

Community Produce Stand Internship

About the Corvallis Environmental Center: The CEC envisions a community in which People Learn, People Care and People Act. In pursuit of this vision, our mission is to educate, engage, and inspire people to create a healthy, sustainable community. We do this through nature-based education, local & healthy food initiatives, and energy conservation programs. The CEC was founded in 1994 as a grassroots effort to take action on environmental issues and today reaches over 15,000 people in Benton County and surrounding area through its programs and services. CEC educational programming and community events are held at the Avery House Nature Center, Starker Arts Garden for Education (SAGE), in community schools, and outside at various parks and other locations. The CEC is a 501(c)(3) non-profit.

About the Produce Stand Program: The Community Produce Stands aim to create behavior change by fostering healthy eating habits via increased accessibility to local fruits and vegetables, nutrition education, cooking demonstrations and recipes. Sited at various local organizations through each week, the produce stands increase access to fresh and nutritious produce, provides nutritional education, and stimulates the local sustainable food economy.

The Community Produce Stands are also a resource for the Veggie Rx Program facilitated in partnership with the the Health Centers of Linn and Benton Counties. Patients who screen positive for food insecurity through a Social Determinants of Health screening tool, are referred to the local food network, connected with SNAP/WIC/School Lunch programs where eligible, and receive Health Navigation support through the Community Health Centers. Participants receive tokens for fresh fruits and vegetable that can be redeemed at the the on-site Community Produce Stand as well as at the local Farmer's Market. Information gained will be shared with other IHN agencies to inform the screening, referral, and follow up around integration of food resources system within the health care paradigm.

Position Description: Learn about the local food system and help increase community access to fresh, local produce by serving as a Community Produce Stand intern. As the Community Produce Stand Intern, you will gain hands-on experience working with the CEC staff to increase access to healthy foods for families navigating poverty and for the community workforce at different businesses around Corvallis.

Position Responsibilities:

The Community Produce Stand intern will work under the supervision of the Community Produce Stand Coordinator and will be responsible for the following:

- Participate in CEC Internship Orientation
- Assist with Community Produce Stand Program, including: stand set up and take down, stock and display fresh fruits and vegetables, complete sales transactions, make and share samples and recipes
- Help bring more food education, healthy recipes and local agriculture awareness to the community
- Learn about the Veggie Rx Program and Social Determinants of Health Screening
- Share mission and programs of the Corvallis Environmental Center with participants

Qualifications:

- Interest in local, sustainable, and seasonal food
- Interest in food, cooking, agricultural, and garden education
- Experience working with the public, esp in sales or customer service role
- Experience working with individuals from diverse backgrounds

- Ability to communicate effectively with a diverse group of people
- Punctual and reliable
- A self-starter and ability to take initiative
- A positive attitude!
- Bilingual preferred (Spanish)

Schedule: The Community Produce Stands occur Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from mid June - mid September. Internship opportunities would be one or both of the following:

- Tuesdays and Thursdays 1pm - 4 pm
- Wednesdays 9am - 5pm

For more information, contact the Community Food & Agriculture Programs Manager at:
Kyler@corvallisenvironmentalcenter.org