



The **Greater Lansing Food Bank** is a non-profit organization that provides emergency food to individuals and families in need in Ingham, Eaton, Clinton, Shiawassee, Clare, Isabella and Gratiot counties. Food is distributed through an extensive network of food pantries and community kitchens located throughout the region. The Food Bank annually serves tens of thousands of people, many of them seniors and children. Our recipients also include the “working poor,” those individuals who are employed but don’t earn enough to meet housing, health, transportation and food needs.

**Lansing Roots**, a new program under the Greater Lansing Food Bank, is designed to help limited resource and/or historically under-served individuals from the greater Lansing area begin successful market gardening and farming enterprises through an incubator farm setting. Participants of Lansing Roots receive a small plot of land to start their own farms and are provided workshops focused around practical skills in agriculture and business and a collaborative network through which to market and sell the food produced.

**We are currently seeking interns to fulfill various roles within the Lansing Roots program for the upcoming 2014 Summer/Fall positions:**

- **Community Farm Horticulture Assistant**
- **Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Program Assistant**
- **Community Liaison for Refugee and Immigrant Farmers**
- **Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Newsletter Assistant**
- **Farm Marketing and Sales Assistant**

**Positions are expected to be filled by May 2014; however, applications will be accepted on a rolling basis.**

### **Position Title: Community Farm Horticulture Assistant**

**Number of applicants currently being accepted:** 2-6

**How many hours per week a person can intern:** 5-25

**Day and times:** Flexible

**Responsibilities:** Community Horticulture Assistants will work with Lansing Roots staff to maintain, plan and plant our Demonstration Farm and Hoophouse using the principles of sustainable vegetable production. The Lansing Roots Program is a family farmer education initiative with a mixed vegetable farm in Mason. Produce is distributed to those in need, increasing food security through the Greater Lansing Food Bank's service area. We work with a variety of small produce growers including recent refugees and immigrants. Duties are seasonally varied and may include: Managing crops, including planting, weeding, plant maintenance, and harvesting; Observing and recording information on crops, soil conditions, pests, diseases,



harvests, and volunteering; Planting and maintaining seedlings in a greenhouse or hoop house; Assisting in the direction of other volunteers; Researching and compiling sustainable farming information for educational materials; Drafting crop plans and production timelines.

**Qualifications:** Academic or personal background in gardening or agricultural production. Ability to do physically demanding work outdoors in all conditions while maintaining a positive attitude. Ability to work with a diverse range of people of various social, cultural, economic, and ethnic backgrounds. Interest in community-embedded development work.

**Transportation/Location information:** The farm is located very near to East Lansing in Mason on Hagadorn Road near Harper Road.

**To apply please send resume and cover letter with start and end dates to:**

**Pete Gregg**

**pete@greaterlansingfoodbank.org**

### **Position Title: Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Program Assistant**

**Number of students that are currently being accepted:** 2-3

**Hour many hours per week a person can volunteer:** 5-15

**Day and times:** Flexible

**Responsibilities:** The Lansing Roots Program is a family farmer education initiative with a farm in Mason. Our marketing collaborative serves a number of small local produce growers with a CSA that allows subscribers to purchase a weekly share of the harvest. Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Program Assistants will work with the Lansing Roots Marketing Coordinator and staff on CSA operations including marketing, communications, and logistics. Duties are varied and may include but are not limited to: assisting the team on weekly packing and distribution days, assisting with production or harvesting as needed, communications and marketing, deliveries, distribution site supervision, system developments for future seasons.

**Qualifications:** Interest and ability in marketing and sales. Knowledge of farming or gardening helpful. Ability to work with a diverse range of people of various social, cultural, economic, and ethnic backgrounds while maintaining a positive attitude. Interest in community-embedded development work.

**Transportation/Location information:** Our office is near the airport on the north side of Lansing. Some work could be done remotely.

**To apply please send resume and cover letter with start and end dates to:**

**Jill Plesko, Lansing Roots Marketing Coordinator**

**jill@greaterlansingfoodbank.org**



## Position Title: Community Liaison for Refugee and Immigrant Farmers

**Number of applicants currently being accepted:** 1- 3

**How many hours per week a person can intern:** 4-16

**Day and times:** Flexible

**Responsibilities:** Community Liaisons will serve as an important link between refugee/ immigrant farmers and others involved in the Lansing Roots Farm. The Lansing Roots Program is a family farmer education initiative with a mixed vegetable farm in Mason. We work with a variety of small produce growers, including Nepali-speaking Bhutanese farmers, Arabic-speaking farmers, Kizigua-speaking Somali farmers, and others. This position focuses on providing access to opportunities for farmers with language or cultural barriers. Duties are seasonally varied and may include: translating or arranging translation for conversations, presentations or written materials; facilitating recruitment, application and evaluation processes for farmers; assisting farmers with planning, production, problem solving and communication

**Qualifications:** Listening and communication skills. Community development experience helpful. Ability to work with a diverse range of people of various social, cultural, economic, and ethnic backgrounds. Nepali, Arabic, Kizigua, etc. language skills highly desirable (please note that we do not currently need Spanish language skills). Farming or gardening knowledge/ experience helpful.

**Transportation/Location information:** The farm is located very near to East Lansing in Mason on Hagadorn Road near Harper Road, though this position may include travel to other locations or remote work.

**To apply please send resume and cover letter with start and end dates to:**

**Alex Bryan Garden Project Manager**  
alex@greaterlansingfoodbank.org

## Position Title: Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Newsletter Assistant

**Number of students that are currently being accepted:** 1-2

**Hour many hours per week a person can volunteer:** 5-15

**Day and times:** Flexible

**Responsibilities:** Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Newsletter Assistants will work with Lansing Roots staff on collaboration and distribution of our e-newsletter. The Lansing Roots Program is a family farmer education initiative with a farm in Mason. Our marketing collaborative serves a number of small local produce growers with a CSA that allows subscribers to purchase a weekly share of the harvest. Duties are varied and



may include but are not limited to: formatting and submitting weekly newsletters, compiling farmer biographies, taking photos, and writing Lansing Roots farm updates.

**Qualifications:** Interest and ability in writing and/or design. Knowledge of farming or gardening helpful. Ability to work with a diverse range of people of various social, cultural, economic, and ethnic backgrounds while maintaining a positive attitude. Interest in community-embedded development work.

**Transportation/Location information:** Our office is near the airport on the north side of Lansing. Some work could be done remotely.

**To apply please send resume and cover letter with start and end dates to:**

**Jill Plesko, Lansing Roots Marketing Coordinator**  
[jill@greaterlansingfoodbank.org](mailto:jill@greaterlansingfoodbank.org)

## **Position Title: Farm Marketing and Sales Assistant**

**Number of students currently being accepted:** 2

**How many hours per week a person can intern:** 5-15

**Day and times:** Flexible

**Responsibilities:** Farm Marketing and Sales Assistants will work with Lansing Roots staff to assess marketing and sales needs and develop appropriate materials and relationships for future success. The Lansing Roots Program is a family farmer education initiative with a mixed vegetable farm in Mason. Our marketing collaborative serves a number of small local produce growers, including low income farmers, recent refugees and immigrants.

Duties are seasonally varied and may include: creating weekly wholesale lists, contacting farmers and purchasers, assisting with deliveries, researching pricing, assessing successes of the past season, researching marketing and sales needs, identifying and establishing new sales contacts, creating marketing materials & marketing plans

**Qualifications:** Interest and ability in marketing and sales. Knowledge of farming or gardening helpful. Ability to work with a diverse range of people of various social, cultural, economic, and ethnic backgrounds while maintaining a positive attitude. Interest in community-embedded development work.

**Transportation/Location information:** Our office is near the airport on the north side of Lansing. Some work could be done remotely.

**To apply please send resume and cover letter with start and end dates to:**

**Jill Plesko, Lansing Roots Marketing Coordinator**  
[jill@greaterlansingfoodbank.org](mailto:jill@greaterlansingfoodbank.org)