We’re a six-state network of non-profit, public and private entities working to mobilize the power of New England institutions to transform our food system.
Dear FINE Friends,

I am excited to share FINE’s fiscal year 2018 annual report with you! In many ways, this report is a celebration and recognition of the partner organizations, institutions, businesses, and agencies that we have the pleasure to serve and collaborate with every day. We are grateful for and impressed by the innovation, passion, and grit of these leaders who are working to transform our food system by mobilizing the power of institutions – each in their own way.

As you will see, 2018 was a year of great growth and transition for FINE. We added new staff and advisory council members and launched a policy initiative as well as a campus farm working group, while deepening our focus on the college and university sector, supporting farm to school and health care programs, and exploring our role with prison garden and foodservice operations. We continue to strengthen our role as a backbone organization for the network of farm to institution leaders in the non-profit, public, and private sectors around New England by organizing events, conducting research, creating tools, and fostering communication.

At the end of the day, our success comes from helping our partners go farther faster by sharing lessons and learning from each other’s successes and challenges. In these times of great consolidation in the marketplace, thin margins, uncertain policy signals, and looming environmental concerns, we know that we are all better working together. Join us in appreciating the growing network of farm to institution stakeholders in New England!

Sincerely,

Peter Allison
Executive Director
Farm to Institution New England

P.S. I hope to see you at the 2019 New England Farm to Institution Summit on April 2-4 at Umass Amherst!

On behalf of the staff:
Laura Gallagher, Research Associate
Kaitlin Haskins, Communications Manager
Amanda Landry, Communications Associate
Hannah Leighton, Research & Evaluation Manager
Erica Morrell, Policy Fellow
Dana Stevens, Event & Project Manager
Tania Taranovski, Director of Programs

With thanks to our additional FY2018 team members:
Emily Barbour, Summer 2018 Research Intern
Sarah Lott, Summer 2017 Evaluation & Tracking Research Intern
Kathleen Nay, Summer 2017 Communications Intern
Nessa Richman, Research & Evaluation Director
Mike Zastoupil, Farm & Sea to Campus Interim Coordinator
Key Accomplishments
Here are a few of the ways we’ve made a positive impact on the world this past year:

Empowered people to measure our collective impact by offering a robust metrics dashboard (dashboard.farmtoinstitution.org) and a new campus dining survey through FINE’s nationally-recognized metrics initiative. We also scaled our regional efforts by coordinating the National Farm to Institution Metrics Collaborative.

Increased opportunities for state policy action in support of farm to institution by identifying key policy successes, failures, and engagement options. FINE’s new food policy initiative is guided by a group of experienced advocates, agency staff, and supply chain businesses from all six states and beyond.

Built a vibrant network of campus farmers and supporters through the first New England Campus Farmer Summit, which attracted 135 attendees from 30 colleges. This event prompted a new working group that continues to grow the community’s reach and impact via events, networking, and best practice sharing.

Created institutional change toward making local and sustainable food the “new normal” by delivering specialized food systems assessment, on-campus coalition building, and technical assistance to a cohort of New England colleges through FINE’s Campus FoodShift pilot program.

FISCAL YEAR 2018 BY THE NUMBERS
Growing our Network

16,800 People visited FINE websites
500 People tuned into our four webinars
10% Growth in newsletter subscribers
19% Growth in social media followers

July 2017 to June 2018
At FINE, we’re grateful to everyone who supports our work to build a resilient local food system that benefits farms and communities across New England.

Major Funders
The John Merck Fund
Henry P. Kendall Foundation
The Whitehead Foundation
Anonymous and individual gifts
USDA Local Food Procurement Program
Vermont Community Foundation

“The FINE network was an invaluable resource for advice and sharing on program design and budget management and systems set up. Our local food program now is up and running and serving healthier local meals to our students everyday.”
– Gretchen Czaja, Woodstock Elementary School Food Program Director

Join the FINE Community!

Donate Today
You can make a secure gift online at www.farmtoinst.org/act#donate
-OR- mail a check to FINE at the address below

Get Connected
To sign up for The FINE Print, visit www.farmtoinst.org/newsletter
Find us on social media @Farm2Inst

To learn more about how you can support FINE’s work, email Peter Allison at peter@farmtoinst.org