A strong food system supports Rhode Island’s economy, culture, and people.

As part of her efforts to grow Rhode Island’s green economy and support healthy families, in spring 2016, Governor Gina M. Raimondo announced the hiring of the state’s (and nation’s) first director of food strategy to lead the development of Rhode Island’s first comprehensive food plan. With the support of many partners, efforts are underway to develop an actionable vision for food in Rhode Island that would build on the state’s momentum in growing its local food economy, benefit all Rhode Islanders, connect to regional and national food planning efforts, and celebrate the state’s unique food cultures and landscape.

Rhode Island stands at an exceptional moment in time to engage in the development of a food strategy. In addition to State-level leadership and engagement, there is a robust network of partners across business, government and community who are energized by and committed to the effort. The Rhode Island Food Strategy, designed to be a five-year action plan, takes a holistic view of the state’s food system, breaking it out into three core components – production (such as farming or fisheries), health and access, and economic development – and examining how each component interrelates.

The Strategy sets forth five focus areas and related actions to guide and prioritize efforts over the next five years:

1. Alleviate Food Insecurity & Hunger In Rhode Island
2. Make Food Production More Accessible
3. Create, Sustain & Grow Markets For Rhode Island Products
4. Prioritize Environmental & Economic Sustainability
5. Create & Sustain The Climate For Food-Related Businesses

Visit relishrhody.com to learn more.
The Rhode Island Food Strategy envisions a sustainable, equitable food system that is uniquely Rhode Island; one that builds on our traditions, strengths, and history while encouraging innovation and supporting the regional goal of 50 percent of the food eaten in New England be produced in the region by 2060.