power to get fruits and vegetables while supporting Colorado growers to increase resilience of our food system.

Background

The current U.S. food system is neither health-promoting nor equitable. The consequences of this system are acutely felt in communities with less income, that are geographically isolated, and among community members who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color. The imbalances in the food system can and do lead to food insecurity, hunger, and long-term health issues.

We believe our greatest impact will come through policy and systems change, and yet we understand that we do not have a complete understanding of how best to effect the change we want to see. As we embrace more policy advocacy work, we need a well-informed roadmap that identifies and targets our best opportunities to advance a resilient, equitable food system.

The U.S. food system is a complex structure of federal, state, and local laws, regulations, and funding mechanisms. To combat the negative systemic issues contained within this complex food system, we propose a process including a comprehensive legal and a regulatory scan of the food system (federal and state), with an accompanying policy and equity analysis.

Project Overview

Nourish Colorado is building a team to develop a Law and Policy Survey, Analysis, & Roadmap for Equitable Systems Transformation.

The results of this process will help us create a policy roadmap with an intentional focus on understanding and addressing existing inequities and identifying necessary changes to transform the food system. The policy analysis will allow us to identify systemic, intentional, and consistent barriers in the food system, what gaps exist, and what opportunities to seize to advance access to nourishing food for all. The roadmap will also provide a strong foundation and direction for change and will allow us to expand existing state-level coalitions and grassroots networks as well as mobilize and expand new coalitions focused on federal-level change.

The goals of this Law and Policy Survey, Analysis & Roadmap for Equitable Systems Transformation project are to:

1. Map existing food systems-related laws, regulations and policies at the federal level and in Colorado;
2. Understand and analyze trade-offs, identify gaps and limitations, and recommend possible opportunities for Nourish CO in the law and policy arena that could lead to transformative systems change for Colorado;
3. Determine the federal, state, and, when obvious, local law and policy for Colorado;
4. Identify and document clear direction to remove barriers to and advance racial and social justice in the food system;
5. Integrate other states' best practices and creative solutions (once the primary areas of focus and opportunity are identified for Colorado); and,
6. Provide a prioritized, equitable, and actionable roadmap, girded by a legal and policy framework, to advance Nourish Colorado's mission and vision through coalition building and partnership engagement.

Contracting Opportunity

Nourish Colorado is seeking to contract with an equity analyst to provide an equity-based policy analysis that will assist us in identifying the issues, gaps, and opportunities to transform the food system. The contractor would work alongside the lead legal analyst who will be primarily responsible for the legal analysis and final development of the roadmap, as well as with Nourish staff who are primarily responsible for policy analysis. The team responsible for this project will work collaboratively and with shared decision-making processes. The team includes the legal analyst, equity analyst, and policy staff at Nourish Colorado.

The contractor will develop a comprehensive application of how the laws, regulations, and historical funding patterns identified by the lead legal analyst either advance or hinder racial and social equity. This comprehensive, equity-based assessment would be a unique deliverable currently missing from policy planning of many food system organizations. We recognize that some critical data for such an analysis may be missing due to un- or under-reported information to state and federal agencies, but those identified information gaps will inform our advocacy as much as existing information.

Nourish CO staff, the legal analyst, and an external partner will review and select qualified applicants based on their qualifications which should include, but are not limited to: policy development and analysis at the state and federal level; deep experience examining legal and policy barriers to racial and social justice as well as high-impact laws and policies that have advanced equity; knowledge of and passion for sustainable food systems policy.

Nourish Colorado will be actively seeking BIPOC-led agencies or BIPOC individuals to respond to this RFP.

Primary Deliverables

Process activities and deliverables will include:

- Initial team meeting to finalize work scope
- Monthly team meetings
- Additional strategy calls as needed

The final deliverables will include:

- Integration of equity considerations into the final roadmap
- Integration of recommendations of high-priority and high-impact policy targets in to the final roadmap

Request for Proposals

Please address the following narrative questions:

1. Firm overview: Please provide a brief overview of your firm/organization and its primary areas of focus (max length: ½ page).
2. Relevant experience: Describe your understanding, experience, and involvement with food systems policy. Include an overview of skills and assets you bring to this work and how it would inform this project. (max length: ½ page)
3. Equity analysis experience: Please describe your experience in providing analysis of equity challenges and promoters, and how you might initiate this project. (max length: one page)
4. Plan or roadmap development: Please describe your experience in developing strategic plans, roadmaps, and other reports of recommendations. (max length: ½ page)
5. Internal Equity Practices: Tell us about how you/your firm centers your work around racial and social equity. Please describe how you integrate equity and inclusion in your processes and into your work products. (max length: ½ page)
6. Bios of those who will be working on the project: Please provide 4-5 sentence bios for each individual who will support this project, and 2-3 sentences on their proposed role in the project.

Required Documents

1. Cover Page
2. Completed Narrative
3. Up to three references that should include: First and last name of the appropriate contact person; Title and organization; Email; Phone; Project name
4. Up to three relevant work samples, including an example of an equity analysis, strategic plan or project of similar scope. Work samples may be submitted in any format such as print, files on a USB, website links, etc.

Timeline

Date	Activity
February 1st	RFP issued
February 19th	RFP due
February 22nd-February 26th	RFPs reviewed
Week of March 1st	Finalists interviewed
March 15th	Contract begins; 50% of contract dispersed
No later than September 30th	Contract must be completed; Remaining 50% dispersed

Submission Information

Please submit your completed application in PDF format to: wendy@nourishcolorado.org

The deadline for applications is February 19, 2021 11:59pm.

Written inquiries regarding the RFP will be accepted through February 17th. Please email Wendy Peters Moschetti at wendy@nourishcolorado.org with questions.