



Karli Coughlin is Chief Executive Officer of Mississippi Food Network (MFN), where she leads the organization's work to fight hunger and build lasting stability for families across the state's 56-county service area. Under her leadership, MFN works through a network of more than 430 partner agencies to distribute food and resources to over 163,000 Mississippians each month. Coughlin believes MFN's work goes beyond distributing food. It helps Mississippi families stabilize their lives, making food the first, most practical intervention in household economics, stability, health, learning, work, caregiving, and community resilience. Her early priorities as CEO includes listening and learning from MFN staff, partner agencies, and Mississippians facing food insecurity, while strengthening the systems, data, and partnerships needed to meet a level of need that continues to grow.

Coughlin is a strategic, mission-driven leader with extensive expertise in food systems, supply chain management, and community engagement, known for managing complex operations and advancing programs that improve food access for vulnerable populations.

Prior to joining MFN, Coughlin spent five years at Tyson Foods, most recently as Manager of Innovation, where she also built and scaled a \$1 billion Supplier Diversity Program. Earlier in her career, she held leadership roles at Stella-Jones and PepsiCo, managing multimillion-dollar product lines and portfolios and delivering measurable gains in efficiency, sales, and market share.

Coughlin holds a Master of Agribusiness Management from Mississippi State University, a Graduate Certificate in Sustainability from Wilmington University, and a Bachelor of Science in Business Technology from Montana State University–Northern. She is active in community and professional leadership, serving as Vice Chair of the Food and Beverage Industry Group and contributing to organizations including the NW Arkansas Food Bank and Rotary International of Puyallup.

Coughlin's ties to Mississippi run deep. In addition to serving as food pantry intern for MFN through the [AIM for CHangE](#) program during her graduate program at Mississippi State University, her husband, a Mississippi native, has only deepened her connection to the communities MFN serves