



Lansing Roots Farm Coordinator

Program and Position Overview

Lansing Roots is a program of the Greater Lansing Food Bank (GLFB), designed to help beginning farmers develop successful farming enterprises through an incubator farm setting. The GLFB has been supporting home and community gardens for over thirty years through the Garden Project, and Lansing Roots serves as a complement to this on-going work by encouraging successful gardeners and interested entrepreneurs to develop farm enterprises. Please visit www.greaterlansingfoodbank.org for more information on GLFB and the Lansing Roots Program.

The Farm Coordinator is responsible for coordination and oversight of all physical operations at the 10-acre Lansing Roots Incubator Farm site, technical assistance to farmers participating in the Lansing Roots Program, and growing produce for GLFB distribution to individuals, agencies, or other community partners. This position will be primarily farm-based, with limited office time. Flexibility of schedule due to seasonal and weather-related needs is a must, as is the ability and desire to perform highly physical labor for long periods of time outdoors and in all weather conditions.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Coordinate management of a multi-use, multi-grower farm site, including infrastructure development and maintenance, seasonal farm plot and grounds preparation, equipment use, and composting activities
- Production-scale diversified vegetable growing on 1-2 acres for use in Lansing Roots Multi-Grower CSA and other GLFB programs; including greenhouse and hoophouse production, plant propagation, and field production
- Mentor and advise the Lansing Roots cohort of beginning farmers in day to day production and other technical needs
- Work with Lansing Roots Marketing Coordinator and/or other GLFB staff to ensure food safety and timely delivery and distribution of fresh produce grown by all program participants
- Supervise farmers, interns, and volunteers assisting with site maintenance, equipment operation, and other projects

Minimum Qualifications

- 2 years of experience in farm management, diversified vegetable production, or general farm labor
- Knowledge and experience in organic greenhouse production, plant propagation, fertility and pest management
- Ability to interact with individuals from diverse cultural, socio-economic, and ethnic backgrounds with respect, comfort, and sensitivity
- Experience and skilled in the use of basic tools, equipment, and tractor operation; including common farm implements
- Ability to work long hours in adverse weather conditions and lift up to 60 pounds
- Highly flexible schedule with availability from early morning through evening hours consistently, and some weekends
- Demonstrated ability to be work independently, be self-motivated, multi-task, adjust to changes in schedule or work plan, and take on additional tasks as needed
- Attention to detail, strong record keeping and personal organization skills
- Passion for promoting local agriculture, community health, and creating a hunger-free community
- Food safety training, agricultural education experience, or other relevant training a plus

Compensation

This is a full-time, temporary position, **March 20, 2017 – November 22, 2017**. Competitive hourly wage with limited benefits package, including health insurance and PTO (vacation, sick leave, holidays). Please inquire below for more information.

How to Apply

Please send cover letter and resume to Ben Sommers at lansingroots@glfoodbank.org with Farm Coordinator in the subject line. Pertinent questions or clarifications welcomed. **Hiring immediately, position open until filled.**