Please join us for a discussion about the impact food insecurity is having on families in our community. There are 10,940 families (17 percent) in our area who do not make enough money to afford the essentials of life, including food. Covid has further stretched these families thin. Eighty-nine percent of the children served by Piedmont CASA come from households surviving at or below the federal poverty line. Jeanette and Jane will lead a conversation about the food needs of families and how we as a community can best meet those needs. This is the second session in Piedmont CASA’s Close to Home webinar series focused on the challenges that the children and families in our community encounter in their daily lives that can often result in a child coming into foster care and how we can best support those families.

**Bria Williams** is the Program Director of the Cultivate Charlottesville Food Justice Network. A native of the 10th and Page neighborhood in Charlottesville, Bria went to Howard University in Washington, DC where she studied Urban Education on an honors track. Through volunteering and constant youth engagement, Howard led Bria to her deep love for social justice, equity, and community advocacy. In her current position, Bria leverages her personal ties to the community with a commitment to uplifting the underserved through leadership and the cultivation of food access. An avid proponent for advancing opportunities for Black and Brown citizens, Bria believes food equity is one of the first keys to overcoming the many systemic pathways of oppression found in Charlottesville and across the US.

**Jane Colony Mills**, Executive Director - Ms. Mills leads Loaves & Fishes’ staff, fundraising, donor cultivation and stewardship, finances, program development, and customer management, and is primary liaison with the Board of Directors. Ms. Mills has 25+ years’ experience in fundraising and management for a wide range of nonprofits, including professional associations, music and the arts, domestic violence, and the environment. She holds a BA in English from the University of Virginia.

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