Biographical Sketch

Ayn Yeagle MS, RD Growing Places, Executive Director

Credentials: Registered Dietitian (RD), Masters Degree in Nutrition (MS)

Education Boston University 2002 – 2004 Boston , MA Master of Science in Nutrition **University of Massachusetts Amherst** 1997 – 2001 Amherst, MA Bachelor of Science in Human Nutrition, Graduated Cum Laude

Current Affiliations:

Massachusetts Food Policy Council Member Health Equity Partnership of North Central MA (CHNA9) Board Member UMASS Memorial Health Alliance Clinton Hospital Determination of Needs Advisory Member

Ayn Yeagle MS, RD is a lifelong resident of North Central Massachusetts with passion for healthy eating and equitable food access. As a Registered Dietitian Ayn deviated from the traditional healthcare model and has led large scale federal nutrition programs including Meals on Wheels in 27 North Central MA communities, and as the Northeast Regional Dietitian for Chartwell School Nutrition supporting 110 school districts in New England and upstate New York.

Ayn assumed her current role as Executive Director of Growing Places (GP), a grassroots nonprofit organization serving underserved North Central MA communities in 2018 when the organization was at a pivotal juncture for expansion and impact. Over the past four years Ayn and the Growing Places team including Board, staff and 200+ volunteers have leveraged their knowledge, professional and lived experience to connect the regional food system and address compromised social determinants of health that influence health equity. Ayn is passionate about policy and advocacy as an essential ingredient to create equitable and inclusive food systems. In her role she is able to work with key stakeholders at all levels of the food system and get them excited about healthy eating to move the conversation from emergency food assistance to system redesign and resilience.