



STATEMENT FROM

Rachel Lindvall

Diving deeper into board membership at Breadroot Natural Foods Co-op seems like part of a natural progression for me. My belief is that I have an obligation to serve our local and global communities. Joining the board will positively utilize my training, experience and interest in the world around me. My early upbringing in NYC as the daughter of a small businessman afforded me a very direct insight into the challenges and rewards of running a retail storefront. Leaving NY to attend college in Madison, Wisconsin provided me with my first exposure to the concept and reality of belonging to a food co-op. Back then, members all had a work requirement at the Co-op. This hands-on membership provided a venue for talking about food and what it meant to us as part of our present and future. So many years later, food is still central to the policies and discussion of everything in terms of health, nutrition, environment, culture, justice and equity. Since those college days, I've worked in the intersection of small-scale agriculture, community and economic development and environmental sustainability. I've been a university educator, community extension specialist and a program coordinator. I've enjoyed in-depth opportunities to learn from reading, research and interaction with people in a wide variety of situations. I relish talking with people about their experiences and how they shape their viewpoints. In June 2022, I retired from my position with SDSU. Although I still maintain interest and activity in some of my former commitments, retirement has allowed me to select and prioritize how to best allocate my time.

On a personal level, my husband Mark and I have been married for 41 years. We have 2 wonderful sons who grew up in Valentine, NE. and now live on opposite sides of the country in Los Angeles, CA. and Atlanta, GA. Mark and I moved to the Rapid City area in 2019 with our dog Sparky. We enjoy the amazing outdoor activities available to us at home in the Black Hills. We hike, ski, boat, ride bikes, bird watch, and generally explore together. We also love to travel to destinations near and far. (Ask me about Antarctica!) I'm also a gardener, forager, swimmer and fiber arts enthusiast.