# Metro Food Access Network (MFAN)

# Strategic Team Letter of Commitment

By completing and submitting this Letter of Commitment, you will become a member of MFAN’s Strategic Team. As a member of the Strategic Team, you’ll have an opportunity to support and guide MFAN’s agenda and development.

### MFAN Background

The mission of MFAN is to leverage collective capacity of partners to advance equitable food access for all Twin Cities Metro residents. MFAN’s vision is for a safe, just, and healthy food system for all. Please visit the MFAN Google Site to review the history of MFAN and its core functions.

<http://z.umn.edu/mfan>

MFAN is made of representatives from all sectors of the food system, including almost 200 partner organizations from across the metro. On a quarterly basis partners gather to learn from each other, build relationships, and generate collective action. The active ongoing Action Teams are currently pursuing strategies in the following areas of work:

* Food Shelves
* Comprehensive Planning
* Equity
* Regulatory
* Policy

In early 2017, MFAN members came together to develop a strategic vision for the network. Following are five bold steps identified as strategic priorities for the network.

* To build skills and knowledge of network partners to advance equitable access to healthy food for all
* To define and integrate equity into all network actions
* To mobilize the network for policy change
* To clarify the structure and function of the network and address sustainability
* To engage relationships to advance the mission of the network

### MFAN Strategic Team Overview

The MFAN Strategic Team provides members an opportunity to support the strategic direction of the network, support decision making, and address sustainability needs.  Members also build skills in shared leadership while eating tasty food with other food access leaders in the region.

If you are interested in committing to support the Strategic Team, you must live, work, or volunteer in the Twin Cities metro region and have experience and a deep understanding of issues of equity related to race, economy, and the food system.

## Team Responsibilities

* Ensure all MFAN activities support the mission, vision, and strategic priorities of the network
* Engage in strategic planning for advancing a just regional food system
* Serve as the decision-making body of the network
* Provide direction and support for MFAN coordinator
* Review finances and assist with fundraising
* Assist with planning and execution of quarterly meetings
* Assist with recruiting new members
* Support communications through blog and facebook posts
* Serve as liaison to Action Teams

## Statement of Encouragement

We highly encourage people of color, men, and others with direct experience with inequities in the food system to consider becoming a part of MFAN’s Strategic Team.

## Priority Criteria for Membership

* Must live, work, or volunteer in the 7-county metro region
* Must have experience and deep understanding of issues of equity related to race, economy, and the food system
* Relevant experience in one or more of the following key areas of the network
	+ Social justice
	+ Policy
	+ Hunger
	+ Leadership Development
	+ Youth Engagement
	+ Adult Education
* Preferred skills in one or more of the following
	+ Experience working in a shared leadership model
	+ Fundraising experience
	+ Strategic Planning
	+ Facilitation
	+ Communications (including social media)

## Time Commitment

* Attend 4 meetings quarterly meetings/year, 4.5 hours each
	+ 2 hour MFAN meeting
	+ 1 hour Action Team meeting
	+ 1.5 hour Leadership Team lunch meeting
* Up to 2 hours of additional responsibilities each month
* Participate in 1 strategic visioning meeting/year, 6-8 hours
* Support at least 1 grant proposal/year

Total Time Commitment: Up to 11 hours/quarter, 50 hours/year

Strategic Team members choose to serve two year or 18 month terms, and may re-commit at the end of their term, with up to six years of consecutive service.

## Compensation

None *\*\*if compensation is the only reason you would not apply to be a Strategic Team member talk to MFAN Coordinator about possibilities*

### You can find the MFAN Strategic Team Application online here:

### https://sites.google.com/a/umn.edu/mfan/ways-to-engage

### Please submit your applications by email to MFAN Coordinator

### Please contact the MFAN Coordinator with any questions:

Email: jbain@umn.edu Telephone: 612-239-5571

# MFAN Strategic Team

## Membership Application

Name: ­­­­­­­­­­\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Email: Telephone:

1. Please indicate your link to Metro Area (i.e. live, work, volunteer).
2. What organization or group will you be representing in your role on the MFAN Strategic Team?
3. What is your role in this organization or group?
4. Why would you like to be an MFAN Strategic Team member (*Please use a separate sheet of paper if needed)*?
5. Why do you believe you would make a good MFAN Strategic Team member? Please describe the relevant experience and preferred skills you would bring to the team (using examples given on pg. 2).
6. How would you incorporate your experience with issues of equity in race and the economy into your role on MFAN’s Strategic Team?
7. Will you be able to serve a two year or 18 month term and make the time commitment outlined in the application for the Leadership Team? 2 years18 months