We are transforming ownership of our economy, so that all people can meet their basic needs.

www.cdi.coop
Who Owns our Infrastructure?

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www.cdi.coop
7 Cooperative Principles

1. Voluntary Open Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Member Economic Participation
4. Autonomy & Independence
5. Education & Training
6. Cooperation Amongst Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community

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Co-ops benefit our communities

- Invest in our communities
- Build our relationships
- Increase food access
- Create living wage jobs
- Protect our environment

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Community Farming

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The Grange & Farmers Alliance

Cooperative
Grain Elevators
Shipping Stations
Processing Plant
Grist Mills
Bag Factories
Rail & Ship Transport
Grangers Bank of CA

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African American Cooperatives

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Co-op Farm Purchasing & Processing in 1930s

Co-op Farm Purchasing rose to $250 million in 1934

- Equipment
- Fuel
- Feed
- Supplies

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Federation of Southern Cooperatives

- Started during the Civil Right Movement
- Has built economic security in Southern States amongst African American Farmers

- Emergency Land Fund
- Developed Credit Unions

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Multi-Stakeholder Co-op Farm & Food Hub with workers, producers and consumer Owners

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www.cdi.coop
Facilitate local producers to provide healthy local food to Maine institutions

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University Commitment

Maine Food for UMaine System Campaign was successful in affecting the RFP
University of Maine System has committed to 20% local food by 2020
Maine Farm & Sea Cooperative proposed 20% local in first year

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Food System Partnership

Contracting
Scaling Up
Food Processing
Building Food Infrastructure
Increase Food Access
Work with New American & Women Farmers

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NH Community Seafood

- Producer and Consumer Owned
- Community Supported Fisheries Program
- Restaurant Supported Fisheries Program
- Supplies Institutional Markets

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COOPERATIVE CONVERSION OF EXISTING FOOD HUBS

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Vassalboro, Maine

- Started in 1995 in Aroostook County by Jim Cook
- Originally Family owned business
- Converted into a worker cooperative before Jim Cook Passed Away
- Large local foods distributor connecting producers to market
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New Roots
Cooperative Farm
Lewiston

• Four Somali Bantu Farmer Owners
• Work with Fresh Start Farms Food Hub
• First New American Co-op in Maine
• 30 Acre Farm in Lewiston
• CSA, Farmstand, Wholesale & Farmers Market
• Sharing Land, Equipment & Purchasing
COOPERATION AMONGST FOOD HUBS

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Federation of Southern Cooperatives

- Farmers are part of cooperatives which are part of the Federation
- 70 Active Cooperative Groups with more than 20,000 Members
National Cooperative Grocers

- Represent 148 food co-ops
- Operating over 200 stores
- 38 states with combined
- Annual sales of over $1.8 billion
- Over 1.5 million consumer-owners

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Growing a Food System Rooted in Values

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Resources

Cooperation Works
www.cooperationworks.coop

Keystone Development Center
www.kdc.coop

Democracy at Work Institute
Institute.coop

Cornell University Cooperative Enterprise Program
cooperatives.dyson.cornell.edu

Cultivate.coop

Cooperative Fund of New England
www.coopfund.coop

Shared Capital Cooperative
www.sharedcapital.coop

National Cooperative Bank
www.ncb.coop

For all the People by John Curl

The Company we Keep by John Abrams

Collective Courage by Jessica Gordon Eberhardt