



CFI Gardens Volunteer Position Description

Site: Office, 94 Columbus Rd Athens, OH. Multiple options of physical garden sites including Athens City Eastside, Nelsonville, Athens City Hope Drive, and Athens City Southside.

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 Community Garden Volunteer you'll help CFI and our community work for long-term resilience by supporting maintenance of our Community Garden sites. This includes physically working outside in the gardens to grow produce to be donated to our Donation Station program as well as assisting community gardeners in growing food for themselves.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Meet with community gardeners, CFI staff, and other volunteers at a community garden to help with garden maintenance (weeding, clearing paths, laying mulch, turning compost, watering, harvesting, etc.)

- Collect data from community members and analyze results
- Assist in filling open plots: recruit community members/organizations to tend plots, or tend plots for CFI/Donation Station
- Assist with spring planning as well as seed starting/maintenance in greenhouse • Design and create educational garden materials as needed, e.g. kiosk or workshop materials

IMPACT

- You'll support people in growing their own food, support healthy community relationships;
- support the biodiversity that makes life possible and makes a stronger food system;
- and help our community work for long-term wellness.

TRAINING

Novice gardener? No problem! We'll support you in learning all about gardening and regenerative agriculture practices. We have expert community gardeners as well as staff that are happy to answer questions, and we can also share our favorite online resources.

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

4-10 hours/week (flexible scheduling, workload is dependent on the season of the year)

SKILLS AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Interest in garden/outdoor education, public health and/or nutrition, sustainable agriculture
- Some gardening experience preferred but not required
- Accountability, reliability, and adaptability
- Ability to contribute individually as well as participate in a team
- Passion for addressing food insecurity and strengthening our community's connection with food
- Interest in learning about gardening throughout the seasons
- Reliable transportation required (or walking distance proximity to specific garden location)

BENEFITS

- Gain gardening, organizational, and community development experience with a local nonprofit
- Interact with a diverse range of community members
- Successful completion of internship will result in the provision of references
- CFI Membership benefits, including free entry to workshops, a community garden plot if available, and annual member meeting voting rights.

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

