



Food Access Assistant Volunteer Position Description

Site: CFI office, 94 Columbus Rd Athens, OH; the Athens Farmers Market; Chesterhill Produce Auction; and other regional food access partner sites (directions provided).

Our commitment:

At Community Food Initiatives we believe that celebrating and nurturing diversity is an essential part of any resilient system. Whether working with our community, our food system, or our natural environment, fostering these various systems requires intentionally preserving and promoting diversity as well as learning about how the current systems/circumstances came to be. As we learn about the past and present and think about how to journey into the future, we welcome all who wish to journey with us, and believe that a team with diverse experiences and backgrounds will help us journey better: will generate richer discussions, deepen our understanding and commitment to coexistence, and support nuanced thinking. We strive to be an inclusive workplace where everyone feels welcome and respected. We are an equal opportunity employer and actively encourage applications from those whose identities reflect the diversity of constituents we seek to serve, and whose identities are traditionally underrepresented.

Position Overview

As a CFI Food Access Assistant you'll work directly with the community, addressing Athens County's most immediate food security issue: access to fresh, healthy foods for all. This involves collecting fresh produce at the Athens Farmers Market and Chesterhill Produce Auction, distributing locally-sourced food through Donation Station distribution and/or through Veggie Van, and supporting other aspects of food access such as gleaning from local farms and supplemental distributions or food pickups.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

- Assist with food collection and community outreach for Donation Station and Veggie Van at any of the following times and locations:
 - Wednesdays at the Athens Farmers Market from 9AM-1PM (May-November)
 - Mondays and Thursdays at the Chesterhill Produce Auction from 3PM-7PM (May October)
 - Saturdays at the Athens Farmers Market, 9AM-12:30PM (year-round)
- Assist with distribution of local food through Donation Station distribution and/or Veggie Van
 - Tuesday mornings 8:30am-11:00am
 - Wednesdays 3:30pm-5:30pm
 - Fridays 3:30pm-5:30pm
 - Other days/times, TBD
- Assist with other food access projects when available/interested, such as gleaning from local farms/gardens and assisting with supplement food pickups/deliveries

IMPACT

- You'll support equitable access to the healthy food we all need to thrive;
- support a diversified food system, which is a vital aspect of regional food security;
- support farmers who are growing food locally rather than supporting megafarms across the continent or globe;
- support farming practices that honor the Earth and will allow us to farm in this region for centuries to come;

- support healthy community connections and relationships, and support this community in thriving together.

TRAINING

New to farming, gardening, or food systems? New to farmers markets? No problem. We'll talk through what we do and make sure to answer any questions you have, and you'll work with seasoned staff until you're comfortable to lead a shift.

COMMITMENT (LENGTH, FREQUENCY, AND AMOUNT OF TIME; LOCATION)

5 – 15 hours/ week; peak hours available during the growing season, June-October

SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Interested in wellness, social justice, and sustainable agriculture;
- Interest in cooking a plus;
- Energetic and reliable;
- Ability to contribute individually and participate in a team;
- Able to work outside for 6-7 hours and lift 50 pounds;
- Passionate about food justice.

BENEFITS

- Gain experience with a local Athens nonprofit;
- Learn about sustainable and resilient systems/communities;
- Opportunity for creative leadership, and for involvement with work that has a big impact;
- CFI Membership benefits, including free entry to workshops, a community garden plot when available; and annual member meeting voting privileges.

Ready to get involved? Email Susie Huser, Director of Outreach: susie@communityfoodinitiatives.org

