

January 27, 2020

Rockefeller Foundation  
Food Systems 2050 Vision Project

To whom it may concern:

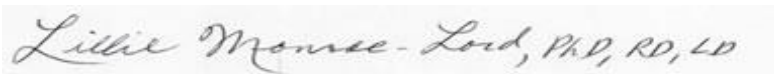
It is with great enthusiasm that I write this letter of support for the Rockefeller Foundation's 2050 Food System Vision Prize application of Wageningen University, and the University of the District of Columbia (UDC), College of Agriculture, Urban Sustainability and Environmental Sciences (CAUSES).

The Wageningen – UDC CAUSES team is ideally positioned to submit an innovative yet realistic vision for a Regenerative and Nourishing Food Future for communities all over the world. Wageningen University is ranked globally as the number one University in agriculture and food systems. CAUSES has developed its award-winning Urban Food Hubs model, which combines cutting edge technology, cultural sensitivity, and stakeholder engagement to improve nutritional health, economic opportunity and sustainable practices in underserved neighborhoods in Washington DC. This puts the Wageningen - UDC CAUSES team in an ideal position to implement its bold yet practical vision of a sustainable and resilient circular food economy.

As a registered dietician and Director of the UDC Center for Nutrition, Diet and Health, I can attest firsthand to the importance of introducing healthy eating habits and wellness-based lifestyles to neighborhoods that have lacked access to unprocessed healthy food for decades. My staff and I work with homeless populations, school children, and older adults who have been excluded from health food access due to racial prejudice and socio-economic conditions. We share the vision of the Rockefeller Foundation for an environmentally sustainable and socially just food future for all. I am therefore delighted to support the efforts of the Wageningen UDC CAUSES team and am persuaded that their vision will create a regenerative and nourishing circular food economy not only for Washington DC, but for communities all over the world.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at [lmonroelord@udc.edu](mailto:lmonroelord@udc.edu) or 202-274-7125. Best wishes for you as you pursue the important work of your Foundation.

Sincerely,



Lillie Monroe-Lord, PhD, RD, LD  
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HEALTHY CITIES – HEALTHY PEOPLE

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