



Unpaid Internship with Growing Hope FARMERS MARKET FOOD ASSISTANCE INTERN

Position Description:

The Food Assistance Intern(s) will work with the Ypsilanti Farmers Market team to operate and enhance the food assistance and token currency programs at the Ypsilanti Farmers Markets (YFM). Interns will gain a thorough knowledge of food assistance programs at farmers markets and participate in outreach and marketing to optimize food assistance participation at the Ypsilanti Farmers Markets. The Food Assistance Interns will assist with the distribution of token currencies at one or both of our YFM. This includes the Tuesday afternoon YFM-Downtown and/or the Saturday morning YFM- Depot Town. Additionally, each intern will choose a topic of their choice related to food insecurity and farmers markets for self-study. This intern will work under the supervision of and report to the Farmers Market & Nutrition Manager.

Tasks include:

- Organize, maintain, and keep inventory of token supplies in storage and at market.
- Operate various technologies to process credit card and SNAP/EBT transactions.
- Accurately distribute tokens. Keep detailed and accurate records of all token transactions.
- 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 food assistance and token currency programs.
- Assist with data entry and program evaluation.

Qualified candidates will exhibit the following:

- 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 is a must.
- Proficient with MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.
- 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 the market set up and take down, and other market needs as they arise.

Unpaid Availability:

Ability to work Tuesdays and/or Saturdays during the outdoor market season for 5-12hrs/week. Outdoor Market season runs from May-October. Market Hours are 3-7pm Tuesdays and 9am-1pm Saturdays. **Summer Term:** ASAP through October 30, 2021. We understand that school schedules and school internship requirements may differ from the market season. Minimum commitment requirement is **5 hours per week for 12 weeks.**

To Apply: Please provide a list of relevant experience or resume, and a brief cover letter (1 page) that includes what you hope to gain during your internship, and what you think you could most contribute. Include at least two references (professional or personal) to apply@growinghope.net. Applications accepted until Sunday June 20th at 5:00 pm. No formal education is required for this position.

Growing Hope encourages people of color and individuals who possess an in-depth understanding of poverty or economic hardship to apply. We welcome a diverse pool of applicants and make employment decisions on the basis of merit. We do not discriminate potential employees based on race, creed, age, physical ability, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation or marital status. Accommodations will be made so that the application process and position is made accessible for qualified applicants.