

Lesley Frank, PhD (she/her)



Bio:

Lesley Frank is a sociologist, Canada Research Chair in Food, Health, and Social Justice, and Director of the Fed Family Lab at Acadia University. Her research explores maternal and infant food insecurity in high income countries. She is the author of *Out of Milk: Infant Food Insecurity in a Rich Nation*, published by UBC Press (2020). She is also a research associate with the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternative – Nova Scotia, where she contributes to the annual Report Card on Child and Family Poverty, and Steering Committee member of Campaign 2000, a national organization that tracks progress of poverty eradication and currently engaged in the Localizing Canada’s Commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals project.

Title:

Localizing the SDGs through Families’ Stories of Infant food Insecurity

Abstract:

The UN Sustainability Goal of Zero Hunger is targeted to “end hunger and ensure access by all people, in particular the poor and people in vulnerable situations, **including infants**, to safe, nutritious and sufficient food by 2030.” Yet persistent food affordability challenges and recent supply chain shocks are moving us further away from the 2030 target for our youngest people. Dr. Frank will share research and consultation highlights from the Fed Family Lab that shows that infants, even in the richest nations, are at heightened risk of hunger due to their unique ways of eating, the limited and specialized food substances they consume, and insufficient economic and social protection for sustainable breastfeeding, and/or affordable, available, and safe infant food commodities. She will focus on the importance of lived realities for informing what is necessary to achieve the 2030 Agenda for all.