Bloomington Food Policy Council

About the Bloomington Food Policy Council

The Bloomington Food Policy Council is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to sustainably cultivating food security and food justice, in the Bloomington and Monroe County area, by assessing our current food system, advocating policy changes to improve it, celebrating the community’s food culture, and educating the public on concrete steps we can all take to assure universal access to affordable and nutritious food, with an emphasis on food produced sustainably by local farmers and gardeners.

Job description

The Sustainability Intern with the Bloomington Food Policy Council will conduct research on the accessibility and affordability of food in Bloomington, as well as innovative policy solutions to food insecurity, specifically in the domains of urban agriculture, city planning, and zoning ordinances. Research will be consolidated into policy briefings, to be published on the BFPC website, and submitted to City of Bloomington administrative officials and staff. Interns will connect with leaders in the local and regional food systems, as well as local government officials. Projects may include digests of articles and books related to local laws that affect the food system, policy briefings on specific zoning and permitting laws that constrain or encourage food security, and consolidating recommendations for food systems inclusion in the City of Bloomington Comprehensive Master Plan and Unified Development Ordinance.

The ideal candidate will be adept at researching regional, national, and global policy innovations and envisioning their application to our local context. The candidate must be able to communicate effectively with local nonprofit leaders, local government, and other members of the BFPC team. The candidate must be a team-player but willing and able to work independently. Graduate students and exceptional undergraduate students, completing their Junior year, are strongly encouraged to apply.

The intern will report to the board of directors. Compensation will be in the form of a stipend through the Indiana Sustainability Development Program. The intern will work full time for 10 weeks, beginning May 29 and ending in August 3, unless otherwise negotiated. Interns will be required to attend a bootcamp from May 14 to May 18, 2018.

Feedback and Evaluation

The intern will be given regular feedback on progress and performance. Success in the internship will be determined by the completion of agreed-upon projects, in a professional and timely manner. The intern should learn how a nonprofit assesses community systems, identifies community needs, synthesizes information, and provides information in a policy-relevant and action-oriented manner.