

Mel Rader, MS MS, Co-Director, Upstream Public Health

Mel Rader is Co-Director of Upstream Public Health, a non-profit public health advocacy group that identifies the most innovative, broad-based public health solutions that are backed by science and research and will address the root causes of today's major health problems.

Mel holds a dual masters degrees in Agriculture, Food and the Environment and Environmental Engineering from Tufts University. His success history while at Upstream includes getting junk food out of public schools, menu labeling at the state-wide level and the publication of a major Health Impact Assessment report on the impact of public transit and urban sprawl on the health of Oregonians.

Mel continues to advocate for farm-to-school legislation in Oregon in partnership with the Farm to School and School Garden Coalition – which secured the funding for two statewide farm-to-school positions in 2007. Additionally, he is an active partner in the Multnomah County Food Initiative, The Health, Equity and Transportation Group and the Oregon League of Conservation Voters.