

# About Crossroads Resource Center

Crossroads Resource Center, a non-profit organization, works with communities and their allies to foster democracy and local self-determination. We specialize in devising new tools communities can use to create a more sustainable future.



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## ***Kenneth A. Meter, MPA, President***

Ken Meter is one of the most experienced food system analysts in the United States. His work integrates market analysis, business development, systems thinking, and social concerns. As president of Crossroads Resource Center, Meter holds 39 years experience in inner-city and rural community capacity building.

Ken's pioneering study of the farm and food economy of Southeast Minnesota, [Finding Food in Farm Country](#), helped strengthen a collaborative of food producers and led to the creation of the [Hiawatha Fund](#), a regional investment fund. Meter serves as founding member of the board of the fund. Ken's work serves as a national model for analyzing rural economics and has been adopted by 45 regions in 20 states across the U.S. and in one Canadian province.

Meter's innovative tool for measuring financial assets in low-income communities, the [Neighborhood Income Statement and Balance Sheet](#), helped spark development of the [Latino Mercado](#) in South Minneapolis.

As coordinator of public process and indicator selection for the [Minneapolis Sustainability Initiative](#), Meter led the citizen effort to define a long-term vision and indicators for the city, which helped the city win a national award. He has also served as planning commissioner for his hometown.

Ken Meter serves as a consultant to the USDA, EPA, the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and several universities. He manages the grant review panel for [USDA Community Food Projects Competitive Grants Program](#).

Ken is an Associate of the [Human Systems Dynamics Institute](#), and has taught the "Economic History of U.S. Agriculture" at the University of Minnesota and graduate-level Microeconomics at the Harvard Kennedy School.

As a member of the [American Evaluation Association](#), Meter is active in the Systems Technical Interest Group and wrote a chapter of [Systems Concepts in Evaluation: An Expert Anthology](#). He also writes occasionally for [Successful Farming](#) magazine, [Edible Twin Cities](#), [Grist](#), and [Cooking Up a Story](#).