

Resolution in support of the Milk with Dignity program

- Whereas the Hunger Mountain Co-op seeks to promote a "dynamic community of healthy individuals, sustainable local food systems, and thriving cooperative commerce" and the Council "shall represent the interests of the Cooperative's Members by means of written policy governance® directives and monitoring procedures" as per its bylaws;
- Whereas the Council is aware that low milk prices and industry consolidation have created
 downward economic pressure on dairy farms, leading to low wages and poor working conditions;
 and the Council has been made aware of the "Milk with Dignity" program that seeks to improve
 working conditions in an industry heavily reliant on an immigrant labor force, working long hours for
 low pay with few labor protections, often in dangerous conditions and in substandard housing;
- Whereas the Council understands that the "Milk with Dignity" program promotes a code of conduct between wholesale buyers of milk and dairy farms, setting standards for conditions relating to wages, health and safety, housing, schedule and rest, nonretaliation, nondiscrimination, and other labor conditions.
- Now, therefore, be it known, that Council of the Hunger Mountain Co-op supports the "Milk with Dignity" program and encourages milk suppliers to become participating members. We thank the members of our organization that participate in the "Milk with Dignity" campaign and encourage our membership to support this worthy endeavor.

Dr. Eric Jacobson, Council President Hunger Mountain Cooperative Council

November 4, 2019