



Community Garden Animator

Job Posting

Lakeside HOPE House

Lakeside HOPE House provides tangible, compassionate assistance and care to those in the Guelph community through immediate relief and ongoing support. Our goal is to foster a greater level of independence by delivering front-line services and support that allow our community members to maintain their dignity and choice. This is accomplished through a diverse range of programs and services including a choice-based, bucks-based Food and Clothing Market, HOPE Stylin' Haircuts, a community Edu-Kitchen, a Back-to-School Backpack Program, a daily Café, a Christmas Hamper program, and other programs to all Guelph residents (including children) living in poverty.

Job Description

Reporting to the Immediate Relief Manager and working with the Gift-in-Kind (GIK) Coordinator, the Community Garden Animator will be instrumental in ensuring our food market has fresh, healthy produce from our Community Garden. The garden is operating in the north end of Guelph with the help of local farmers. We are hoping to expand this program as community gardens can help improve food security for participants by increasing physical and economic access to adequate amounts of healthy food. Community gardens provide health, economic, educational, social, and environmental benefits to participants and the community at large. The successful candidate will create a docile gathering place for the community, and encourage and support volunteers and program participants in garden maintenance tasks (prepping, planting, weeding, watering, harvesting, etc.) and to better understand their food system; provide a welcoming space for participants to build self-confidence, wellness, and personal skills. The successful candidate will have experience in gardening, commitment to social justice and understanding of the food system and food security and must demonstrate ability to work with and show sensitivity to those who experience poverty/discrimination.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Manage a Community Garden
- Create a social gathering place for the community
- Encourage and support volunteers and program participants in garden maintenance tasks (prepping, planting, weeding, watering, harvesting, etc.)
- Provide a welcoming space for participants to build self-confidence, wellness, and personal skills
- Work with the GIK Coordinator to develop the first annual Squash Fest.

Qualifications

- Be between ages of 15-30 years of age.
- Be a Canadian citizen, permanent resident, or person to whom refugee protection has been conferred.
- Have been enrolled in full-time schooling spring 2018 semester & enrolled for full time studies fall 2018 semester.

Working Conditions

- Position: Community Garden Animator
- Duration: up to 16 weeks at 30 hours/week at \$14/hr (dependent on approved funding)

Direct Reports

- Some volunteer supervision

Competencies & Skills Required

- Experience gardening/farming
- Commitment to social justice and understanding of the food system and food security
- Demonstrated ability to work with and show sensitivity to those who experience poverty/discrimination.
- Excellent organizational skills
- Ability to work alone
- Strong communication skills
- Ability to multitask
- Working knowledge of poverty (i.e. generational, situational, working poor)
- Post-Secondary Field of studies: Social Services, Sociology, Children and Family Studies, Not-For-Profit Management and Agricultural studies, Environmental Studies, or Food related studies (Food Security, Food Systems, etc.)
- Adhere to the qualifications set by Canada Summer Jobs program (above)
- Provision of a vulnerable sector police check

HOPE House is an equal opportunities employer, committed to employment equity. HOPE House values diversity and invites all qualified candidates to apply.

Resumes will be accepted until Friday, April 6th, 2018 at 4 pm

Please send to programs@lakesidehopehouse.ca