



Unpaid Internship with Growing Hope YPSILANTI FARMERS MARKET FOOD ASSISTANCE

About Growing Hope:

Growing Hope is a grassroots non-profit organization in Ypsilanti, Michigan dedicated to empowering individuals, groups and communities through gardening and increasing access to healthy food. We aim to use good food as a vehicle to Grow Healthy People, Grow Healthy Places, and Grow Healthy Economies.

Growing Hope's commitment to providing improved lives and communities through greater access to healthy foods is demonstrated through our Farmers Markets area of work. This includes running two Ypsilanti Farmers Market locations, operating an Ypsilanti Mobile Farm Stand, providing training and by providing consulting in the farmers market sector. By providing a venue for farmers, urban gardens, and other entrepreneurs, we contribute to local economies, developing our downtowns and strengthening our communities.

Position Description:

The Food Assistance intern is responsible for the distribution of token currencies at the Ypsilanti Farmers Markets (YFM) managed by Growing Hope: our Tuesday afternoon YFM is downtown and our Saturday morning YFM is in Depot Town. This intern will work under the supervision of and report to the Farmers Market and Nutrition Manager, and will liaison on site at the market with the Farmers Market Coordinator.

Growing Hope seeks a candidate enthusiastic and dedicated to Growing Hope's mission of helping people improve their lives and communities through gardening and increasing access to healthy food. They must be energetic and committed to the success of the markets.

Tasks include:

- Arrive prior to beginning of market and remain to the end of the market
- Transport tokens and other materials from storage to market, and back
- Organize, maintain, and keep inventory of token supplies in storage and at market
- Operate various technology to process credit card and SNAP/EBT transactions
- Accurately distribute tokens
- Educate customers on proper use of SNAP/EBT and the other currencies and ways to pay at our YFM
- Answer questions for vendors and customers regarding token programs
- Keep detailed and accurate records of all token transactions



Qualified candidates will exhibit the following:

- Ability to work Tuesdays and/or Saturdays during the market season for a minimum of 12 hrs/week
- Ability to lift 20 pounds and work in all weather conditions
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, with experience providing top-notch customer service to customers and visitors of all backgrounds
- Ability to work efficiently and accurately in counting, distributing, sorting, and recording tokens.
- Attention to detail a must
- Passion for healthy food, an interest in food justice and food systems, and a belief that all people deserve access to healthy food
- A team player who will pitch in as needed for market set up and take down, and other market needs as they arise.

Internship Dates:

(Partial) Winter Term- March 1, 2017 and running through May or June 2017.

Extended Summer Term- April 15, 2017- October 31, 2017. Depending on school calendars June 1 start date is possible to be considered. *Intern applicants who can serve for the Extended Summer Term will be given priority.*

Summer Term- May 1, 2017- August 15, 2017.

Fall Term- September 1-December 19, 2017. [1]

To Apply: Please apply by March 1, 2017. Cover letter (1 page) and resume, that includes what you hope to gain during your internship, and what you think you could most contribute. Also include your desired hours and schedule availability. Please send these documents to apply@growinghope.net or drop them off in person to the Growing Hope Center at 922 West Michigan Avenue, Ypsilanti, MI 48197.

Growing Hope is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate potential employees based on race, creed, age, color, disability, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation or marital status. We encourage the following groups to apply: people of color and individuals who possess an in-depth understanding of poverty or economic hardship.