

Feeding America Hunger Action Day 2025: Spokespersons Bios

Linda Nageotte, President & Chief Operating Officer

Nageotte helps define and implement strategy for the enterprise, co-leads work to design a strategic framework for the national network and oversees a critical portfolio including sourcing and supplying food, network relations, technology, research and innovation and board governance.

Nageotte brings 30+ years of experience working in this field, including 25 years as CEO of Food Lifeline in Seattle, a member of the Feeding America national network of food banks, state associations, pantries and meal programs. She is passionate about the power of collaboration, holds a deep commitment to centering racial equity as foundational to ending hunger, and believes fervently that all people should have access to the food they need not just to live – but to thrive.

During her time with Food Lifeline, Nageotte led the organization as it grew from a small nonprofit to a vibrant, thriving hunger relief organization providing nutritious, culturally relevant food throughout the community, supporting and advancing community-based initiatives that reduce food insecurity, and addressing the root causes of hunger and food insecurity through policy advocacy. In 2010, Feeding America recognized her as the executive director of the year. Nageotte was named a John van Hengel Fellow in 2012, an award that recognizes a network food bank executive for excellence in leadership, local impact and national influence, and entrepreneurial spirit in hunger relief.

Prior to Food Lifeline, Nageotte served as the executive director for Harvest Against Hunger and Soujourner's Alliance. She earned her bachelor's degree from the University of Oklahoma and completed graduate coursework in counseling at Washington State University.

Dru Montri, Vice President of Agri Food Engagement

Dru Montri leads a team that collaborates with network members and partners to collectively advance strategies for increasing the supply of agricultural products including produce, protein and dairy for people facing hunger. They support and advance agri food sourcing and sharing processes allowing excess food to be identified and moved to where it is needed most as well as lead efforts to build infrastructure, capacity and capabilities to support accepting bulk agri donations and repacking them to distribute across the Feeding America network.

Dru came to Feeding America in 2021 with nearly two decades of experience in food and agriculture. Previously, she was the Director of Government and Stakeholder Relations for Michigan State University's (MSU) College of Agriculture and Natural Resources. She remains an adjunct assistant professor in the MSU Department of Community Sustainability. She has also held regional food systems positions including serving as the founding executive director of the Michigan Farmers Market Association, executive secretary of the Michigan Meat Association, and chair of the governor-appointed bipartisan Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Dru has a Bachelor of Science in Horticulture from MSU, a Master of Science in Horticulture from The Pennsylvania State University, and a dual degree Doctor of Philosophy in Horticulture and Community Sustainability with a Specialization in Gender, Justice and Environmental Change from MSU.