



Summer 2024 Learning Garden Intern Job Description

4-H is the youth development component of Rutgers Cooperative Extension (RCE). 4-H uses a learn-by-doing approach to enable youth to become competent, caring citizens of the world. Rutgers New Jersey Agricultural Experiment Station (NJAES) Cooperative Extension helps the diverse population of New Jersey adapt to a rapidly changing society and improve their lives and communities through an educational process that uses science-based knowledge. Hudson County 4-H is a partnership between Rutgers Cooperative Extension and the Hudson County Department of Health and Human Services.

The 4-H Family Learning Gardens, a flagship program of Hudson County 4-H, is a partnership between Hudson County 4-H and the Hudson County Department of Health and Human Services with support from Hudson County Department of Parks. The 4-H Family Learning Gardens at Lincoln Park (Jersey City) and West Hudson Park (Kearny/Harrison) serve as outdoor learning classrooms for youth and families through programs, workshops, and events; address food security for the local community; and foster environmental stewardship among a growing community of volunteers.

Position Title: Learning Garden Intern

Details: 6/1 to 8/31; flexible start and end date.

Schedule: Flexible; 6-8 hours a week with possibility for more hours

Purpose: To support educational programming including weekly on-site workshops and volunteer engagement at the 4-H Family Learning Gardens. To foster a safe and engaging environment for all participants, and cultivate positive relationships between Hudson County 4-H and community members.

Responsibilities:

- Work with the Hudson County 4-H team to develop and implement gardening, environmental, and food systems education programs for youth and families at 4-H Learning Garden sites
- Lead and co-facilitate variety of learning activities for a variety of audiences including: K-12 students and youth groups
- Foster connections between program participants and the natural world in the urban setting
- Follow direction from supervisor, and work proactively on all assigned duties in a timely manner
- Engage community adult volunteers at 4-H Family Learning Gardens
- Support Garden Manager in maintaining two garden sites in Hudson County

Benefits:

- Compensation \$1000 stipend at conclusion of internship
- Resume builder and potential for college credit
- Grain training, career mentoring, and professional development related to environmental education, sustainability, and food systems



- Opportunity to learn about farming and youth development
- Opportunity to enhance leadership skills
- Network with local organizations and professionals for career growth

Required Skills:

- Be comfortable working outdoors with plants, animals, and the natural environment
- Passion for the natural world, farming/gardening, and/or healthy eating
- Comfort working with children and adults of all ages, abilities, and backgrounds
- Ability to communicate effectively with children, families, and community members
- Must be enthusiastic, motivated, and willing to learn and receive constructive feedback
- Responsible, reliable, responsive, and hard-working
- A self-starter who takes initiative and has the ability to work well collaboratively and independently
- Be able to transport yourself to and between sites
- Be able to pass a background check