

# COMMUNITY FOOD FUNDERS

# SEEDING POWER

LEADERSHIP FOR A REGIONAL FOOD MOVEMENT

2025-2026



Seeding Power fellows, 2023-2024

As food justice leaders prepare for attacks on their work, they need spaces that allow them to show up as their whole selves. They need reserves of resilience to tap into through difficult times. We need to put **joy and connection** at the heart of our work to build new systems rooted in justice and liberation.

We must meet this food crisis together, and for that we need leadership from the nonprofit, philanthropic, government and industry sectors. The Seeding Power Fellowship is designed to reduce isolation, practice communication and collaboration, and deepen relationships. It provides not only leadership development, but **critical movement infrastructure** to build a responsive strategy and create a just food system.

## WHAT IS THE SEEDING POWER FELLOWSHIP?

The **Seeding Power Fellowship** is a **nine-month cohort-based food justice fellowship program** for experienced leaders working across sectors to build equitable food systems. This program is designed for movement leaders and philanthropic partners in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut.

Seeding Power is unique in both the region it serves and the focus on effective collaborations and equitable relationships, while including fellows from philanthropy and government. **Racial equity, social justice, active communication, and collaboration** form the core of a tested yet tailored curriculum designed by Emerging Equity.

By creating a community of practice that develops a shared analysis of the issues plaguing our food system, the **Seeding Power cohort will graduate with strengthened cross-sector relationships and skills** and the opportunity to develop projects together.

## AT-A-GLANCE

- » \$5,000 stipend
- » 12 diverse leaders from NY, NJ, and CT
- » Community of practice approach with philanthropic peers
- » Three in-person retreats, thirteen virtual sessions
- » Individual coaching hours
- » Collaboration teams for project-based learning

## HOW TO APPLY

- **Seeding Power is open to movement leaders and funders in New York, New Jersey, and Connecticut**
- **Applications will be accepted March 15 - April 30, 2025**
- Visit [seedingpower.org](https://seedingpower.org)



FOR MORE INFORMATION: ADAM LIEBOWITZ AT [ADAM@NORTHSTARFUND.ORG](mailto:ADAM@NORTHSTARFUND.ORG)



# SEEDING POWER

LEADERSHIP FOR A REGIONAL FOOD MOVEMENT

CONTINUED



Seeding Power fellows and staff at the first retreat

## HOW IT WILL WORK

Seeding Power achieves its goals and objectives by **developing skills** that: 1) create an effective community of practice; 2) form practices based on a foundational understanding of power and relationships; and 3) support successful and equitable team collaborations.

By **investing in leaders**, centering those most marginalized, and creating a shared analysis across the cohort, Seeding Power grows the effectiveness and capacity of a unified food justice movement.

In addition to a core curriculum, fellows are placed in **collaboration teams** and given ample time and coaching to **ideate and dream together** about how their work may align, and be strengthened by one another.

Philanthropic partners are part of the cohort mix in acknowledgement of the influence funders exert in the food movement, and to allow for more **meaningful examination and dialog** for the potential of this influence.

The program is designed to **foster collaboration across sectors and regions** by providing opportunities to interact and align with each other's work, while also being grounded in healing, gratitude practices, and restorative justice so as to reduce burnout, assist with productive approaches to conflict, and promote movement sustainability.

Seeding Power **provides a space to have challenging conversations** among organizations and sectors that are not always totally aligned, in order to find common ground and build consensus on a path forward.

## TIMELINE

### Applications

- » March 15 - April 30, 2025: Application period
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- » May - June: Selection process
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- » June/July: Fellows identified & introductory webinar

### Fellowship Schedule

September '25	2-day in-person kickoff retreat
October	2 virtual sessions & 1 cohort panel
November	1 virtual session & 1 cohort panel
December	1 virtual session & 1 cohort panel
January '26	1 virtual session & 1 collaboration meeting
February	1 virtual session & 1 collaboration meeting
March	4-day in-person midpoint retreat
April	2 collaboration meetings
May	2-day in-person culminating retreat
June	Virtual debrief and listening sessions

## SUPPORTERS

Emerging Equity will once again facilitate the Seeding Power Fellowship.



Financial support is provided by the Angell Foundation, Robert Sterling Clark Foundation and the Community Food Funders steering committee: Kenneth Goldman Donor Fund, Levitt Foundation, Lily Auchincloss Foundation, Merck Family Fund, New York Health Foundation, North Star Fund, Shachar Foundation, Surdna Foundation, Tepper Foundation, and Western New York Foundation.

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