



Investing in the Transformation to an Equitable and Ecologically Sound Regional Food System

RUTH GOLDMAN

Ruth Goldman is the Consulting Program Officer at the Merck Family Fund. Ruth has devoted her 30-year career to the environment, youth leadership development and experiential education, both in the philanthropic and non-profit worlds. Beginning with 15 years in outdoor education, primarily in Canada, Ruth worked extensively with young people from diverse backgrounds as well as adults recovering from trauma. Returning to the U.S. in 1998, she began her career in philanthropy as the Program Officer at Merck Family Fund overseeing a \$1.2 million portfolio dedicated to revitalizing urban communities. Ruth was a founding member of the Funders' Collaborative for Youth Organizing. She left the foundation in 2006 to initiate a consulting practice that supports non-profits, foundations and philanthropic networks to build capacity for change on critical urban environmental issues including food systems, green infrastructure, sustainable communities, and the role of urban youth in the emerging green economy.

Ruth is currently the Consulting Program Officer at the Merck Family Fund and co-Chair of Community Food Funders at the North Star Fund in New York City. Ruth holds a BA from Dartmouth College and an M.Ed. from the University of Toronto. She has lived and traveled extensively in the United States and Canada and now resides in her hometown of Newton, MA with her husband and two children.