

Biographical Sketch

Ken Meter **Crossroads Resource Center**

Ken Meter is one of the most experienced food system analysts in the U.S., integrating market analysis, business development, systems thinking, and social concerns. Meter holds 43 years of experience in inner-city and rural community capacity building. His “Finding Food in Farm Country” studies have promoted local food networks in 107 regions in 37 states and one Canadian province. Meter recently released a local foods plan for the state of Alaska. He completed a \$9.85-million plan for rural investment for the state of South Carolina, and researched the economic impacts of institutional food purchasing for the Centers for Disease Control and the Illinois Public Health Institute. As coordinator of public process for the City of Minneapolis Sustainability Initiative, he guided over 85 residents in creating a 50-year vision for the city including sustainability measures. Meter consults with the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service to help create a toolkit for measuring economic impacts of local food development. He served as an advisor for the USDA Community Food Projects including managing the national proposal review panel, and serves as a contributing editor to the *Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development*. He served as convenor and co-chair of the Community Economic Development Committee for the former Community Food Security Coalition, and is a leader of the Closing the Hunger Gap network. Meter taught economics at the University of Minnesota, and at the Harvard Kennedy School.