

Dreaming Out Loud: Feeding the Fight

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE REGIONAL
MEMBER AD-HOC COMMITTEE (FARM)**

Christopher Bradshaw, Executive Director

On the Shoulders of Giants:

History, Policy, Future

- Elaine Massacre. In 1919, more than 200 Black sharecroppers massacred for unionizing.
- Fannie Lou Hamer. Freedom Farm Cooperative in 1969 by MS freedom fighter fired for registering voters, developed cooperative for economic development & political organizing.
- Booker T. Whatley. Korean War vet ran a 55 acre aquaponics farm; returned to help other Black Farmers and invented community supported agriculture.



What is DOL?

A Cooperative Social Enterprise

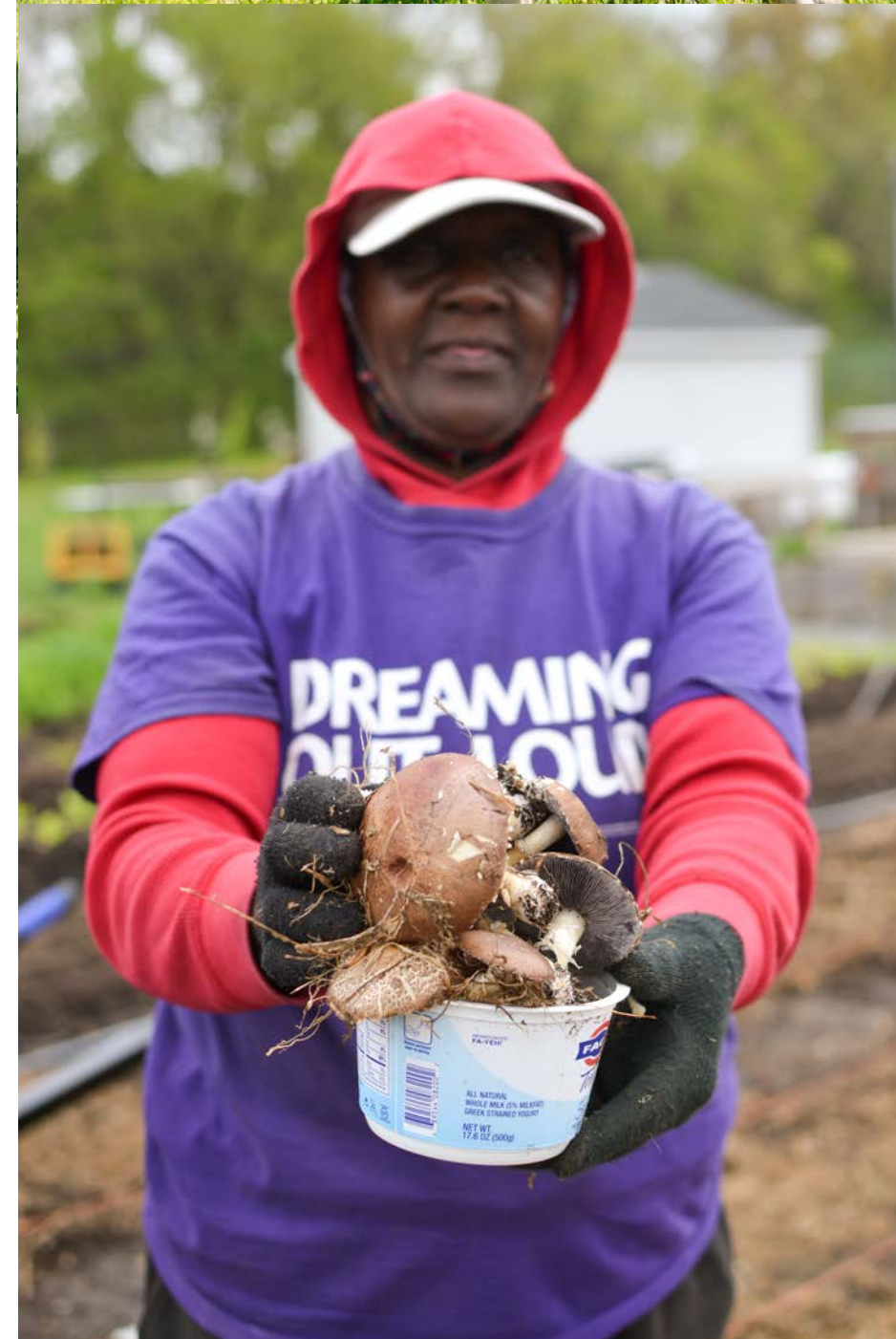
- DOL's mission is to create economic opportunity within marginalized communities, by building a health, equitable food system.
- Farm: The Farm at Kelly Miller, Fort Stanton Urban Farm.
- Food Hub: Aggregation, distribution, production of regional agricultural products.
- Incubator: DREAM Program, DREAM Black Food Fund.





DOL: At the Intersection

- Thriving Economies.
- Sustainable Environments.
- Thriving Cultures.



Dreaming Out Loud, Inc.

Scaling Our Impact

- Pandemic response: Coordinated more than 250,000 emergency meals.
- Directly produced 45K+ meals with DREAM participants, supporting 4 Black woman-owned businesses generate \$350K in revenue & retain 15 Black workers.
- Grew our Black Farm CSA membership from 150 in 2019 to ~1,200 in 2020 via Produce Plus Direct, a DC Health Program.
- Increased fundraising and visibility, supporting capacity building. Grew from 5 to 14 team members in 2020 (and counting).
- Increased wholesale procurement through our growing farmer network; developed value-added products to drive revenue, job creation.
- Co-locating with DC Central Kitchen in new 36,000 sq. ft. facility in late 2021.



