

Kenneth A. Meter
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Key accomplishments

- Created pioneering analysis of regional farm and food economies in U.S., used in 45 regions in 20 states and one province as critical tool for local food-system investment.
- Facilitated innovative business development in inner-city neighborhoods, including Latino Mercado with 35 startup businesses.
- Coordinated indicators definition for City of Minneapolis Sustainability Plan.
- Created groundbreaking "Neighborhood Income Statement and Balance Sheet" studies, shifting core paradigms in community economic development.
- Global leader in planning and evaluation for systems initiatives.
- Highly trusted in work with low-income, rural, ethnic and international communities.

Experience

Since 1995 **CROSSROADS RESOURCE CENTER** **Minneapolis, MN**
President (*Principal executive officer*)

- Research led to creation of food-and-fitness hub in Viroqua, Wisconsin, including food distribution and processing. Member of founding Strategic Committee (2009 to present).
- Economic consultant to Latino/Anglo poultry production co-operative in Minnesota.
- Panel Manager, USDA NIFA Community Food Programs (coordinated review process 2009, 2010; advised program since 2004), \$5 million of low-income food systems work.
- Over 250 presentations nationally covering economics of food systems.
- Co-convenor of national committee on Community Economic Development for Community Food Security Coalition (2006 to present).
- Economic & Strategic Advisor to Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture (Iowa State University).
- Wrote business plan for Hiawatha Fund, a regional investment fund in Southeast Minnesota. Helped conceive supportive state policies. Wrote seminal review of academic literature covering economics of size.
- Worked closely with low-income residents and Northwest Area Foundation to devise measures of success & budget for 10-year poverty reduction initiative in Minneapolis.
- Wrote media guide for W. K. Kellogg Foundation on community-based food systems.
- Created pioneering local food systems study, *Finding Food in Farm Country*, that documents erosion of rural wealth; examines potential for sustainable farming. Invited to testify at Senate Agriculture Committee. See <<http://www.crcworks.org/ff.pdf>>.
- Coordinated indicators definition for City of Minneapolis Sustainability Plan.
- Produced 6 comprehensive studies of economic assets in low-income communities, summarized for American Planning Association: <<http://www.crcworks.org/apa.pdf>>

2003 - 2004 **UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA** **St. Paul, MN**
Visiting Faculty in Applied Economics

- Taught Economic History of US Agriculture to undergraduate students.

2002 **HARVARD UNIVERSITY** **Cambridge, MA**
Economics Instructor

- Taught Principles of Microeconomics to mid-career professionals in the graduate program in Public Administration, Kennedy School of Government.

1988-1997 METROPOLITAN STATE UNIVERSITY St. Paul, MN
Community Faculty

- Taught international studies and local community studies, including international food and trade issues, U.S. foreign policy, post-cold war Europe, neighborhood study and community building to working adults.

1991-1992 UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA Minneapolis, MN
Adjunct Faculty

- Taught Reporting — School of Journalism and Mass Communications.

2001-present INDEPENDENT JOURNALIST Minneapolis, MN
1979-1995 Reporter covering urban poverty, regional and international agribusiness, corporate financial news

- Investigative journalism, editing, photography, creative writing, book reviews, business management, fundraising, consulting, project administration and related work.
- Published by Reuters, Pacific News Service, St. Paul *Pioneer Press*, Minneapolis *Star Tribune*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Des Moines Register*, *Anchorage Daily News*, Madison *Capital Times*, *Ag-Week*, *Successful Farming*, *Catholic Rural Life*, *The Farmer*, *Corporate Report*, *Neighborhood Works*, *American Land Forum*, many others.
- Filed first-hand reports from Cuba, Japan, Philippines, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Germany, France, Holland, Italy, Belgium, Portugal, Nicaragua.

Awards

- Public Service Fellow, Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University (1999-2000)
- Finalist, Bush Foundation Leadership Fellowship (1999) — four-state competition
- National Short-list Artist, "Artists & Communities: America Creates for the Millennium," Mid-Atlantic Arts Foundation (1999)
- Twin Cities Neighborhood and Community Press Association awards (1992, 1990) for "Best Feature," "Best Series," and "Best Investigative Report" for coverage of poverty

Boards & Other Leadership

- Associate, Human Systems Dynamics Institute (since 2007)
- Convenor, Community Food Security Coalition / Community Economic Development national subcommittee (2006 to present)
- Member, American Evaluation Association and AEA Systems Technical Interest Group (since 2005)
- Founding board member, Hiawatha Fund regional investment fund (since 2005)
- City of Richfield (Minnesota) Planning Commission, (1998-1999)
- President, Twin Cities Research Group (1997-1999)

Education

- MPA Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University, public administration
- MA Boston University, history
- BA Swarthmore College, chemistry

Other Skills & Activities

- Fluent German; moderate French; basic Spanish, Italian & Portuguese
- Creative writer (poetry, non-fiction, MN State Arts Board artist-in-schools)
- Seven of my poems were set to music by Minneapolis composer R.F. Palmer
- Choral singer including chamber choir, Oratorio Society of Minnesota