



## MISSION

The Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic (FLPC) serves partner organizations and communities by providing guidance on cutting-edge food system issues, while engaging law students in the practice of food law and policy. Specifically, FLPC focuses on increasing access to healthy foods, supporting sustainable production and regional food systems, and reducing waste of healthy, wholesome food.

The Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic is a division of Harvard Law School's Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation. CHLPI is a clinical teaching program of Harvard Law School and mentors students to become skilled, innovative, and thoughtful practitioners, as well as leaders in health, public health, and food law and policy. CHLPI includes the Food Law and Policy Clinic and the Health Law and Policy Clinic.

# CONTACT

Center for Health Law and Policy Innovation  
Harvard Law School  
1607 Mass Ave, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Cambridge, MA 02138

[flpc@law.harvard.edu](mailto:flpc@law.harvard.edu)  
[chlpi.org/flpc](http://chlpi.org/flpc)  
HarvardFLPC



## STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Students in the Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic (FLPC) have the unique opportunity to engage in action-based learning to gain a deeper understanding of the complex challenges facing the food system. The students get hands-on experience conducting legal and policy research for individuals, community groups, and government agencies on a wide range of food law and policy issues. They are challenged to develop creative legal and policy solutions to pressing issues, applying their knowledge from the law school classroom to real-world situations.

FLPC students have the opportunity to practice a number of valuable skills, including: legal research and writing, drafting legislation and regulations, commenting on agency actions, engaging in public speaking and trainings, and community organizing, among others. Students also have the opportunity to travel to meet with clients, both domestically and internationally. Students receive credit for their clinical work (3-5 credits/semester) and are also required to enroll in the Food Law and Policy seminar (2 credits).

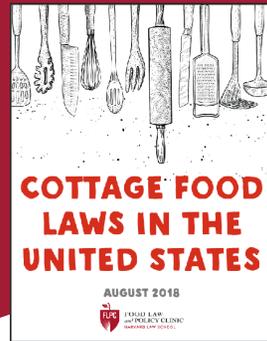
FLPC also offers summer internships to students from law schools, graduate schools, and colleges around the country. We receive a high number of applicants each year for this unique, vibrant, and fast-paced summer internship opportunity.

# FOOD LAW & POLICY CLINIC HARVARD LAW SCHOOL



# HARVARD LAW SCHOOL FOOD LAW AND POLICY CLINIC

## REPRESENTATIVE PROJECTS



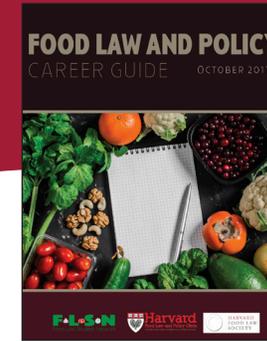
Navajo members, FLPC students and staff developed “Good Laws, Good Food: Putting Food Policy to Work in Navajo Nation” as a tailored resource for those working to improve the food system in Navajo Nation. Since the start of 2017, FLPC has worked with our partners on how to prepare for the Farm Bill, and to identify Farm Bill issues most relevant to Navajo Nation.

### **FOOD ACCESS AND NUTRITION: APPROACHES TO REDUCING SUGAR CONSUMPTION**

Excess consumption of sugar is linked to obesity, diabetes, and other diet-related chronic diseases that have tremendous social and economic costs. Reducing population-level consumption of sugar is one of the most promising strategies for addressing these pressing public health concerns. FLPC is offering pro bono technical assistance (TA) to community organizations, food policy councils, and local and state government entities across the United States interested in implementing innovative sugar-reduction policies. So far, FLPC has begun with working three sites across the country on a range of policies, including sugar-sweetened beverage taxes, healthy vending in public places, and healthy menus for kids.

### **REDUCING FOOD WASTE: EXPIRATION DATE POLICY**

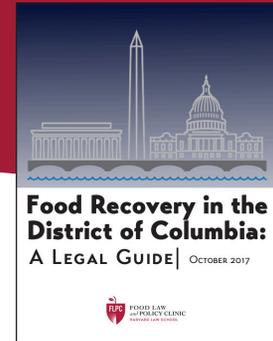
FLPC is at the forefront of policy research on reducing food waste in the United States. Since 2013, FLPC has worked to educate consumers, advocates, industry, and policymakers about



misleading date labels and to standardize and clarify these labels in order to reduce needless food waste. In 2016, FLPC worked with Senator Blumenthal and Representative Pingree to introduce federal legislation to standardize food date labels across the United States. FLPC also worked with the Grocery Manufacturers Association and Food Marketing Institute on the launch of a voluntary national industry standard for date labels. Beyond date labels, FLPC works on a range of other U.S. policy opportunities to reduce food waste, including liability protection and incentives for food donation and waste reduction policies. In 2019, FLPC began work on similar legal and policy issues around the globe, in partnership with the Global FoodBanking Network.

### **SUSTAINABLE FOOD PRODUCTION: FARM BILL LAW ENTERPRISE (FBLE):**

FBLE brings together leading food, health, agriculture, and environmental law programs across seven law schools and the Food Law Student Network (FLSN) to coordinate research on the farm bill. Students work with partners to identify opportunities and propose changes to future farm bills, and their analysis of proposed legislation is published on the FBLE blog at [farmbilllaw.org](http://farmbilllaw.org). Beginning in 2019, FBLE has launched issue-specific projects related to climate change in agriculture, hemp as a transition crop, and access to farm credit and farmland for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers.



Established in 2010, the Harvard Law School Food Law and Policy Clinic (FLPC) addresses the health, environmental, and economic consequences of the laws and policies that govern our food system, with a focus on the following four initiatives:

- Community Food System Planning
- Food Access and Nutrition
- Reducing Food Waste
- Sustainable Food Production

Some of our recent projects in these initiatives include:

### **COMMUNITY FOOD SYSTEM PLANNING: FOOD POLICY ON THE NAVAJO NATION**

Since 2013, FLPC has worked with the Navajo Department of Health and the Community Outreach & Patient Empowerment (COPE) Project to improve health and increase food sovereignty within the Navajo Nation. In 2013, FLPC presented at the Navajo Nation Food and Wellness Summit, helping Navajo leaders and community members identify key food policy issues. Based on this meeting and subsequent research, interviews, and feedback from