



Internship: Sustainable Farming for Hunger Relief

Spend your summer working with a leading Central Massachusetts non-profit organization as they continue to improve operations and expand their reach of healthy produce to Worcester County's most vulnerable. Gain valuable experience and learn about a sustainable farming and volunteer organization, the basics of non-profit operations, and volunteer organizing while you spend your summer outdoors with a diverse group of staff and volunteers. Work directly with an experienced Farm Manager and Coordinator, responsible for 10 acres of vegetable fields and 1 acre of blueberries. Be part of a dynamic team aiding hunger relief in Worcester County while exploring your future.

Responsibilities

Our Interns will participate fully in all aspects of operating a non-profit volunteer farming organization. They will have direct hands-on engagement in farming over 11 acres of production on two farms in Grafton, MA. The internship includes working with and leading volunteers in farm activity while gaining valuable leadership and communication skills.

Tasks include but not limited to:

- Lead diverse groups of volunteer farmers in daily activities at our farms primarily in North Grafton, MA.
- Assist with maintaining a positive volunteer experience for all who visit the farm
- Support farm maintenance tasks (mowing, harvesting, weeding, irrigation, etc.)
- Occasional visits to work with our orchard team in Harvard, MA will be required
- Support and work on some organizational events as needed
- Other tasks as needed

Educational Components

- Interns will have the opportunity to work with and learn from all staff members of the non-profit and will gain insight into the multi-faceted operations of the organization
- Interns will have the opportunity to learn from Central Massachusetts community leaders
- The internship also includes off-site visits to partner organizations which allows students an opportunity to learn more about local hunger relief efforts and non-profit partnerships.

Preferred Qualifications, qualified applicants will:

- Be an excellent communicator and be able to demonstrate previous leadership responsibility
- Have interest and/or some experience in farming or gardening
- Be able to lift farm equipment and/or produce weighing up to 50 pounds
- Be comfortable using or learning to use power tools like weed-whackers and lawn mowers
- Be prepared for work in outdoor weather conditions, we operate rain or shine
- Work within a team or independently, be self-motivated, with great attention to detail
- Have reliable transportation
- Be available for 30 hours per week, June through August, working primarily-morning hours with an occasional late afternoon/early evening or Saturday. Unique scheduling needs may be negotiated in advance and are subject to operational needs of the organization. This internship can be extended through the fall season.
- Be flexible and have a sense of humor! This is a true farming operation and we operate at the whim of nature, so flexibility is key.

Organization Information:

Community Harvest Project (CHP), a 501(c)3 organization, is dedicated to creating healthy and engaged communities through volunteer farming and nutrition education for those who are experiencing food insecurity. Through their volunteer farming, education, and leadership programs they bring thousands of community members together each year. In 2019 they hosted 7,563 volunteer visits that allowed for 417,644 servings of fruits and vegetables to be grown and donated through partnerships including the Worcester County Food Bank's hunger relief network, Community Servings, and Hector Reyes House. They provided over 417,00 servings of fresh produce for individuals and families in need in our community who otherwise may not have had access.

For more information about their locations, programs, and impact, please visit www.community-harvest.org.

Contact

To apply send letter of interest and resume via email to Wayne McAuliffe, Manager of Volunteer Programs, at wayne@community-harvest.org