



**Food is Medicine Midwest Convening
January 24-26, 2024 | Topeka, KS**

Zoom Link for both days:

https://aspeninstitute.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Damz3RXdSC2XKlzvuxMhgg

Thursday, January 25, 2024

- 9:00 a.m. Welcome to Sunflower Foundation & Sunflower Nonprofit Center**
Billie Hall, Sunflower Foundation

- 9:05 a.m. Welcome from Aspen Institute Food is Medicine Midwest Convening**
Corby Kummer, Food & Society at the Aspen Institute

- 9:15 a.m. Welcome to the Midwest! The Reality of Food is Medicine in Rural America**

Setting the Stage: What healthcare looks like in the majority of rural U.S.
Kari Bruffet, Kansas Health Institute

Diet-Related Health Disparities in Rural America
Kristine Sande, Rural Health Information Hub

The Paradox of Food Deserts in Farm County
Julia Valliant, Center for Rural Engagement at Indiana University

- 10:15 a.m. Break**
10:30 a.m. Food Is Medicine in High-Priority Communities Part I: Urban & Rural Communities with Generational Poverty
Michael Meit, Center for Rural Healthcare Research at
East Tennessee State University (Moderator)
Jason Wesco, Community Health Center Southeast Kansas (virtual)
Kofi Essel, Elevance Health
Adrienne Markworth, Leah’s Pantry

- 11:20 a.m. Part II: The Realities of Food is Medicine in Frontier and Rural Communities**
Susan Harvey, University of Kansas (Moderator)
Kyle Ahlenstorf, Infinity Health
Alice Ammerman, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Carmen Byker Shanks, Gretchen Swanson Center for Nutrition (virtual)

12:00 p.m. Lunch & Movement Break

1:15 p.m. There's a Mess in the Kitchen! Evaluating Food is Medicine in Real-Life Settings: What We are Learning from the Kansas Pilot Project

Marianna Wetherill, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center

Kristina Bridges, University of Kansas Medical Center

Susan Harvey, University of Kansas

1:55 p.m. Role of Charitable Food System and Healthcare Safety Net in Food is Medicine Interventions

Amy Yaroch, Gretchen Swanson Nutrition Center (Moderator)

Kim Prendergast, Community Care Cooperative

Davna Gould, HealthCore Clinic

Melanie McGuire, Houston Food Bank

Elizabeth Keever, Heartland Health

2:45 p.m. Break

3:00 p.m. Measuring What Matters: Food is Medicine Research Perspectives from Payers, Grantmakers and Public Policy

Panel and discussion facilitated by Brandon Skidmore and Elizabeth Burger, Sunflower Foundation

Panel I: Payer Pilots

Lucia Herrera Jones, UnitedHealthcare (Virtual)

Emily Brown, Attane Health

Donna McClish, Common Ground PG

Charmeka Martin, HealthyBlue

Panel II: Philanthropy

Valerie Stewart, Healthy Communities, Blue Cross & Blue Shield of North Carolina Foundation

Kate Masuch, Novo Nordisk

Valarie Blue Bird Jernigan, Center for Indigenous Health Research and Policy, Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences

Panel III: Public Policy

Katie Sawyer, State Director for Senator Roger Marshall

Trina Raigan, Eccentricity Consulting

Lauran Larson, Oklahoma State Department of Health

Ongoing Q & A and Discussion

4:25 p.m. Closing Remarks

4:30 p.m. Adjourn

Friday, January 26, 2024

- 8:15 a.m. Breakfast in partnership with Center for Indigenous Resilience, Culture, and Maternal Health Equity (CIRCLE) at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
- 9:00 a.m. Welcome and Reflections**
Corby Kummer
- Land Acknowledgement**
Elizabeth Burger, Sunflower Foundation
- 9:05 a.m. Food is Medicine in Tribal Communities**
- Setting the Stage: Healthcare and Food in Tribal Communities**
Dee Ann DeRoin, Ioway Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska
- Case Study: Creating the Story of Food is Medicine at the Ioway Tribe**
Missty Slater, Ioway Tribe Chief of Staff, Ioway Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska
- Nutrition Education in Tribal Settings**
Jason Champagne, Native Chef LLC and Red Lake Band of Chippewa
Janis Simon, Tribal Food Systems, Kickapoo Tribe in Kansas and
Tandy Rundus, K-State Research & Extension
- 10:05 a.m. Tribal Perspectives and Considerations Regarding Food is Medicine Implementation and Evaluation**
Cassandra Nguyen, University of California Davis (Moderator)
Kelli Wilson Begay, Maven Collective Consulting
Tia (Tee) Benally, Seven Directions, A Center for Indigenous Public Health
- Discussion moderated by Emily Jones, University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center
- 11:10 a.m. Break
- 11:25 a.m. What Are We Learning from GusNIP Produce Prescription Projects?**
Chris Long, Gretchen Swanson Center for Nutrition
- 11:55 a.m. Lunch and presentation by Chop Shop by Just Food of Lawrence, KS:
Nutrition Security + Reduce Food Waste + Food is Medicine
- 12:05 p.m. Final Remarks and Next Steps**
Corby Kummer
- 12:30 p.m. Formal Adjournment**