



**Katie Naessens**  
*Vice President*



**Biography**

Katie is a recognized leader in sustainable food systems, with over a decade of public service in the legislative and administrative branches of government, her passion and deep understanding of agriculture and food policy make her a sought-after voice in Washington, D.C. Katie not only provides advice on a wide range of policy issues but she leverages her deep subject matter expertise with a detailed understanding of the political process to secure wins for clients. She thrives when she can brainstorm with clients in pursuit of their policy goals and pulls from her extensive network to create diverse, and often unexpected, partnerships.

Prior to joining the Torrey Advisory Group, Katie advised and worked for Senator Debbie Stabenow on the Senate Agriculture Committee during which key legislative achievements were passed into law including: the 2018 and 2014 Farm Bills, several COVID-19 pandemic assistance packages, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, and the Inflation Reduction Act of 2022.

Before her time on the Committee, Katie held a political appointment in the Obama Administration at the U.S. Department of Agriculture. During her time at USDA, Katie implemented the 2008 Farm Bill and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, contributed to new policy development on healthy food access and food safety regulation, and worked to leverage private sector financial partnerships in rural communities to drive new economic investment.

Katie received her bachelor's degree from the University of Wisconsin - La Crosse in political science and economics. She lives with her husband and two cats in Falls Church, VA.

**Past Roles**

*Sr. Professional*, Senate Agriculture Committee  
*Special Assistant - Office of the Secretary*, U.S. Department of Agriculture

**Selected Expertise**

- Specialty Crops
- Research
- Local Food Systems
- Organics