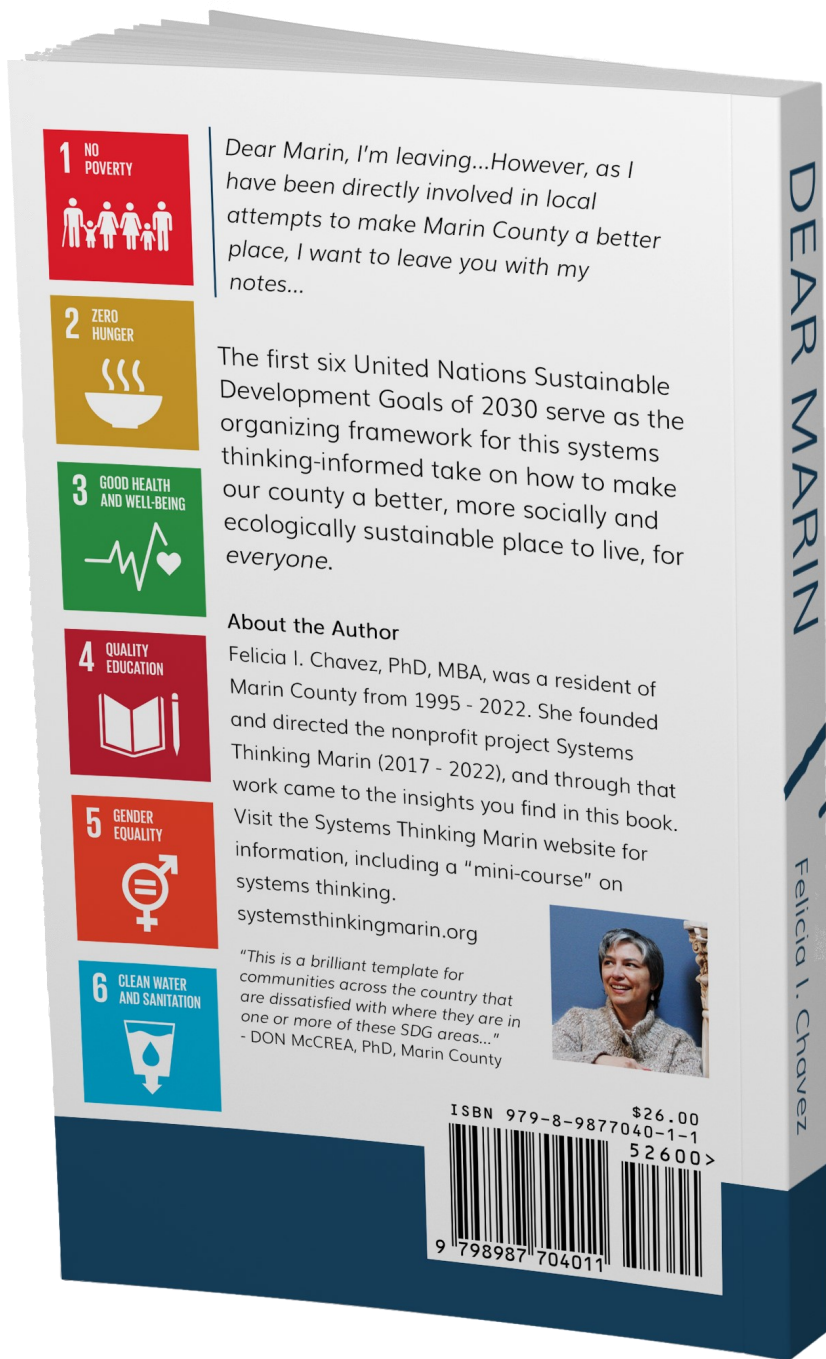


- There are many efforts in Marin County to end poverty and improve food and housing access; to help the environment and improve quality of life for everyone, including low-income communities. But these programs are largely siloed.
- Systems thinking, or “ecosystem thinking,” helps to clarify crucial interconnections between issues, and to navigate complex situations, for improved outcomes across issue areas.
- There are many reports and lots of data available about social issues in Marin, but it takes work to find, and to understand, that crucial information. The author curates and contextualizes that information for the average person.
- Given the cost of housing in Marin County, the people we count on to teach our children, run local government, and care for us and our municipalities tend to live outside of Marin, and meanwhile, people in Marin often work elsewhere. There are serious consequences to this imbalance.
- With the power of systems thinking tools we can better coordinate efforts to meet the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals of 2030.

## Key Ideas

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*Dear Marin* is organized around the first six United Nations Sustainable Development Goals, also called the "SDGs" or "Global Goals." What would it look like for Marin County to meet these goals? How close or far are we? How can systems thinking help?

- SDG #1 No Poverty: "End poverty in all its forms everywhere."
- SDG #2 Zero Hunger: "End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture."
- SDG #3 Good Health and Well-Being: "Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages."
- SDG #4 Quality Education: "Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all."
- SDG #5 Gender Equality: "Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls" and all genders, including non-binary.
- SDG #6 Clean Water and Sanitation: "Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all."

# Contents

"This is a brilliant template for communities across the country that are dissatisfied with where they are in one or more of these SDG areas..." - Don McCrea, PhD, Marin County