

**Response Requested:
Indicate your interest in participation
at the bottom of this memo**

To: Individuals and groups interested in the policy work of CFSC and the broader work of the Healthy Food and Communities Work Group

From: Steph Larsen, Policy Organizer
Community Food Security Coalition

Re: **Invitation to participate in the Community Food Security Coalition Policy Committee and/or Healthy Food and Community Work Group (one of four work groups of the newly created Farm and Food Policy Project linking farm, nutrition and conservation groups).**

The just-concluded 2005 Community Food Security Coalition (CFSC) Conference in Atlanta, Georgia was both exciting and very productive! Thank you to all who were able to attend for making the conference such a success.

There were some great ideas articulated. Old relationships were strengthened, and new ones were created. The increased understanding and sharing will serve us in the coming years as we work towards common goals in food and farm policy. Whether or not you attended the Atlanta conference, you will all shortly see the products of this work as we compile notes from the more than a dozen policy-related meetings and workshops.

In an effort to hear as many viewpoints as possible so that we might have a policy agenda that truly speaks to diverse needs of all whose interests CSFS serves, you are encouraged to be involved in one or both the *CFSC Policy Committee* and the *Healthy Foods and Communities (HFC) Work Group*.

The purpose of this memo is to clarify the relationship and the difference between these two groups, so that participants can choose which group(s) would best speak to their organizational or individual interests.

Community Food Security Coalition (CFSC) Policy Committee:

The CFSC Policy Committee is the group that advises the Coalition on its policy priorities. The emphasis of this committee will continue to be the core priorities and goals held by the CFSC members and partners. The CFSC Policy Committee will of course provide important input to the HFC work group as well, but may pursue goals that the HFC work group does not. The Policy Committee is one of the CFSC's permanent standing committees, and will continue to operate after the 2007 Farm Bill. This committee meets at least once a month on a conference call. The committee has co-chairs including at least one CFSC board member and is staffed by Thomas Forster and Steph Larsen of CFSC. This committee has about 10 active members (who participate regularly

