

Traci Barkley

Sola Gratia Farm, Director



Traci comes from a long line of Midwestern family farmers, and has been involved in community-level health-related work all her life. Traci joined the staff of Sola Gratia Farm in March of 2014 after nearly 20 years working to protect, conserve and manage water resources as an aquatic ecologist and policy specialist for a statewide clean water advocacy organization as well as the state's environmental regulatory agency. Barkley is beginning her 10th year as Director of Sola Gratia Farm and is responsible for directing all activities at Sola Gratia with primary focus on program development and implementation; community partnerships; fundraising; marketing; staff and volunteer management. Traci has a passion for feeding, empowering and enriching our communities' nourishment and health as evidenced by participation and leadership in several partnerships, committees and projects addressing food production, distribution and engagement with particular focus on low-income and limited access residents.

Traci is an active member of Illinois Stewardship Alliance, helped launch the Illinois Local Food Farmers Caucus and currently serves on the Healthy Champaign Counties Committee, the "Kitchen Cabinet/Board" of CU City Farms and the Advisory Board of UIUC's Student Sustainable Farm. Traci earned a B.S in Ethology, Ecology and Evolution and a M.S. in Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences from the University of Illinois.