



March 23, 2015

Governor Nikki Haley
State of South Carolina
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton Street
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley,

Thank you for your support of Food Day! Last October, more than 8,000 Food Day events took place in all 50 states to celebrate healthy, real, and just food and to inspire Americans to improve their diets and this country's food policies, thanks to the powerful collaborative efforts of hundreds of national and local organizations.

On and around October 24, 2014, thirteen governors formalized their state's support of Food Day by signing Food Day proclamations. The Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, with the backing of Governor Deval Patrick, supported coordination of over 600 events in Massachusetts; 650,000 students in seven Midwest school districts enjoyed a special local meal served on Food Day; and thousands celebrated at events in New Orleans, Chicago, Savannah, Cleveland, Providence, and dozens of other cities and communities across the country.

Food Day is a great way for states to engage with communities that work to improve local food systems, and it gives individuals the opportunity to show their personal investment in our food system. I would like to invite you to participate in Food Day again this October 24, inspire communities to work together, and cultivate new partnerships among diverse organizations involved in a variety of food issues. In whatever way you and your state's communities choose to celebrate, the key is participation.

As a Governor, you could use Food Day to expand farmers markets or promote urban agriculture and food incubators. You might choose to announce a new healthy corner stores initiative or support the reform of school food menus. Or you could use Food Day to launch a new statewide anti-obesity campaign.

For more information on the opportunities around Food Day, please contact us at foodday@cspinet.org or 202-777-8392, and we will be happy to assist.

Sincerely,

Emily Snyder

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