FoodPod: Decolonizing the AZ Diet

By Chloé Billingsley, Samantha Esparza, Marcelo Lomelin, and Alma Varon

FoodPod Team

Alma Varon   Marcelo Lomelin   Chloé Billingsley   Samantha Esparza Alcantara

What we are about

- We wanted to start a conversation about food, health, and climate change and our main question is how can we do this in a way that is accessible and allows everyone to participate
- This is because we feel there is a lack of understanding regarding the complexity and interconnection of elements that affect food, social, and environmental justice
- We also aim to bridge the distance between these elements and bring the consumer, the farmer, corporations, etc. together

Who we interviewed and their role in our conversation

- MarCo-Maricopa County Food System Coalition
- Originated around 2008-2009 in Merivale, an underserved community. The purpose was to promote farmers' markets and community gardens to take care of the health and food accessibility issues in the community
- Kenneth Steel and Dean Brennan, both work for the Policy Work Group within MarCO
- MarCo wrote the Maricopa County Food Assessment which promotes sustainable, local solutions towards the Maricopa County food system(s) and addresses issues within it

Common Themes in the Podcast

- Food Distribution Issues
- The future of food–A reliable, local system
- The need to combine food, social, and environmental justice
- Acknowledging that cooperation is a challenge

What we learned

-We challenged ourselves to find a way to make the conversation about food accessible and reduce the communication barrier on the topic

-In the process we learned how to create a podcast and how to be flexible under current circumstances and find new solutions/topics that need to be considered

-We learned of groups and people that aim to educate the public about food system issues and how they are currently helping with this issue

-We further educated ourselves on the topic of food while hoping that you join us on our food journey

Thank You!