

KPMG & 4Roots Food Solutions Summit

Tackling food waste through technology and policy

Brian Miske



A collaborative push for a healthier food system

A shared sense of urgency and possibility propelled leaders from across the food ecosystem to gather at KPMG Lakehouse for the Food Solutions Summit. The motivation was clear: our global food system is at a crossroads, facing mounting challenges in sustainability, equity, and health. With millions experiencing food insecurity and chronic diseases on the rise, the summit was convened to move beyond fragmented efforts and create a collaborative platform for action. The goal was to reimagine food as a source of health, resilience, and opportunity—not just a commodity. The summit brought together a diverse coalition of stakeholders: agriculture, healthcare, retail, academia, technology, and public policy. Each industry shared unique challenges. Agricultural producers grappled with climate volatility, rising input costs, and labor shortages.

“Solving the complex challenges of our food system requires more than isolated efforts. It demands cross-sector collaboration and strategic partnerships that leverage the strengths and perspectives of all stakeholders.”

— **Brian Miske**
Americas Space Lead and National
KPMG Ignition Leader, KPMG LLP

Retailers faced packaging dilemmas, food deserts, and the realities of consumer demand for convenience over nutrition. Healthcare leaders highlighted the absence of nutrition in care pathways and the high costs of treating chronic disease. Technology firms pointed to data silos and the lack of interoperability, while public policy experts described regulatory fragmentation and compliance burdens. These voices underscored how deeply food is woven into the fabric of our health, economy, and environment—and how systemic barriers perpetuate inefficiency and inequity.

Transforming health through food

As discussions unfolded, new revelations emerged. The group reframed food as a healthcare intervention, shifting the conversation from treating illness to preventing it through nutrition. The importance of cross-sector partnerships, consumer education, and harmonized policies became clear. Innovations like clean-label reformulations and AI-powered inventory systems were spotlighted as game-changers for reducing waste and improving transparency. Health optimization clinics and community impact farms were proposed to bring fresh produce and nutrition education directly to underserved communities. Predictive analytics for social determinants of health, standardized nutrition training for medical professionals, and integrated data platforms for supply chain visibility were all identified as strategic levers for transformation. The summit also revealed that aligning incentives for prevention and leveraging technology for transparency are essential for lasting impact.



A roadmap for the future of food

The summit concluded with a unified call to action. Participants pledged to advance food-as-medicine initiatives, strengthen community food access, promote consumer education, foster cross-sector partnerships, and invest in technology and data platforms. Specific commitments included launching pilot programs for medically tailored meals, developing localized food production models, deploying media campaigns to improve food literacy, and advocating for regulatory harmonization. The roadmap is clear: those bold enough to lead, collaborate, and innovate will shape the future of food security for generations to come.

For companies looking to take advantage of these learnings, the path forward is actionable and inclusive. Embrace collaboration by joining or forming cross-sector partnerships. Invest in innovation—whether it's adopting AI-powered inventory management to reduce waste, integrating nutrition into employee health programs, or supporting local food access initiatives. Align strategies with sustainability goals by leveraging technology for supply chain optimization and championing policy innovation. Companies can also support standardized nutrition education, fund food-based health interventions, and advocate for benefit structures that reward prevention and wellness. By applying these solutions, organizations can address their own sustainability challenges while contributing to a healthier, more equitable food system. The summit's message is clear: transformation is possible, and the time to act is now.

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those bold enough to lead, collaborate, and innovate will shape the future of food security for generations to come.

Summit stakeholder commitments:

- Advance food-as-medicine initiatives
- Strengthen community food access
- Promote consumer education
- Foster cross-sector partnerships
- Invest in technology and data platforms

Looking to transform your industry or organization? KPMG Ignition is here to help.

KPMG Ignition is a specialized, experience-led capability that helps clients explore the unknown and accelerate next-level growth through innovative ideas and experiences that unlock future opportunities. Not only do we understand the technological and digital transformation that organizations are facing, but also the human side of transformation to enable them.

We do this by reframing perspectives, building confidence and generating momentum. Through facilitated insight-led discussions, Ignition guides clients to question current thinking, inform their north stars, and challenge business requirements to recognize the possibilities before them. Learn more about KPMG Ignition today.

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