Practical Visionaries Field Project
Interview Questions

Background Questions

1. What is your position?
2. Number of years in current position?
3. What is the purpose of your work? (What is your organization’s mission?)
4. Is your work geographically focused? If YES, where?
5. What would you say are your biggest programmatic or legislative accomplishments?
6. What other projects/programs have you been involved with in the past 5 years?

Data and Information Gathering

1. Do you collect data or conduct primary research on food or farming?
2. What are the data available on food sector employment and local food-related jobs?
3. Do you collect data related to the number of food sector jobs within your geographic area or among your constituents?
4. What would you like to know about the food system? What information about food and farming would help you do your job better?
   a. What sort of information/studies/data do you think is lacking in the overall “food movement”?
5. Are there any studies or reports by your organization or other organizations/agencies that PVFP should look at in regard to the collecting data on the food economy in the Boston area?

Food Economy Education

1. Does your organization have food related education programs?
2. Do you have a target audience for your food education programs?
3. What strategies do you use to teach about food (workshops, popular education, etc.)
4. What topics or themes do you focus on when teaching about food (health, food justice, etc.)?
5. Do you teach about the food economy in any way?
6. Have you used popular education as a strategy in any of your education programs?
   What are some specific examples of popular education activities, lessons, workshops you have done?
7. How do you measure the success of your food education programs? Have they been successful?
8. What challenges have you faced and lessons have been learned from your food education programs?
9. Are there any studies or reports by your organization or other organizations/agencies that PVFP should look at in regard to food education or popular education?
**Bigger Picture Questions**

1. What are the biggest changes to the food and agricultural industry that you have witnessed in the past 5-10 years?
2. What are the biggest opportunities/advantages of this area for jobs or new businesses in the food system/agricultural industry?
3. What are the biggest challenges that this area faces in terms of jobs or new businesses in the food system/agricultural industry?
4. What needs to change to make farming or the food system more successful in this area?
5. What other agriculture or food-related programs, policies, or initiatives outside of the region or state are you impressed by (other state agencies, organizations, etc.)?
6. Who else should we be talking to about these issues? (Please be as specific as possible.)
7. Why do you think the food system has received so much attention in the past few years?