



Urban Market Garden/Farm Internship

About Growing Hope:

Growing Hope is an Ypsilanti-based nonprofit organization dedicated to helping people improve their lives and communities through gardening and healthy food access particularly for low-income families and individuals that otherwise would not have access to gardening resources and fresh produce.

Growing Hope works to accomplish this by managing a series of garden programs that help people of all ages learn to grow and eat healthy food. We provide hands-on educational opportunities at our demonstration farm, at individual's households, in neighborhood gardens and other spaces where people grow. We aim to help people, particularly those with barriers to healthy food, gain self-reliance growing their own food, while gaining the skills and knowledge needed to achieve their desired level of health.

Position Description:

Growing Hope is looking for interns who are interested in learning the skills needed to run a small urban market garden/farm. We grow a diversity of vegetables, fruits, and herbs on our small (less than 1 acre) urban demonstration farm in the city of Ypsilanti, MI. Interns will learn how to manage an urban market garden under organic standards. These skills include propagation, no till bed prepping, compost production, vegetable cultivation, harvesting, post harvesting handling, marketing, financial planning and farm stand management. This is a great opportunity for someone looking to learn how to start up or manage a small, diversified vegetable farm and market their produce in the area of southeast Michigan (or beyond). This internship is 1/3 educational, 1/3 farm labor and 1/3 marketing and sales. Though we prefer interns who would like to stay for the whole season, we will consider applicants who are interested in a minimum of a 3 month experience.

Qualified candidates will exhibit the following:

- Available 10-20 hours/week, April-October 2016 (preference given for longer commitments during that season)
- An ideal candidate is someone who has gardening/farming experience
- Interested in building on their knowledge and skills
- Has a valid driver's license and a reliable means of transportation
- Willing to work in all kinds of weather
- Creative problem solver.
- Motivated and hard-working.
- A sense of cultural competency for the Ypsilanti community

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Skills and Experiences:

- Excellent written and oral communication skills.
- Some experience scheduling and planning workshops, classes or events.
- Experience working with many types of people.
- Familiarity with using social media, websites and design software to promote Growing Hope activities.
- Some gardening/landscaping experience and light garden construction is a plus.
- Ability to effectively work with many ages, income levels, education levels, and race and ethnicities in a community setting.

To Apply: Please submit a 1 page cover letter and a resume to apply@growinghope.net by April 6, 2016.

Preferred Start Date: Mid-April 2016, or asap

Growing Hope is an Equal Opportunity Employer and does not discriminate potential employees or interns based on race, creed, age, color, disability, national origin, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation or marital status. We encourage the following groups to apply: people of color and individuals who possess an in-depth understanding of poverty or economic hardship.