



## **Rachael Ward – Nutrition Programs Director**

### **Ward takes over as former Nutrition Programs Director Philip Yates retires after 27 years**

ACCESS welcomes Rachael Ward as their new Nutrition Programs Director. Ward joins ACCESS with seven years of experience in the non-profit sector at the intersection of nutrition, public health, and agriculture. She has been involved in community food systems from the ground up, with work experience on small scale farms, managerial experience with large scale food security interventions, and coursework in policy and global nutrition and agriculture.

“We are thrilled to have Rachael on board with her public health education, experience and interest. This powerhouse combination is sure to have an outstanding impact on nutritional health in Jackson County,” says ACCESS Executive Officer Pamela Norr.

Ward will be responsible for developing and overseeing programs, supervising and training staff, managing contracts, budgeting and fiscal responsibility for the ACCESS Nutrition Programs.

Most recently, Rachael was the Director of Programs for Wholesome Wave Georgia, a statewide non-profit organization that increases access to fresh, healthy, locally grown food for low-income families. At Wholesome Wave Georgia, Rachael administered a healthy food incentives program that matched SNAP dollars at local farmers markets, a fruit and vegetable prescription program, and several other projects focused on addressing barriers to food access. She is passionate about connecting low-income families with fresh, healthy, local food and supporting farmers and the local food system.