



PART-TIME SEASONAL POSITION: FARMERS MARKET FOOD NAVIGATOR

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 against 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 are made accessible for qualified applicants.

Position Description:

The Farmers Market Food Navigator will function as the on-site expert on food assistance programs at the Ypsilanti Farmers Markets. The Food Navigator will walk shoppers through the process of using their benefits in a farmers market setting, distribute samples of seasonal produce and recipes, and enhance communication between shoppers and farmers. This position will work under the supervision of and report to the Farmers Market & Nutrition Manager.

Tasks include:

- Develop a working knowledge of significant developments and trends in SNAP usage and other food assistance programs at farmers markets.
- Using provided materials, plan and conduct experiential nutrition education programming at the farmers market aligned with produce seasonality and Michigan Harvest of the Month™ materials and resources.
- Conduct community outreach to increase awareness of our farmers market and available assistance programs. Outreach may include distributing materials, using social media, and creating community partnerships.
- Devote time at the markets to help shoppers effectively use their food dollars. Provide tours, introduce shoppers to vendors, and help shoppers understand the food assistance programs available at the market.
- Support and participate in evaluation efforts.

Qualified candidates will exhibit the following:

- Strong connection to Ypsilanti.
- Familiarity with food assistance benefits and how they can be used at Michigan farmers markets (SNAP, Double Up Food Bucks, WIC Project FRESH, Senior Project FRESH, and Prescription for Health)
- Familiarity with the seasonality of Michigan produce and simple ways to prepare fresh ingredients.
- An interest in food access as well as experience related to farmers markets.
- Able to work collaboratively with people from diverse backgrounds in terms of race, ethnicity, class, religion, sexual orientation, and gender.
- Work in various weather conditions such as rain, heat, humidity or wind.
- Familiar with using Microsoft Word and the Google Suite (e-mail, drive, calendar).

Qualities that will enhance your application:

- Participated in Growing Hope as a volunteer or program participant.
- Knowledge of the food system and the local food justice movement.
- Understanding of and experience talking about racism and social justice.

Hours & Compensation: This position is scheduled to run May-September, 2020 with potential to continue into October based on grant funding. \$15.00/hour. May-June 10 hours/week, July-September 20 hours/week. May-August must be available Tuesdays 2:00pm to 7:30pm. Some Saturday availability may be required.

Benefits are not included. In addition to monetary compensation, all Growing Hope staff may take home extra produce and flowers from the Growing Hope Urban Farm.

To Apply: Submit resume or description of relevant experience. Please include a brief cover letter detailing your interest and why you are qualified for this position to apply@growinghope.net. Applications accepted until Sunday March 15th at 5:00 pm. No formal education is required for this position.