



Making Healthy Food More Accessible  
in the San Francisco Bay Area

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## Food Access Program Intern

### About Fresh Approach

The mission of Fresh Approach is to create long-term change in local food systems by connecting California communities with healthy food from California farmers and expanding knowledge about food and nutrition. We accomplish our mission through a variety of programs, including the Mobile Farmers' Market; VeggieRx nutrition education classes; Collective Roots Community Garden; and the East Palo Alto Community Farmers' Market. We believe that everyone should have equal access to healthy foods and that the health of our communities and the livelihood of our local farmers should go hand-in-hand.

### Job Description

We are seeking **one** intern with availability during weekdays and may include community outreach or supporting Mobile Farmer's Market on a weekend day. The intern will support two Mobile Farmers' Market routes per week on Tuesdays and Thursdays for the duration of the internship. Additional hours will occasionally be added for outreach on a third day. The Food Access Intern will work in San Jose, Redwood City, and Sunnyvale, and in-person office day in East Palo Alto.

The **Mobile Farmers' Market** program at Fresh Approach is a farmers' market on wheels whose purpose is to increase access to fresh, locally-grown produce in the Bay Area. It sources produce directly from local farmers to sell to historically underserved areas, where fresh quality produce is not easily accessible.

### **Primary Duties:**

Working under the direction and supervision of the South Bay Food Access Program Manager and Program Specialist, the Food Access Program intern will gain experience in the following:

- **Support the on-site Sales Coordinator for weekly Mobile Farmers' Market route days (approximately 16 hours per week)**
  - Assist in arranging produce for display and storage on the truck, and support program staff in other route preparations at IKITCHENS in San Jose.
  - Provide support at market sites by helping at the register, stocking, and restocking the truck with produce, and engaging in friendly and educational conversations with customers.
  - Engage with new customers at Mobile Farmer's Market by passing out flyers to passersby.
  - Administer surveys and conduct in-person referrals to market shoppers.
  - Complete cleaning tasks as requested by the Sales Coordinator, including wipe-down of shelves and equipment, sweeping the floor, organizing stock, and properly storing products
  - Lead nutrition and cooking demonstrations at mobile farmers' markets and/or assist with filming demo events.
  - Assist in the content development of outreach and promotional materials.
- **Conduct outreach in the community (approximately 2 hours per week)**
  - Support outreach efforts toward current and potential recipients of public benefits including WIC, CalFresh (SNAP or food stamps), SSI, SSDI, Medi-Cal, and the Senior Food Program
  - Deliver messages that provide a greater understanding of sustainable agriculture and its role in

- o supporting local food systems and encourage better choices about nutrition
- o Help distribute outreach materials to social services agencies, food banks, and community partners
- o Provide presentations to community-based organizations in the area.

**Desired Qualifications:**

- Demonstrated interest in nutrition, cooking, community-based health, local food systems, Certified Farmers' Markets or California agriculture highly preferred
- Familiarity with the communities and organizations we serve
- Exceptional interpersonal and customer service skills
- Experience with basic accounting, sales transactions, and product merchandising, especially with produce
- Willingness to show initiative and creativity
- Training or seeking a degree in public health, nutrition, or a related field
- Experience teaching or instructing classes or lessons
- Ability to work on a team as well as independently
- Ability to communicate and translate written materials in Spanish and/or Vietnamese is strongly desired

*\*\*Further, we are seeking an individual who values diversity at all levels and is committed to fostering an environment in which community members and co-workers from a variety of backgrounds, cultures, and personal experiences are welcomed and can thrive.\*\**

**Requirements:**

- This position requires some work in an office environment and outside in all weather conditions
- Must be comfortable speaking in front of groups and working with a wide range of people from all backgrounds
- This position requires the intern to be able to lift equipment in and out of a vehicle
- This position requires the intern to interact with persons of various socio-economic backgrounds
- This position may require working on the weekends, early mornings, or late evenings
- This position will require support in the city of San Jose and Sunnyvale on Tuesdays and Redwood City and Sunnyvale on Thursdays from 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. The intern must have reliable transportation to IKITCHENS (326 Commercial St, San Jose, CA 95112). **Optional:** *The intern can ride along on the Mobile Farmers' Market truck from IKITCHENS when supporting the full route day or may use their own reliable transportation when supporting the Mobile Farmers' Market route in San Jose or Sunnyvale.*

**Compensation:**

- Gain significant experience in conducting outreach for a wide range of clients
- Opportunity to shadow employees involved in wide range of food systems work including: nutrition educators, community outreach specialists, mobile farmers' market route managers, farmers' market chefs, and farmers' market managers
- Interns may be able to receive school or community-service credit
- Interns will receive an evaluation upon completion of the internship and may ask for letters of recommendation
- Additional travel beyond the intern's commute to the office will be compensated
- A stipend of \$3,888 is available.

**Timeline:**

- The internship will begin in late May or early June, depending on the Intern's schedule, and last for 12 weeks. The exact dates will be determined based on the intern's schedule. The intern is expected to work at least 18 hours per week.
- Applications are due **4/29/2022**.

**To Apply:**

To be considered for this position, send a resume and cover letter in Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF format to [volunteer@freshapproach.org](mailto:volunteer@freshapproach.org).

If you are seeking the internship to fulfill a requirement for your degree program, please state that and include any specific requirements of your program in your cover letter (i.e. minimum number of hours required). Although this is listed as a part-time internship, there may be some flexibility to help students meet the requirements of their program.