



## Midlands Local Food Collaborative

*Creating a vibrant community through local food and family farms in the heart of South Carolina*

This document sets forth the terms and understanding between signatories within the local food system working group known as the Midlands Local Food Collaborative (MLFC).

### **Overview**

The MLFC is a network of organizations and individuals that support the local food system in the Midlands<sup>1</sup> of South Carolina. Based on shared values of sustainable agriculture, land stewardship, and equitable access to food, MLFC participants support efforts to cultivate a thriving local food system through education, infrastructure improvements, policy development, community organization, and technical assistance.

### **Mission and Goals**

The MLFC's mission is to cultivate a sustainable local food system, foster land stewardship, and increase equitable food access in the Midlands by sharing information and supporting collaborative efforts to:

1. Engage and educate the community about food system issues
2. Strengthen the local food economy through infrastructure developments in coordination with regional and state efforts
3. Advance policies in support of local food systems and organizing stakeholders around these issues
4. Increase access to healthy food while creating small farmer opportunity
5. Increase sustainable food production through education and technical and financial assistance

### **Structure**

The MLFC is a working group of organizational representatives and non-affiliated individuals. Each organization commits to designating at least one representative to participate in the MLFC. Organizations and non-affiliated individuals must be represented in at least 50% of MLFC meetings. Failure to meet this attendance standard will warrant the submission of a written letter of explanation and commitment or risk being disbarred from the MLFC.

### **Quorum**

A quorum shall be defined as a simple majority of signatory organizations and non-affiliated individuals. Each organization shall have one vote, regardless of how many organizational representatives are present. Each non-affiliated individual will also have one vote. Members may participate in person or via conference call or other virtual platform.

### **Officers**

Members shall elect a chairman and other officers as deemed necessary for proper functioning of the working group. Positions shall be reconsidered at least annually.

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<sup>1</sup> For purposes of the MLFC, the Midlands region is defined as the area within a 50 mile radius around the City of Columbia, including the county jurisdictions of Lexington, Richland, Kershaw, Sumter, Calhoun, Orangeburg, Saluda, Newberry, and Fairfield.

**Committees and Partnerships**

Members may elect to form standing or ad hoc committees and/or partner with member organizations or non-affiliated individuals as needed to further the mission and goals of MLFC. Partnerships between MLFC and other organizations or non-affiliated individuals may be formalized through execution of a separate agreement as necessary and upon approval by MLFC members. Such agreements may be periodically renewed, revised, or terminated as needed.

**Recognition**

Participating organizations' names and logos may be submitted, along with requisite organization specifications/limitations for logo use, to be included in online and printed materials distributed by the MLFC. Non-affiliated individuals will also be recognized as appropriate and with prior consent. All members will have the opportunity to review materials prior to their publication and may make a written request to stop/suspend logo or name recognition at any time.

**Amendments**

These terms and understandings may be altered, amended, or repealed by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any regular or special meeting, if at least fourteen days' written notice is given of the intention to alter, amend, or repeal at such meeting.

**Termination**

A member organization or individual may withdraw their participation under this agreement by submitting a written notice of termination to the acting MLFC officers.

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***I have read and agree to these terms and understandings and agree to participate in the MLFC.***

\_\_\_\_\_  
Organization/Individual Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorizing Official  
(Typed Name Represents Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name and Title of Authorizing Official

***Each participating organization must designate at least one representative.  
An organization must be represented in at least 50% of MLFC meetings.***

**Representative 1**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

**Representative 2**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

**Representative 3**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

**Representative 4**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

**Representative 5**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

**Representative 6**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number

**Representative 7**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone Number