

SUSU commUNITY Farm

2025

94 river rd, unit 3
newfane, vt 05345



bringing cultural reclamation, safety, dignity, & belonging to vermont and beyond

who we are



SUSU commUNITY Farm is a 37-acre Afro-Indigenous farm and cultural reclamation project located on the ancestral homelands of the wabanaki peoples, in so-called newfane, vermont, founded by collaborative directors, amber arnold and naomi moody. susu serves as an Afro-Indigenous farm rooted in the Black womanist beliefs of our collective ancestors and is committed to existing as a homemade field of love for People Of The Global Majority to gather, heal, and thrive in safety, dignity, and belonging. we do this in honor of our elders and ancestors, connecting us across time and space to those who come before and after us. SUSU is a verb; it moves in reciprocity and rhythm, much like the land we steward. we embody this work by practicing food + land sovereignty, offering land-based connections, and ancestral healing.



the project

SUSU commUNITY Farm aims to address the disparities that exist for BIPOC + disadvantaged farmers across vermont in four-stages:

<i>FY25-</i>	<i>FY26-</i>	<i>FY27-</i>	<i>FY28-</i>
<u><i>FY26</i></u>	<u><i>FY27</i></u>	<u><i>FY28</i></u>	<u><i>FY29</i></u>
general operations + strategic coalition planning	general operations + launch of immersive incubator pilot program:	general operations + second year of immersive incubator pilot program:	general operations + final year of immersive incubator pilot program:
\$500,000.00	\$650,000.00	\$650,000.00	\$500,000.00

***coalition planning = pilot planning from immersive incubator model
total budget request for fy25- fy29 = \$2,300,000.00**

SUSU imagines the curation of an immersive incubator program to combat the various challenges that impact BIPOC + disadvantaged farmers across vermont (and the new england region). we understand, first hand, the challenges that exist with our neighboring farm communities as it relates to flooding and want to serve as a weaver-of-resources to help introduce systems that go beyond conventional practices of creating a riparian border, but instead, a robust network of partners moving in practice together that we all benefit from.

our herstory

SUSU has long established its relation to windham county residents through community engagement activities at retreat farm prior to the acquisition of our beautiful abode; 37 acres to cultural reclamation which not only serves as an antidote to colonialism and racial capitalism but serves as a path to climate resilience. since grounding ourselves in this sanctuary, we've continued to support windham county residents through meaningful community engagement and providing nutritionally add-value foods through our csa program.

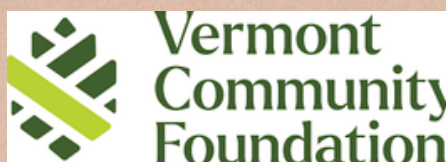
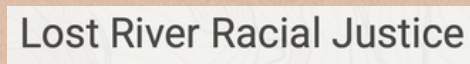
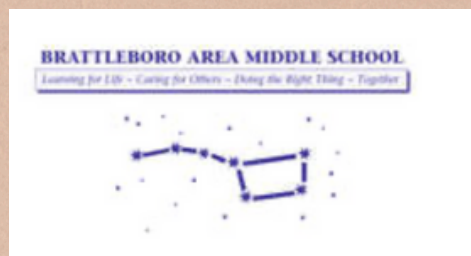


our impact

since our rooting, along the wantastegok (west river), we've engaged nearly sixty {60} member-households in the past three growing seasons (fy22+fy23+fy24), totaling 16,370 pounds in fresh produce, dairy, meat, locally harvested honey, bread, eggs, culinary herbs, etc. we are capable of achieving this work through partnerships with other BIPOC + disadvantaged farmers in our community.



susu commUNITY Farm alliances



considerations of alignment



- **Introduce Sugar-Tax Bill to create Appropriations to support the sustainability of BIPOC + Disadvantage Farmer Immersive Program Fund Case Study:**
seattle introduced this tax as a design to improve the health of seattle residents by reducing the sales and consumption of sugary drinks. in addition, the tax revenue is being used to support healthy food access and early learning programs. research has shown that sugary drinks can lead to long-term weight gain, which can increase risk of developing type 2 diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease. sugary drinks also lead to cavities. a 20-ounce bottle of soda can pack over 15 teaspoons of added sugar and over 250 calories with poor nutritional value. one year after this bill was adopted + introduced, seattle seen a growth of \$18.9million.
https://www.seattle.gov/documents/Departments/SweetenedBeverageTaxCommAdvisoryBoard/EvaluationReports/SBTEval_AllResultsOverview_Final.pdf
- **Request a Line-Item in the State Budget for Special Initiative Appropriations**



scan to read case study



why SUSU and, why now?

Much uncertainty exists around Food Access with the Farm Bill (Introduced 2018) extended thru til December 2025. Dismantling of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Programs, Institutions and Practices and the natural-disasters due to Climate Change. We imagine a world where accessibility to food is readily available within our communities. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion is at the forefront of our hearts and minds when it comes to prioritizing the most marginalized members, households and communities through workforce development and healing practices as we, the BIPOC and Disadvantaged Farming Community, can be the backbone to the structure that keeps the heartbeat going through our Immersive Pilot Program.

We ask those members of the Agriculture Committee to honor those who stand in solidarity with SUSU to shift the needle of our collective work to create a new system, one that is favorable to creating a rooted food hub, ready to share in our collective teachings, blossom in our communities and pollinate across our region and statelines.