

2026 ADVOCACY PLATFORM

Grounded in **community input and the collective expertise of the SOFSA network**, this platform highlights the priority areas where our coalition will focus its advocacy in the coming year. Together, these priorities guide how we **cultivate the civic power** needed to **protect and expand public support for equitable food and farm programs**. Rooted in our shared values and long-term vision, this platform charts a path toward a **thriving food democracy**.

Co-Leading Local Efforts

Working hand-in-hand with partners and community members locally, the **SOFSA network will help to lead efforts to advance policy change in the following areas:**



Root Causes of Hunger

Build public awareness of the interconnectedness of food with broader issues with the aim to promote dignity, food security, and food justice.



Food Retail & Fresh Food Access

Invest in food system infrastructure that increases access to fresh produce and drives regional economic development.



Farm to Institution

Expand local procurement and supply chains in schools, universities, hospitals, and other institutions to strengthen the regional food economy.

Supporting Broader Advocacy

As partners alongside coalitions leading broad advocacy efforts, we aim to lend learnings from our region to the many voices working together for change at the state and national level. In this way, **SOFSA will play a supporting role in advancing the following policies:**



Farmland Access & Preservation

Support the next generation of farmers – both urban and rural – to build a robust and resilient food system.



Environmental Justice

Support a food system that protects the right of all people to a healthy environment and equal protection from environmental hazards.



Nutrition Education & Food Literacy

Advocate for structures that support a diverse network to provide accessible and culturally responsive food and nutrition education.

For more in-depth information such as policy partners, levers, and action steps, go to bit.ly/2026-Policy-Priorities.