



Position Opening: Education Manager

Posted May 9, 2023

<https://www.growfoodnorthampton.org/about/positions/>

Job Type and Schedule: Part-time; 30 hours per week; hybrid, with a flexible schedule; may include occasional weekend hours.

Compensation and Benefits: \$22 - \$25/hour depending on experience; benefits include paid vacation; 401(k) matched up to 4%; and local food, technology, and professional development stipends.

To apply: Please send an email with title "Education Manager Position" with a resume and cover letter to Michael Skillicorn, Associate Director, to: michael@growfoodnorthampton.org; please have three references available upon request.

Deadline: Deadline extended! Applications will now be accepted on a rolling basis until position is filled. **Priority will be given to applications submitted by Friday, June 16 at 5:00 p.m. EDT and interviews will begin the following week.**

About Grow Food Northampton

Grow Food Northampton (GFN) is a food justice organization providing food and land access to all members of our community in Northampton, MA. GFN owns and stewards a 121-acre Community Farm that leases land to ten farms that practice sustainable agriculture, and manages a 320-plot Organic Community Garden. We operate vibrant downtown farmers markets; grow and purchase local produce for distribution to community members experiencing food insecurity; educate children and adults about the local food system through classroom and farm-based workshops; and manage food access initiatives that invite people of all incomes into the local food movement. Founded in 2010, Grow Food Northampton is rooted in values of racial, economic, and environmental justice, and serves the city of Northampton and nearby communities with four full-time and eight part-time staff members, and interns and volunteers.

Position Description

Grow Food Northampton seeks a dynamic, creative, and collaborative Education Manager to join our team. The mission of our education program is to mobilize and facilitate community members to exchange knowledge about a just local food and farming system. The aim of our educational work is to grow community members' critical thinking and knowledge about food and farming systems and food justice, encourage participation in the local food system, and cultivate the next generation of local food justice champions.

The Education Manager will draw from our history of education for youth and adults, our partnership with the Northampton Public Schools, and our Community Farm as a living laboratory, to create and implement an education program framework and corresponding multi-modal curricula for learners of all ages. Examples of program activities include developing a food systems internship for middle and high school students, farm field trips for elementary school students, and farm-based workshops for adult learners. Equitable access to our education programming is a deeply held value.

We are seeking a self-starter and decision maker to lead the education program, and an experienced and creative educator with extensive background in collaborating with internal and external partners. We offer a flexible and trusting work environment.

Specific responsibilities include, but are not limited, to:

- Guiding the direction and vision of GFN's local food system education programs, and developing a cohesive framework and curricula for our education programming based on our history and values, including the deepening of curricula to include racial justice perspective and analysis. Curricular topics might include:
 - Growing and eating nutritious, sustainably-grown food
 - Cultural aspects of food and Indigenous foodways
 - Responsible stewardship of the land
 - The abolitionist history of the Grow Food Northampton Community Farm
 - The history and current state of the U.S. food system including Indigenous land dispossession, Black enslavement and land dispossession, and the exploitation of agricultural workers
 - The role of industrial agriculture in the food system and its related harms
- Collaborating with the Northampton Public Schools at the student, teacher, and administrative levels to develop and coordinate internships, field trips, and other programming
- Conducting hands-on farm field trips to elementary school classes, and serving as point person for internships with middle- and high-school students

- Building relationships with schools, organizations, colleges, and other community stakeholders to develop educational partnerships
- Collaborating with internal and external staff, advisors, and other existing partners to develop and implement educational offerings for learners of all ages
- Leading an exploration into offering after-school, vacation, and summer programming
- Developing and tracking education program budget in collaboration with GFN's Associate Director
- Tracking program participation and program data; preparing program reports
- Supporting the development of grant applications and other funding opportunities for educational programming

General responsibilities include, but are not limited, to:

- Serving as an integral member of the Grow Food Northampton team
- Participating in weekly staff meetings, trainings, and other staff activities
- Participating in creating a positive organizational climate that fosters employee well-being
- Ensuring the intentional prioritization and centering of economic and racial justice in our work and practices
- Other duties as agreed upon by the Education Manager and Associate Director

Qualifications

- Passion about food and farming justice, sustainability, and civic participation in the local food system
- 2+ years developing and sourcing curricula and education programs
- 3+ years educating youth and/or adults, particularly through hands-on experiences
- Ability to manage multiple projects and deadlines
- Strong communication skills
- Highly collaborative work style
- Enthusiasm about participating in regular anti-racism training and the development of a racial justice-focused workspace
- Enthusiasm for the mission, goals, and purposes of the organization
- Ability to meet physical requirements of the position, including sitting or standing at a desk and in outdoor educational settings for long periods, keyboarding, viewing screens, walking on rough terrain on the Community Farm, bending, and safely lifting 20 pounds

Desired experience:

- Navigating public school systems at the student, teacher, and administrative levels

- A deep understanding of food systems is not required for this position, though an interest in and experience with food and farming systems (nutrition and growing, selling, preparing, and eating food) is desired.
- Technology fluency and capacity to master new platforms; comfort with Mac OS, Google Suite, and social media
- Spanish language speaker a plus

If you require accommodation when navigating the application process, please contact:

michael@growfoodnorthampton.org

Grow Food Northampton is a food and farming justice organization. This means that we are committed to identifying and dismantling systemic forms of oppression in the food system. Racialized people and others from equity-seeking groups experience food insecurity in disproportionate numbers, but are significantly under-represented in food system organizations. We believe that those most affected by an issue must have access to paid positions in organizations tasked with challenging food insecurity. Grow Food Northampton strives to create a workplace that reflects a diversity of identities and lived experiences. Grow Food Northampton is an equal opportunity provider and employer. People of all races, colors, religions, sexual orientations, gender identities, national origins, lived experiences, and ability, are encouraged to apply.