



Katie Martin serves as the **Executive Director** of the Institute for Hunger Research & Solutions. She is recognized as a thought leader on food security issues and has over 25 years of experience developing and evaluating holistic solutions to hunger. She earned a Ph.D. in Nutrition Science & Policy from Tufts University and has presented her work at dozens of regional and national conferences. Katie chose to channel her experience and passion for anti-hunger work by writing a new book titled [*Reinventing Food Banks and Pantries: New Tools to End Hunger*](#), which was published in March 2021.

Katie serves on the Board of Directors for Healing Meals Community Project, on the Technical Advisory Group for Feeding America, and on the Editorial Advisory Board for Food Bank News. When she's not working, Katie and her husband Chris enjoy visiting their adult children, catching any chance to hear live music and participating in various sporting activities – from volleyball to triathlons.

Maisie Campbell is a **Program Coordinator** focused on the Institute's Connecticut-based programming. In this role, Maisie supports food pantries to implement better practices such as SWAP and More Than Food and supports Connecticut Foodshare's use of SWAP in our food bank inventory.

Maisie graduated with a degree in Mathematics and Environmental Studies from Bowdoin College while also studying three languages - French, Chinese and Malagasy. Following her passion for food, social justice, and the environment, Maisie spent two years as a FoodCorps Service Member with St. Mary's Nutrition Center and McMahon Elementary School in Lewiston, Maine to connect kids to healthy food through schools. With the Institute, she hopes to build on her experience working on farms in Connecticut, with conservation organizations and in food service to further food security and sustainability. Outside of work, she loves to experiment in the kitchen with new recipes or old favorites.

Brittney Cavaliere is the **Program Manager** at the Institute for Hunger Research & Solutions. In her role, Brittney oversees many of the day-to-day operations of the Institute and conducts research to promote long-term food security, health, and well-being.

Prior to Connecticut Foodshare, Brittney served as a Program Officer at The Connecticut Health Foundation. Brittney's experiences working with people with HIV early in her career fuels her passion for a more equitable country where everyone can thrive. She received a Master of Public Health from Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health and a Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies from Fordham University. Outside of Connecticut Foodshare, you can find Brittney volunteering in her hometown of East Hartford with the East Hartford Alumni Association and Education Foundation and as a youth basketball coach. In her free time, Brittney likes to head out on a hike with her puppy Scout or find her next read at a new bookstore.

Kate Farrar, Program Specialist for the Institute for Hunger Research & Solutions, coordinates the Institute's communications and provides strategic guidance to the expansion of the More Than Food program. Most recently, Kate served as the Executive Director for the CT Women's Education and Legal Fund (CWEALF) and led the passage of the state's historic paid family and medical leave program. Prior to CWEALF, Kate worked nationally to expand STEM education and leadership programs for middle-school girls and college women at the American Association of University Women (AAUW) and built state-based coalitions to advance family economic self-sufficiency at Wider Opportunities for Women.

When not at Connecticut Foodshare, Kate serves her West Hartford community as the State Representative for the 20th District. She is also on the Board of Directors for the Betty Knox Foundation and the Aurora Foundation for Women and Girls. Kate earned a bachelor's degree in political science from the University of Connecticut and a master's in public administration from Syracuse University.

Kate recently reached her goal to visit all 50 states and is grateful for any chance she gets to explore a new state park with her husband Chan and their corgi Lizzie.

Jim Palma is a **Hunger Research Specialist** for the Institute. He coordinates data collection and analysis for the Institute's programs, manages the Institute's financial accounting and speaks to visiting groups on behalf of Connecticut Foodshare. Jim previously served Connecticut Foodshare as a staff member with the Hunger Action Teams across Greater Hartford to develop and implement local solutions to end hunger.

Prior to Connecticut Foodshare, Jim developed hundreds of partnerships with neighborhood groups, businesses, schools and nonprofits with a variety of government roles to help Connecticut businesses grow, protect seniors from the high cost of long-term care, and address racial inequity in schools and access to affordable housing.

Jim lives in West Hartford with his wife Kathy of over 30 years and they have two adult children. He received an Engineering degree from the University of Connecticut, a master's degree in Community Planning from the University of Rhode Island, and completed UConn's nonprofit leadership training program, now called Encore! Connecticut. Though never a performer, Jim was a long-time behind-the-scenes volunteer for community theatre productions. Now he just loves to be a supportive audience member.

Krystle Moore Spell is a **Program Coordinator** with the Institute to support food pantries to implement the better practices of the More Than Food framework. She will coordinate capacity-building training and resources to help food banks and pantries connect individuals to community resources, enhance dignity within the customer experience, and evaluate the impact of their work.

Krystle spent the past 15 years in the social service field, most recently as the Health Educator and Ryan White Team Leader at Liberation Programs, Inc. in Stamford. Prior to Liberation Programs, Inc. she coordinated the HIV Oral Health Project at the Community Health Center in Norwalk and led supportive services programs for Greater Bridgeport Area Prevention Program (GBAPP). She has vast experience in case management, coaching, counseling, and program coordination. Krystle also continues to be a therapist for clients with Constellation Health Services. Krystle earned her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Connecticut in Individualized Health Education. When not at

Connecticut Foodshare, Krystle spends time gardening and listening to her favorite podcasts. She lives with her husband, son, father and DOGhter in Norwalk.