

Seasonal Food Access Associate

Reports to: Urban Edge Farm Manager

Classification: Non-exempt

Status: Part-time, Seasonal (June-November)

Organization Description: Southside Community Land Trust builds a fair and accessible local food system in Rhode Island by offering access to land, training, resources and support to community and backyard gardeners, beginning farmers and young people.

SCLT was founded in 1981 when residents of South Providence and newly arrived Hmong refugees worked together to grow culturally familiar, nutritious food in the area's first community garden. Somerset Garden not only improved residents' diets and economic self-reliance, it stabilized a neighborhood weakened by arson, neglect and crime. Today, the most significant obstacle to accomplishing our work is the racial injustice that denies Black, Latinx, Asian, Indigenous and all people of color equal access to fresh, healthy and affordable food.

SCLT leases land to 25 farmers who supply fresh fruits and vegetables to 13 farmers markets, roughly 100 food businesses and restaurants and six CSAs. We support a network of 60 community gardens and farms, feeding over 15,000 people every year. We operate three production farms in Providence and Pawtucket where we practice, demonstrate and train others in bio-intensive, small-scale agricultural production. We helped found three farmers markets as well as three growers' collaboratives that enable individual farmers to bring their produce to market.

Position Description: The position is the co-lead staff member responsible for coordinating the SCLT Aggregation Program. In addition, the position provides support for Community Food Access Programs and other Farmer Services as well as Farmer Training initiatives. The position also supports some on-farm production at SCLT farms.

Job Duties:

SCLT Aggregation Program

- Acts as the main point of contact for all external and internal inquiries, new purchases, new customers. This position handles most of the day-to-day logistics of aggregation operations as well as record keeping for the program
- Provide training and support to farmers with produce invoicing and record keeping for the crops they sell and the revenue they earn
- Work with existing customers and purchasing partners to list available produce. Promote new products as they become available. Deliver produce and manage customer pick ups
- Communicate with participating farmers to determine what produce is currently available. Receive produce orders from farmers based on customer orders.
- Work with other members of the Farm Services team to provide training and technical assistance to participating farmers to help the participating farmers improve their

marketing and food safety strategies

- Research opportunities to develop new customers and purchasing partners
- Making occasional visits throughout the season to Urban Edge Farm, Good Earth and any other plots that the farmers participating in the program may have
- Complete other tasks and responsibilities as assigned

Community Food Access Programs

- Assists the Food Service Program Associate in coordinating and implementing SCLT's food access programs
- Work with Aggregation and Veggie Rx team to sort produce into shares. Distribute shares to clients at participating sites in Providence, Pawtucket, Central Falls and surrounding areas
- Create recipes for VeggieRx shares based on the produce they will be receiving that week
- Complete other tasks and responsibilities as the Veggie Rx program evolves and develops
- Some grant funding reporting is required.

Desired Experience, Education, Knowledge, and Skills

- Experience, knowledge or interest in healthy, culturally appropriate foods, sales, food industry, and farming
- High School Diploma, GED, or relevant work experience
- Providence, Pawtucket or Central Falls area resident
- Valid driver's license and clean driving record
- Demonstrated experience with, and commitment to, work that advances race equity and social justice
- Skills in any of the following languages including: Spanish, Swahili, Kinyarwanda/Kirundi, Portuguese, Cape Verdean Creole, Hmong, French, Kunama, Burmese Haitian Creole, Khmer, and Lao. Or any language spoken by under-resourced communities in South Providence, Pawtucket and Central Falls

SCLT welcomes your application even if you do not possess all of the attributes listed above. The organization values both life and on-the-job experience and we consider these in all hiring decisions.

While performing the duties of this job, the employee must have the physical ability to occasionally move and lift heavy objects up to 35 pounds. Reasonable accommodations may be made to enable individuals with disabilities to perform the essential functions.

Schedule is Tuesday through Friday. 20 hours per week. Some evenings and weekend work is required.

This position will be asked to participate in weekly team and all staff meetings, monthly race equity staff meetings, occasional all staff events, professional development activities and all other responsibilities as assigned. Some evening and weekend work is required.

Compensation for this position will be \$17.00 to \$20.00 per hour and set based on prior relevant experience.

SCLT is an equal opportunity employer. We are committed to providing an environment of mutual respect where equal employment opportunities are available to all applicants and teammates without regard to race, color, religion, sex, pregnancy (including childbirth, lactation, and related medical conditions), national origin, age, physical and mental disability, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, military and veteran status, and any other characteristic protected by applicable law. We are committed to building a team that includes leadership from the communities that we serve and that represents a variety of backgrounds, perspectives, and skills. Bilingual applicants are strongly encouraged – see above list of desired languages.

Interested candidates should submit a resume and cover letter to Marley Bessette at mbessette@insourceservices.com. Please indicate Seasonal Food Access Associate in the subject line of the email. Resumes not including a cover letter will not be reviewed. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Projected start date is May 1, 2023.