

Summer 2020 Food Access Internship

Part-time, volunteer internship for Project GROWS
40 total hours minimum (up to 120 hours available)



Organization Overview: Project GROWS (PG) is a 501(c)3 nonprofit educational farm with a mission to improve the overall health of children and youth in Staunton, Waynesboro, and Augusta County, Virginia. We cultivate health by connecting children to nutritious food through 1) hands-on, garden-based education and 2) access to healthy local food.

Position Overview: Project GROWS is looking for an intern to help with its Food Access programming at a minimum of 40 total hours over the Summer 2020 season (end of June- end of September). This internship will provide experience in a school, community, and garden setting while working on various Food Access Programming including: Farmer's Market SNAP and WIC programming, The Youth Run Farm Stand at the Waynesboro Boys and Girls Club, and Dixon Educational Center School Garden.

Commitment:

Summer 2020 (Starting June 22nd and ending September 25th). Hours will be arranged based on the applicant's availability and/or desired credits, but will be between 40 - 120 total hours.

Compensation:

This is an unpaid internship. Please state in your application if you are looking to receive course credit or service learning hours for this internship.

Responsibilities:

- Deliver SNAP matching benefits to various customers at our many market locations.
- General outreach and promotion of our SNAP matching program at the Project GROWS farmer's markets
- Assist with the Boys and Girls Club Youth Run Farm Stand.
- Educate SNAP and WIC participants at our markets about our programs and ways to use their benefits.
- Assist with the maintenance for Dixon Educational Center School Garden.
- Other duties as assigned

Requirements:

- Can commit to the majority of the program dates.
- A valid driver's license and reliable transportation.
- Cell phone communication
- Ability to lift up to 50 pounds
- Able to pass a criminal background check

Desired qualifications:

- Interest in food systems, nutrition, community health, local food, agriculture, youth engagement, etc.
- Experience working with youth and adults is a plus
- Excellent, professional written and oral communication skills
- Comfortable juggling a variety of tasks – organized, and self-motivated
- Energetic, enthusiastic, and engaging
- Some experience with safe food preparation, handling and serving preferred

To apply, please send a letter of interest, two references and a resume to Megan Townley, PG Food Access Manager, at megan@projectgrows.org. Include in the letter your schedule of availability.

Application Deadline: May 29th, 2020

Food Access Program Descriptions

Project GROWS Farmer's Market Nutrition Incentive Programs:

Project GROWS manages three local markets: the North Augusta Farmer's Market, the Waynesboro Farmer's Market, and the Staunton-Augusta Health Department Farmer's Market. At our markets we offer a variety of nutrition-based incentive programs including SNAP (Supplement Nutrition Assistance Program) and WIC (Women, Infants, and Children nutrition assistance program). Go to our website www.projectgrows.org/foodaccess to learn more about how these markets and programs improve Food Access in the community.

The Youth Run Farm Stand:

During the months of June and July, you'll find youth from the Boys & Girls Club selling seasonal produce and answering questions about our programs at the Youth-Run Farm Stand at the Waynesboro Boys & Girls Club. This program was designed to educate youth on nutrition, the benefits of a local food system, and help them understand the full process of growing and selling local products.

Dixon Educational Center School Garden:

Every summer Project GROWS works to maintain the Dixon garden so the garden can be bursting with veggies and plants for the kids when they come back in the fall. This garden provides an interactive environment for its students to observe, discover, experiment, nurture, and learn. Studies have shown that school gardens encourage preference and consumption of fruits and vegetables, increase parental support and involvement, and improve children's enthusiasm about preschool/child care, teamwork skills, and self-understanding.

Important Program Dates:

North Augusta Farmer's Market: **Wednesday's** from 12pm - 5pm.

Waynesboro Farmer's Market: **Saturday's** from 9am - 1pm.

Youth Run Farm Stand: **Wednesday's** from 4:30pm - 5:30pm.

Staunton Augusta Health Department Market: **Friday's** from 11am - 2pm

Dixon Garden Days: **Tuesdays** from 9am-12pm

Applicants must be able to attend, at a minimum, the Staunton Augusta Health Department on Fridays, but ideally would be able to attend multiple programs throughout the week.

Please note that all of our programming takes place in either Staunton or Waynesboro VA, and you may need to account for your travel time when considering your schedule.



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Project GROWS | www.projectgrows.org | Mailing address: P.O. Box 781, Staunton, VA 24402
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