



# GRASSROOTS GLOBAL JUSTICE ALLIANCE

Coordinating Committee: Abolish Face-Veterans Against the War ★ Black Workers For Justice ★ East Michigan Environmental Action Council ★ Indigenous Environmental Network  
Just Transition Alliance ★ Miami Workers Center ★ OPAJ Environmental Justice ★ Philadelphia Student Union ★ Southern Maine Workers Center ★ Southwest Workers Center

---

7000 Carroll Ave, Suite 200, Takoma Park, MD 20912 ★ [ggjalliance.org](http://ggjalliance.org) ★ 540-445-0819

Mike Vail  
Chief Executive Officer  
Hannaford Supermarkets  
145 Pleasant Hill Road  
Scarborough, ME 04074

Feb 17, 2020

Dear Mike Vail,

We are writing to share our strong support for the Milk With Dignity campaign and urge Hannaford to sign onto the program and ensure that farmworker's human rights are protected, free from abuses and dangerous working conditions. We strongly believe that companies like Hannaford should take responsibility for the basic human rights and wellbeing of all workers in their supply chains.

Grassroots Global Justice (GGJ) is a national alliance of over 60 US-based grassroots organizations working on climate justice, gender justice, an end to war, and a just transition to the next economy. We are an intergenerational, multi gendered political movement led by women, gender non-confirming people, LGBTQ, Black, Latina/o, Asian Pacific Islanders, Arab, and white working class people. We support each other's local struggles and collaborate with international allies who share our vision and commitment to building a transformative social justice movement beyond borders. We believe in principles of international solidarity, justice, peace, dignity, equality, human rights, sustainability and democracy!

We are well aware that Hannaford's dairy supply chain includes farms where workers are suffering from high rates of workplace injuries and illnesses and other abuses. Immigrant farm workers labor long hours in dangerous conditions with lack of safety training, low wages, and live in substandard housing while corporations at the top of supply chains are getting rich while farmers and farm workers suffer.

We strongly support Migrant Justice's **Milk with Dignity campaign** as part of the core solution to the systemic problems of the dairy industry. We urge corporations like yours to take responsibility for the abuses that are happening within the industry and actively promote solutions led by workers on the frontlines of production such as:

- Worker defined standards for labor and housing paid for by dairy companies and monitored by an independent third-party that responds to complaints and audits farms
- Worker-led certification labels are enforced through legally-binding contracts and strong market consequences for farms that don't comply unlike corporate driven initiatives

- Worker-led certification that ensures dairy products are sourced free from human rights abuses; benefits farmers by providing a premium during a time of economic challenge, and benefits workers by improving conditions and securing respect and dignity on the farm.

By signing onto the Milk with Dignity campaign, Hannaford will be ensuring that farm workers receive:

- Paid sick days and vacations
- Increased wages and bonuses
- Repairs to worker housing and the construction of new housing
- Access to personal protective equipment for safer handling of chemicals and other hazardous materials
- Training and policies protecting workers from violence and sexual harassment
- A guaranteed day of rest every week
- New policies and practices ensuring access to medical treatment for workplace injuries

The wellness of our community rests on the dignity and wellness of our farmers and farm workers, many of whom are our family, our friends, and movement kindred. Hannaford's decision to sign onto the Milk with Dignity campaign will have lasting impacts on the social sustainability of our food system and the lives of people who feed us everyday. We urge for your support today.

Sincerely,

Coordinating Committee members of Grassroot Global Justice Alliance

Ajamu Dillahunt- *Black Workers for Justice, Raleigh, NC*

Alma Santana- *Mujeres Unidas y Activas, Oakland, CA*

DrewChristopher Joy- *Southern Maine Worker Center, Portland, ME*

Darryl Jordan- *East Michigan Environmental Action Council,*

Huy Ong-*OPAL for Environmental Justice, Portland, OR*

Ramon Mejia- *About Face: Veterans Against the War, NY, NY*

Tom Goldtooth-*Indigenous Environmental Network, Bemidji, MN*

[www.ggjalliance.org](http://www.ggjalliance.org)