Nourish

Nourish Anchor Leadership Award

Our 2026 recipients are bold, visionary leaders leveraging the power of food in health care to create just and thriving communities.

The Nourish Anchor Leadershp Award recognizes bold leadership that harnesses the power of food to create resilient, equitable, and community-rooted health systems. Recipients of this award show courage and vision in making food a central strategy for health, economic justice, and community well-being. They leverage institutional influence, build authentic partnerships, and make bold policy and procurement choices to support regional economies, build food sovereignty, and strengthen local food ecosystems.

Candice Bird has an extensive career in nutrition distribution and procurement. The current Director, Sourcing - Nutrition (MEALsource) at Mohawk Medbuy Corporation, she personifies the expression “public dollars for public good” in everything she does. From agreeing to host a Greenbelt Fund project examining the origin of contracted food products in 2011 to supporting several projects that grew from that effort, to leading the work that makes it possible for all MEALsource members to join in the Nourish movement, her work shows that there is always a way to do things better. Candice is always focused on the mission and values of people impacted by her work.

The **Saskatchewan Health Authority’s Nutrition and Food Services Team** are longstanding leaders in health care food transformation. With the support and leadership of their CEO Andrew Will and leaders Stephanie Cook and Charlotte Pilat-Burns, they were members of Nourish’s first Innovator Cohort, followed by broader organizational participation in the second Anchor Cohort along with their community partners. This team continues to lead the way in integrating the importance of food into their work - through on-site gardens and growing, partnering with community members, and keeping food on their strategic agenda at the highest levels. Their leadership team continues to be actively engaged in the Nourish Commons, pursuing organizational and community partnerships to continue the journey towards systemic changes that harness the power of food to improve health for people and the planet.