



Presenter Bios: Green for Greens – Finding Funding for Healthy Food Retail

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Hannah Burton Laurison: Hannah Burton Laurison, MA, is a Senior Associate at Public Health Law & Policy (PHLP), where she leads capacity building and advocacy efforts to create healthier communities nationwide. She is also a co-convener of the national Healthy Corner Store Network.

Prior to joining PHLP, Hannah staffed the Pennsylvania Fresh Food Financing Initiative, an \$80 million public/private initiative to develop new grocery stores in underserved communities. Her professional expertise extends across a broad range of food access strategies. In addition to her supermarket development expertise, she has worked closely with corner store owners to increase healthy choices, coordinated a hunger relief program, and organized community gardens in low-income communities.

Hannah has written and spoken extensively on innovative policy solutions to food access challenges in urban and rural communities, and she is the recipient of a Roots of Change fellowship for sustainable food system innovators. She graduated magna cum laude from Brown University and holds a master's degree in planning from Tufts University. Her favorite vegetable is asparagus.

Catherine Howard: Catherine Howard is a Senior Program Manager with NCB Capital Impact. In this role Catherine serves as the manager of the California FreshWorks Fund, a \$250+ million loan and grant fund that finances the development of grocery stores and other forms of healthy food retail in underserved California communities. Catherine has a 15 year background in community development finance, with extensive experience affordable housing, community facility and New Markets Tax Credits financing. Prior to joining Capital Impact she served as Deputy Director of Lending for the Northern California Community Loan Fund, a nationally recognized CDFI. Catherine holds a Master's degree in City Planning from the University of California, Berkeley and an undergraduate degree in Government and Politics from the University of Maryland Honors Program at College Park.