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**COMMUNITY GROUNDWORKS**

**BEGINNING FARMER TRAINING PROGRAM**

**POSITION DESCRIPTION**

***Title:*** Beginning Farmer Intern/Apprentice

***Reports To:*** Troy Farm Education Manager

***General Statement of Duties and Responsibilities***

Farm interns and apprentices work in every aspect of vegetable production on our certified organic urban farm, from planning to implementation. The combination of weekly formal instruction, hands-on experience working side-by-side with the farmers, and responsibility supervising others at the farm gives interns/apprentices a solid foundation in small-scale organic farming. There are two Beginning Farmer positions available to choose from; Full Season Apprenticeship & Volunteer Internship. Time commitment and prior experience on farms are what determine which position is the best fit. All interns and apprentices receive the same training and education. These positions are educational internships and should be considered as such.

***Specific Duties and Responsibilities***

* Participation in creating and prioritizing the weekly task list
* Seeding and transplanting from our passive solar greenhouse
* Field work including: composting, cover cropping, weeding, mulching, trellising, bed-prep, harvesting & post-harvest handling
* Assist with marketing our crop through our weekly farm stand and CSA pick up
* Participation in our weekly Beginning Farmer Training classes, weekly field tours, farm scenarios, farm field trip, and Intern Solo week
* Optional additional education opportunities (not part of regular hours): beekeeping, farm fresh pizza business, CSA newsletter (article contribution, recipe development)

***Required Knowledge, Skills & Abilities***

* Excellent communication skills and ability to work well with others
* Ability to work outdoors in a variety of weather conditions
* Ability to bend repeatedly, lift and carry heavy objects, and perform repetitive motions such as seeding, transplanting, and weeding
* Prior farm experience encouraged though not necessary. Priority for paid apprenticeships is given to applicants who have worked on our farm before and/or have previous farm experience

***Time Commitment***

Full-season paid apprenticeship: April 9-October 26

* 700 hour internship, 3 positions available
* Internship hours:
  + Mondays: 7am-3:30pm
  + Tuesdays: 7am-12pm
  + Wednesdays: 7am-3:30pm
  + Fridays: 7am-12pm
  + Three Thursday farm stand shifts at some point during the season: 2:30pm-7pm

Volunteer internship: May 14-August 31 minimum commitment required, although longer

internships are encouraged.

* 200+ hour internship, 10 positions available
* Internship hours:
  + Mondays: 7am-3:30pm
  + Plus at least one more day (Tuesdays 7am-12pm, Wednesdays 7am-3:30pm, and/or Fridays 7am-12pm)
  + Minimum of one Thursday farm stand shift at some point during the season: 2:30pm-7pm

***Compensation***

* Full season apprenticeship: $5,075 stipend (paid in monthly installments)
* Volunteer internship: complimentary CSA market share membership ($300 value)
* All positions have access to farmer food and our U-Pick flower & herb garden

***How to Apply***

* Please submit cover letter and resume to annali@communitygroundworks.org
* State what position/positions you are applying for in order of preference (you may apply for both, eg. 1st choice-paid apprenticeship, 2nd choice-volunteer internship)
* Please include a preferred start & end date and answers to the following questions in your cover letter:

1. Please describe what you hope to learn through your internship on the farm. Include any specific areas of interest or skills you hope to gain.
2. Describe the skills or experience you bring to the farm.
3. Please assess your ability to perform repetitive and physically demanding tasks, noting any physical constraints. Describe how you will meet these challenges and maintain a positive attitude.
4. Please describe and give example of these three qualities in yourself: speed, attention to detail, and follow-through.

* Application deadline: February 15, 2018
* Qualified applicants will be contacted for an interview date after the deadline has passed.