



FARM PRODUCTION INTERN

JOB DESCRIPTION

The Samaritan Women is a Christian nonprofit organization in SW Baltimore that operates a 2 acre organic urban farm. We are a 100% volunteer managed and operated nonprofit. We grow chemical-free produce that is retailed at local farmers' markets and restaurants to provide income to support the work of the organization, and tithes 20% of the produce to local shelters and families in nutritional poverty. Our farm includes two hoop houses, a large berry orchard, small fruit tree orchard, chickens, ducks, and bee-keeping. In 2011 we will be initiating our "Faith Markets" program which establishes a CSA model with inner-city churches to help penetrate urban neighborhoods with high-quality fresh produce. This position will learn farm planning, maintenance, production and go-to-market skills in addition to skills in volunteer management, leadership and social advocacy.

ASSIGNMENT DETAILS

This position is variable. Ideally, we'd like a 10-15 hour/week intern from March through September 2011. This position can be filled by several sequential placements (4-week minimum) or by two interns covering morning vs. afternoon shifts. We do not require a certain number of hours or days of the week, but would appreciate defining a routine based on the intern's schedule.

Farm work hours are typically 8:00am to 5:00pm. During hot summer months, we will incorporate a siesta time and work 7:00am – 12:00pm and 2:30pm – 6:30pm. Saturdays are open volunteering days. Sunday are honored as a day of rest.

QUALIFICATIONS and REQUIREMENTS

Our intern should be motivated by the mission of improving the nutritional landscape of the city and fostering a respect for Creation. The ideal candidate would be pursuing work experience in the fields of organic/sustainable urban agriculture and/or public nutrition and/or alternative healing communities. The intern must be hardy, ambulatory, and have an affable nature, willing to work with a wide variety of volunteers. Persons with extensive allergies or aversion to working outdoors should not apply. Must be at least 18 years of age, have a valid driver's license, and carry your own liability insurance.

COMPENSATION

This is not a compensated position. On occasions, meals may be provided and intern may, on occasion, partake of the harvest for his/her own personal consumption.

DUTIES

- Work alongside our Farm Manager, Hoop House Manager, and Farm & Food Committee to understand the aspects of planning, planting, and harvesting
- Establish seeds and starters, transplant from hoop house to farm, perform weeding, watering, and harvesting as needed
- Enter planning and production data in our Farm Management Database
- Help to construct farm task list for weekend volunteers
- As schedule permits, support our go-to-market activities or food distribution to donor partners
- Conduct volunteer orientation and/or create orientation materials for print and website
- May participate in farm-related construction projects

TO APPLY

Submit a short summary of your personal/professional goals, why you are interested in this intern position and note any experience with farming, gardening, farm equipment and tools. This should be no more than 1 page. Email to Jeanne Allert, TSW Executive Director, jallert@thesamaritanwomen.org Candidates should also make arrangements to visit The Samaritan Women Farms for a tour and to learn more about our operations.