



THE FOOD PROJECT-LYNN COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND SERVICE LEARNING PROGRAM FELLOW

Massachusetts Promise Fellows deliver the resources that young people need to be successful in life by **mobilizing** and **organizing** community activity, **creating** and **leading** powerful initiatives, and **training** and **inspiring** citizen volunteers.

The Massachusetts Promise Fellowship achieves this by placing Fellows with non-profit organizations and state/local government agencies that focus on fulfilling the needs of our youth by providing; *a caring adult, a safe place, a healthy start, a marketable skill, and an opportunity to give back.*

SERVICE DESCRIPTION

The Food Project's mission is to create a thoughtful and productive community of youth and adults from diverse backgrounds who work together to build a sustainable food system. This community produces healthy food, provides youth leadership opportunities, and inspires and supports others to create change in their own communities. Youth from Lynn and the surrounding area work closely with one another as they explore issues of food justice, gain an understanding of sustainable agriculture, and develop personally as young adults. Teens start with our six-week Summer Youth Program, and in their second year, youth can work in our Internship Program, where they apply their skills and knowledge to become leaders, improving food access in underserved communities and educating people of all ages.

The Community Engagement and Service Learning (CESL) Program Fellow will lead two projects to mobilize youth and adults from the North Shore community to become participants of positive food system change. First, the Fellow will create a new CESL program to provide intern-led food justice curriculum and service-learning opportunities for youth outside The Food Project. The program will culminate with a youth action day, organized by the Fellow and interns, where all groups that have participated in the program will come together to share food and make a personal commitment to an action they can take in their lives to make an improvement. The Fellow will also take on the expansion of the existing Lynn Build-a-Garden (B-a-G) program, which provides residents with resources to grow their own food. The Fellow will work with interns to plan community gardens in Lynn, recruit and manage volunteers to assist with development of the project, and offer support to gardeners through workshops, site visits and community building.

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITIES

- Launch new CESL internship with the objective of providing food justice education and service-learning opportunities for young people
- Develop relationships with organizations and community leaders to create the CESL infrastructure
- Train and support youth interns as they conduct CESL program during after-school and weekend sessions
- Work with the Intern Coordinator to partner with larger groups
- Draft and implement actions / commitments for youth to apply their knowledge to create meaningful change
- Recruit gardeners and hold community meetings focused on the transformation of vacant lots and unused open space into community gardens
- Develop guidelines and a sustainability plan for each new garden
- Recruit and manage volunteers to construct gardens and train youth to provide garden support
- Travel at least once/month to Fellowship meetings, retreats, and training

Massachusetts Promise Fellowship

Northeastern University ♦ 360 Huntington Avenue, 212 CP ♦ Boston, MA 02115
masspromisefellows@neu.edu ♦ www.masspromisefellows.org

QUALIFICATIONS

- Drivers license and ability to drive larger vehicles in city **required**
- Interest in issues related to food access, farming, and environmental justice
- Excellent organizational/communication skills and ability to work in fast paced environment
- Fluency in Spanish strongly preferred
- The ability to work independently
- Enjoy outdoor and physical work, and able to lift 50 pounds
- Some Saturday and evening work required
- An interest in and commitment to national and community service
- Experience working with youth
- The desire to work with diverse constituencies
- Flexibility and a sense of humor
- Ability to see the big picture
- Strong analytical and problem solving skills
- Professional and mature
- Must be a US Resident, US National or Permanent Resident Alien

The Food Project is an Equal Opportunity Employer that is committed to creating a multicultural organization. Candidates from diverse backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

BENEFITS

For a one year full-time commitment and 1700 hours of AmeriCorps service Fellows receive:

A taxable living allowance of \$269/week ♦ Comprehensive health care benefits ♦

Excellent training opportunities ♦ FREE courses at Northeastern University in the College of Professional Studies ♦

Loan forbearance and a \$5,550 educational award

CONTACT INFORMATION

Apply ASAP! Applicants are hired on a rolling basis. Send a letter of interest, resume and contact info for three references **ASAP and before May 27th, 2011** preferably electronically to:

Kathleen Banfield

The Food Project

555 Dudley Street

Dorchester, MA 02125

Phone: 617-442-1322 X12

Fax: 617-442-7918

Email: kbanfield@thefoodproject.org

Website: www.thefoodproject.org

MORE INFO

- Interviews will take place throughout April and May of 2011 until position is filled
- Hiring decisions will be made on or before June 17th, 2011
- Program start date is August 2011
- **Visit www.masspromisefellows.org for detailed program information**

The Massachusetts Promise Fellowship is committed to providing equal opportunities. We serve and partner with diverse organizations, and are dedicated to non-discrimination. It is our policy to ensure that all individuals with whom we are in contact are treated without regard to age, color, disability, gender, marital status, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or expression, or veteran status. We require that all our partners make reasonable accommodations for any and all individuals with a permanent or temporary disability. We actively partner with organizations representing minority concerns and interests to build high-performing teams that mirror the communities we serve.

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