2020, wow. You can imagine the challenge of writing a year in review during a time like now.

When we wrote to you all last spring, Seattle was becoming an early viral epicenter. Funding felt unstable amid mass unemployment, and the chaos of halting in-person organizing was brand new. Our Organizing Director, Simone Adler, also took a new position during this time. All in all, CAGJ’s future was uncertain. Writing to you today in March 2021, we are so grateful and enlivened to report that we are emerging from this instability stronger than ever. Fitting, really, as we celebrate our organization’s 20th anniversary.

CAGJ’s strength comes from our community. We are thankful to have found ways to grow together and support one another despite moving to virtual organizing spaces. Rise Up! Summer School welcomed one hundred people to build community through political education about our food system, with a strong Organizing Collective leading the way, and now getting ready for summer 2021. Out of this emerged “Recipes for a New Normal”, our forthcoming Zine, to tell the story of 2020.

It took a village of interns, volunteers, and partners to complete research for our two AGRA Watch reports in 2020, and we are still feeling the ripple effects. Our Dream Team, a dedicated team of volunteers, led our strategic planning process throughout 2020, resulting in our new Theory of Change and updated Mission and Vision. Thank you to all of our Members who participated in the multiple stages, from surveys to gatherings!

But the weight of the world is a lot to hold. Each day our hearts ache in light of the immeasurable loss endured this year, felt by some much more than others. From the virus claiming our relatives before their time, to the painfully public, senseless killings fueled by racist, classist, and patriarchal systems, to the backbone of capitalism which continues to sacrifice workers for executive profits. The Black Lives Matter movement channeled our grief and catalyzed a new wave of transformation, but in a cruel yet unsurprising irony, protesters were often brutalized by police, including in Seattle.

This time has made all the more visible these unjust frameworks which have been upheld for far too long—structures that push us to forget that your liberation is bound up in my own (in the words of Aboriginal rights activists).

We especially want to call attention to the immense struggle this time has been, and continues to be, for our partners and friends on the African continent. As the vaccine becomes more widespread in the US, we would be remiss to ignore the billions of people around the globe for whom basic safety is being denied. Stark inequalities, both locally and globally, are especially apparent in the fight for vaccine equity. This cannot be viewed as separate from our fight for food sovereignty.

It is our task now to remember that solidarity is not comfortable, it is not formulaic. Solidarity means sacrifice, it means showing up, it means that I see you, I feel with you, I fight for you—my brother, my sister, my relative.

People showed up this year, with CAGJ, and in countless adjacent struggles. We toast to a new decade in collective healing! Onward!

With love, always,
Noël Hutton and Heather Day
**Amplifying the Fair Trade Movement**

In 2020 a brilliant team of interns drafted a new section of our website focused on what the movement for Fair Trade is all about. While we can’t change the world just by purchasing Fair Trade coffee, tea, sugar, bananas, nuts, and all of the other delicious foods available, it certainly makes a difference to support systems that treat producers in the Global South fairly. CAGJ’s roots are in this movement, and we want to ensure that all of our Members are educated in order to participate in just, ethical and equitable models. Unfortunately some actors have undermined the principles of Fair Trade, and there are so many labels, we can sometimes feel overwhelmed. CAGJ looks to Equal Exchange, a worker-owned cooperative founded in 1986 as a primary resource for understanding the Fair Trade movement. Look for an announcement of our new resources soon!

**End Vaccine Apartheid**

We hope that the Biden Administration will support the waiver of the “Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights” (TRIPS) agreement at the WTO in order to remove unnecessary barriers to vaccine production in the Global South, where many currently have little or no access to vaccines. CAGJ has joined efforts to pressure the Administration by signing a joint letter to Congress (“To Help End the Pandemic as Quickly as Possible and Restore U.S. International Cooperation, Please End Trump’s Blockade of the COVID-19 Emergency Waiver of WTO Rules So More Vaccines and Treatment Can Be Produced”), and urging our Congresspeople to support. We did targeted outreach to our members in Rep. Adam Smith’s district, as he has yet to show support for the waiver.

**Biden’s Pause in Trade Agreements & What We Want**

President Biden has promised no more trade agreements. We have to “invest in America first,” he says. He has appointed a more pro-labor US Trade Representative, Katherine Tai.

A pause in trade agreements is definitely called for, so that trade policy can be fundamentally rethought. There is now a much broader recognition that corporate-friendly trade policy has had devastating impact on jobs, inequality and the climate.

Nowhere is the outdated, “normal” pattern of trade more obviously damaging than in the case of industrial agriculture and its chemical-intensive extractive monocultures. The World Trade Organization (WTO) has strengthened corporate rights to land, seeds, water and biodiversity, at the expense of the planet, farmers, peasants and workers. La Via Campesina calls for more than a pause, but rather to take agriculture and food totally out of trade agreements. Local communities may then be able to build autonomous agroecological food systems that are sustainable and respond to needs, not profit.

The “pause” in trade agreements must mean that trade and commerce and economic growth are no longer considered the primary goals. Trade policy must support climate policy and food policy, not undermine it. Social movements throughout the world are on it, with local and national initiatives, including in Seattle (Support Seattle’s Green New Deal!). CAGJ will work to listen, and to amplify their voices.

**Looking Forward**

- Join us for our April 29 Trivia Night, where we will gather virtually for a fun evening of learning about CAGJ history - including our roots in the WTO protests and the Food Sovereignty movement!
- Soon we will launch the new Fair Trade section of our website, and amplify the great work being done to support farmers in the Global South, in particular by Equal Exchange, our longtime SLEE Sponsor and supporter.
- CAGJ will continue to partner with WA Fair Trade Coalition to pressure for just trade policy, including how it pertains to global access to vaccines.
Local Food Producer Solidarity: Block Corporate Salmon

- We joined forces with the Block Corporate Salmon coalition, founded by Uprooted and Rising (UNR), and co-organized a mural-painting action at UW on Indigenous People’s Day in October with Coast Salish, Muckleshoot, and UNR activists.
- We celebrated the Aug 2020 federal court ruling that declares the 2015 FDA approval unlawful and orders the FDA to re-assess the environmental consequences of potential GMO salmon escape.
- Another huge campaign win came in Jan 2021 when Aramark, one of the top US food service providers, publicly and permanently rejected GMO salmon.
- **Looking forward:**
  - CAGJ is continuing to fight AquaBounty’s first planned release of GMO salmon into the US food market; current research focuses on the first known distributor, Samuel & Sons, who sells to restaurants in Philadelphia.

Food Chain Worker Solidarity: UFCW 21

- Over the past year CAGJ has joined UFCW 21 to fight for “hazard pay” for essential grocery store workers who are risking their health and lives to feed people during the pandemic.
- CAGJ members Delia Pinto and William Mace provided testimonies demanding reinstatement of hazard pay in Seattle and Burien in Jan 2021. Both city councils voted in favor!
- **Looking forward:**
  - In Feb, Kroger announced they would be closing QFC stores in Seattle to avoid paying their workers the now legally-mandated hazard pay. We will join UFCW 21 actions at QFC in April!

Food As a Basic Human Right Solidarity: Got Green

In Feb this year Jill Mangaliman, Got Green’s Director, joined our webinar "Billionaire or Community Solutions to Climate Crisis?,” Jill highlighted the connection between their community-based climate justice work and food security efforts in South Seattle: “We’re learning that it’s not enough to have food dollars. We actually need land and space for our communities to grow locally...Knowing that as climate change worsens we really do need to be able to grow our own food locally, in our own neighborhoods.”

Got Green has been a leading voice calling out a Cap & Trade bill in the WA State legislature as a false solution. CAGJ amplified their critique through an Action Alert and infographic circulated on our social media channels.
- **Looking forward:**
  - We look forward to Got Green’s Seattle Green New Deal Campaign launch on April 22, 2021! We are in consultation on how best to support this new organizing effort.
  - We will continue to look to Got Green for their leadership on the intersections of climate justice and food sovereignty.
We launched the 3rd Edition of CAGJ’s publication, Our Food, Our Right Zine titled “Recipes for a New Normal”! This publication combines stories, resources, art, and recipes to capture lessons on food sovereignty and world building learned throughout the chaos of 2020.

In Dec, we co-hosted a film screening of the documentary “Gather” with Beacon Food Forest, highlighting Indigenous food sovereignty with speakers Noel Purser, Hillel Echo-Hawk and Yasmin Ahmed.

We were invited by both Clean Greens Farm and Northwest Harvest to give food justice workshops, and Clean Greens invited several CAGJ members to speak on their podcast.

In Feb, we launched our #BlackRootsBlackFutures campaign on Instagram in honor of Black History Month featuring seven Black farmers who “took over” our account for a day.

Community Education

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Looking Forward: 2021

- We are eager to share our zine with all our members this spring - we will be posting excerpts on Instagram, and the full publication on our website. Printed versions will also be available for order!
- Summer School 2021 is just around the corner and we are excited to continue planning a program that is relevant, inspiring, and empowering. Stay tuned for more details soon about how to participate.
In Feb 2020, CAGJ met with Familias Unidas por la Justicia (FUJ) at Cooperative Tierra y Libertad, the cooperative farm founded by FUJ’s leadership, to establish them as a Farmworker Solidarity Campaign partner in addition to Community to Community (C2C).

Beginning in May, CAGJ mobilized in solidarity with FUJ as they supported striking farmworkers and fruit packers in Eastern WA with the aim of improving worksite and housing safety amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. Strike-leaders gave testimony during a Summer School webinar we organized with FUJ’s Organizing Director Edgar Franks.

Summer School participants learned grassroots fundraising skills through Finance the Frontlines, an online fundraising and awareness-raising campaign. We raised $21,000 for FUJ!

Following the strikes, a group of Allan Brothers employees formed an independent union - Trabajadores Unidos por la Justicia (TUJ) - to ensure workers have a voice in negotiations for fair and safe labor conditions.

**Looking forward:**

- We will continue to act in solidarity with our Farmworker partners when called upon! Currently C2C and FUJ are advocating in opposition to the Farmworker Modernization Act and are seeking legislative support from CAGJ members.
- Currently C2C and FUJ are advocating for Senate Bill 5172 that would remove the exemption of farmworkers from overtime pay, which has been in place since 1938.
In August 2020, we hosted a report-launch webinar: “Mapping and Mobilizing Against the Gates Foundation’s Influence in African Agriculture.” We were joined by a wonderful panel including Elizabeth Mpofu of La Vía Campesina, Mariam Mayet of African Centre for Biodiversity, and Raj Patel, renowned author and activist at University of Texas Austin.

This February, to coincide with the release of Bill Gates’ new book *How to Avoid a Climate Disaster*, AGRA Watch hosted another webinar. Here we unpacked the role of Gates in contributing to the global climate crisis through his promotion of industrial agriculture. We released a 4-part infographic series on social media to provide context for this analysis. We were joined by another amazing group of speakers including Million Belay of Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa, Silvia Ribeiro of ETC Group Latin America, Tom Goldtooth of Indigenous Environmental Network and Climate Justice Alliance, and Jill Mangaliman of Got Green. The unique perspectives shared by these speakers provided a comprehensive analysis of philanthrocapitalism, false solutions, and the links between food sovereignty and climate justice.

AGRA Watch is deeply concerned by Gates’ increasingly authoritative voice in shaping global governance — from food systems, to COVID-19, to climate. We have seen time and time again how his “technology solves all problems” ideology fails to produce effective solutions for addressing global inequality. We are expanding our research to illustrate a more comprehensive representation of the role of Gates and his Foundation in shaping the dominant narrative. We are also working to incorporate visual design to make our research findings more accessible. Additionally, we will continue acting as a bridge between the US Food Sovereignty Alliance and the Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa.

“We believe we must signal an alarm about Bill Gates and the Gates Foundation’s ever-expanding influence in policy arenas.” - Heather (during Feb webinar)
ALLIANCE-BUILDING

In January 2020, our Director joined the National Family Farm Coalition for the annual Board meeting in Birmingham, Alabama, where participants were treated to a powerful day-long dive into civil rights history. In 2021 Heather was invited to join the Executive Committee of the NFFC Board.

Our movement is strategizing in the lead up to the 2021 United Nations Food Systems Summit to expose increasing corporate capture of global food governance. In “The Man Behind the Curtain”, AGRA Watch documented Gates Foundation backing of the Summit’s controversial leader, Agnes Kalibata. Core AGRA Watch Member Matt Canfield co-published an article to engage broader audiences, and USFSA is hosting a virtual “People’s Encounter” in April about the global threat represented by the Summit.

CAGJ has been amplifying the ongoing farmer protests in India, including the creation of social media infographics and signing on to numerous letters. Our Director was invited to speak at a solidarity rally in Seattle, organized by the Sikh community.

CAGJ continues to play a central role in the US Food Sovereignty Alliance, including as part of the West Region, International Relations and Anti-Racism Collectives, and Youth Process. In March, Simone participated in the USFSA’s first National Political Education Course in Apopka, Florida. CAGJ helped coordinate the Food Sovereignty Prize, awarded in 2020 by USFSA to Somali Bantu Community Association of Maine and the All Nepal Peasants’ Federation in recognition of transformative solutions in the face of the hunger crisis caused by COVID.

CAGJ is acting as a bridge between USFSA and Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa to help build alliances between alliances. Meetings have taken place amongst other global alliances as well, including Australian Food Sovereignty Alliance, Nyéléni Forum - Europe and Alliance for the Food Sovereignty of the Peoples of Latin America and Caribbean.

14th SLEE Gala: Feed the People

Our beloved community dinner was transformed into an online gala. In a year unlike any other, the theme centered hope embodied by youth on the frontlines of the food justice movement. Our keynote speaker was Tarik Abdullah, a Seattle-based chef whose “goal is to use food as a tool to bridge community...Look at what you can do for your neighborhood! ... Any time you have free time, make time! Make time for your neighborhood, make time for your community, and definitely make time for kids.”
CAGJ is 20!

Shaping our next 20 years...

This year we are wrapping up our recent phase of strategic planning, with a new Theory of Change and evaluation of our programs. We look forward to reporting back our findings, informed by where we have been to shape where we are going. Stay tuned!

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Rise Up! Summer School: Cultivating Resilient Food Systems in Times of Crisis

Over the summer, we hosted the second iteration of our widely-praised and free political education and leadership development program, this time online and with over 100 registrants! In community, we analyzed the role of food systems as related to the many intersecting crises we face today, from racial and economic injustice, to COVID-19, to climate chaos. Our sessions highlighted the Northwest Indigenous-led resistance against genetically engineered salmon, the movement for food sovereignty and agroecology in Africa, and the farmworker fight for COVID-19 and labor protections. Participants built skills in grassroots fundraising, pulling together $21,000 in support of Familias Unidas por la Justicia amid historic fruit worker strikes in the Yakima Valley.

CAGJ often financially supports core organizers in accessing opportunities to develop as social change leaders. For obvious reasons, many of these gatherings have been put on hold. This April, we will be supporting a few of our emerging leaders in participating in the 2021 PowerShift Conference, as well as a 12-week Graphic Design for Organizing Apprenticeship hosted by Social Movement Technologies.

Conferences + Trainings

Interns

We are so grateful to have received overwhelming interest this past year in our internship programs! While not meeting in our beautiful Beacon Hill office has had some downsides, it has allowed us to expand our reach in ways we had not previously imagined, hosting interns from San Francisco, to North Carolina, to Italy! We are grateful to Zoe Freeman and Kevin Holtz, our Membership Practicum interns, who had made great strides in strengthening our volunteer and member outreach. Interns make our work possible, supporting all aspects of our daily functioning from research to social media, mailings to fundraising, membership to political education!

Staff

Our Director Heather has been underpaid for far too long! This past year we approved a modest increase. Simone Adler, our beloved Organizing Director and AGRA Watch Coordinator of over three years, took a new position in March, and recently joined the team at Pesticide Action Network! Since then, we have puzzled together a few part-time contractor positions to support our Director as we decide on our next phase for hiring. Our 2020 SLEE Coordinator and long-time volunteer, Sara Lavenhar, has stayed on part-time as our very own tech goddess, providing invaluable operations support, which has been so crucial in this digital age. Summer School 2020 Coordinator Noël Hutton has joined as a part-time organizer, along with Summer School Organizing Collective member, Zine Coordinator, and FJP Co-Chair, Momo Wilms-Crowe. We are also excited to announce we just hired for this year’s SLEE coordinator—Summer School Organizing Collective volunteer and GE Salmon organizing intern, Lisa Colligan! We intend to decide on a more permanent staffing structure very soon, informed by our strategic planning process.

CAGJ BY THE NUMBERS IN 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Money raised for Familias Unidas por la Justicia in 2020</td>
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<td>Monthly Sustainer donations in 2020 from 93 people</td>
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<td>Social Media Clicks &amp; Shares on CAGJ &amp; AGRA Watch Facebook pages</td>
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<td>Registrants of all CAGJ sponsored webinars in 2020</td>
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<td>Attendees of all CAGJ sponsored webinars in 2020</td>
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<td>AGRA Watch reports published</td>
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<td>Staff</td>
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“Being a part of CAGJ has given me the opportunity to develop my leadership skills in a supportive and nurturing community. CAGJ brings an invigorating and critical lens to food sovereignty that is deeply inspiring to me.” - Erika Mazza-Smith, FJP Member & Summer School Organizing Collective
2020 proved to be a much better year financially for CAGJ than initially feared, putting us on solid footing for 2021, our 20th anniversary year! It’s hard to under-state what a difficult and unpredictable year it was for everyone, due to the pandemic and economic crisis. Many non-profits were forced to scale back. To be cautious, CAGJ held off from hiring after our Organizing Director stepped down in March. However, we have been able to hire several organizers on contracts to keep programs and fundraising moving.

CAGJ relies on our Members to provide us with sustainable funding. We are eternally grateful for our grassroots donors, many of whom give monthly. Consistent, small donations from working people are what allow us to maintain an independent voice to take on powerful interests, especially in our critique of philanthrocapitalism.

We could not have expanded capacity in recent years without the assistance of longtime supporter UFCW 21, and Seymour and Sylvia Rothchild Family Foundation, Stansbury Family Foundation and Swift Foundation.

We were heartened to see how our community showed up for our first virtual SLEE Gala, held in October, that raised $27,500, one of our best years! We are so grateful to everyone who donated, especially our Sponsors: Central Co-op, Community to Community, Friends of the Earth, New Roots Organics, PCC Community Markets, Social Justice Fund, UAW Local 4121, UFCW Local 21, WA Fair Trade Coalition and Welcome Table Christian Church. And big thanks to our in-kind Sponsors as well: Clean Greens, Equal Exchange, Loki Fish Co. and Real Change. Two other in-kind sponsors - Farmer Direct Organic and Madres Kitchen - donated food to our keynote Tarik Abdullah’s program, Feed the People, which has provided free healthy meals to people in the Central District since the pandemic began.

“CAGJ staunchly commits to exposing and fighting injustice in our food system. As corporations corrupt attempts to transform our food system through green-washing and violating Indigenous rights, CAGJ rallies its community to speak truth to power.

- Lisa Colligan, Former FJP Intern & SLEE 2021 Organizer

**Income**

- Grants 30.5%
- Contributions 44.8%
- Sustainers 12%
- Event (SLEE) 12.6%

**Expenses**

- Personnel 55.9%
- Admin 18.8%
- Organizing 10.8%

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**Beginning Balance:** $44,067  
**Ending Balance:** $76,127
Thank you to everyone who makes CAGJ’s organizing for a better world possible!
Get involved and stay connected in 2021!

CAGJ is run by our volunteer members and there are many ways to plug in!

- Become a Member by making a one-time donation or just complete our Member form!
- Become a Sustaining Member by signing up to contribute on a monthly basis
- Help to organize our annual SLEE Gala
- Volunteer for a project, or work area as an Intern!
- Stay informed about upcoming opportunities by signing up for our monthly e-mail newsletter, project listservs, and connecting with us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram
- Attend a Food Justice Project meeting - 3rd Tuesday/month @ 6:30pm via Zoom
- Come to an event, webinar or action - check out the calendar on our website.
- Contact us to talk about specific ways you would like to contribute!

Community Alliance for Global Justice Celebrates
15th Annual SLEE Gala
**Strengthening Local Economies Everywhere!**
& 20th Anniversary Party!
**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2021**

*Join the Virtual Gala*
*Tickets available this summer!*

**Keynote by Raj Patel - Author, Activist & Academic**
"Is this What Democracy Looks Like? A Tale of Two Seattles"

Community Alliance for Global Justice
1322 S Bayview St. Suite 300, Seattle, WA 98144
contact_us@cagj.org | (206) 405-4600 | www.cagj.org

When you become a Member of CAGj, you sign on to being part of our community in the fight for Food Sovereignty. Membership helps us to identify who makes up our base, whether they be donors, volunteers and/or supporters. The direction of our organization is shaped by and held accountable to our Members.