



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 Fall 2014 positions:**

- **Community Farm Horticulture Assistant**
- **Community Liaison for Refugee and Immigrant Farmers**
- **Lansing Roots Program Assistant**

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

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

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

**Hours per week: 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 hoophouse; 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:**

**Benjamin Sommers**

**Lansing Roots Program Manager**

**[ben@greaterlansingfoodbank.org](mailto:ben@greaterlansingfoodbank.org)**

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

**\*\*possibility for a paid internship\*\***

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

**Hours per week:** 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:**

**Benjamin Sommers Lansing Roots Program Manager**

**[ben@greaterlansingfoodbank.org](mailto:ben@greaterlansingfoodbank.org)**



## Position Title: Lansing Roots Program Assistant

**Number of applicants currently being accepted: 1-2**

**Hours per week:** 5-20

**Day and times:** Weekdays; Wednesdays preferred, flexibility with other days

**Responsibilities:** The Lansing Roots Program Assistant will work with the Lansing Roots Program Manager, Marketing Coordinator, and other staff and interns on marketing and communications projects and program development. Duties are varied and may include but are not limited to: general farm production and development, assisting the Demonstration Farm and Lansing Roots farmers with vegetable production and harvesting, assisting with CSA & Wholesale deliveries, distributions, and logistics.

**Qualifications:** Reliable transportation to and from farm site in Mason, MI. Ability to perform physical labor in all weather conditions. 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 farm is located just north of Mason at 1084 S. Hagadorn Rd, Mason, MI 48854. A vehicle is encouraged for transportation to the location. Some duties will take place at the farm's office which is located at 919 Filley St, Lansing, MI 48906

**To apply please send resume and cover letter to:**

**Benjamin Sommers**  
**Lansing Roots Program Manager**  
**ben@greaterlansingfoodbank.org**