**Internship Request for early summer, 2018**

The Somerville Food Security Coalition (SFSC) is seeking an intern to assist with a short term project, funded for May-July 2018. There is $2,000 available as a stipend. Hours to be determined.

Background

The SFSC brings people together in order to compile and raise awareness about community resources to maximize impact of existing efforts to bring Somerville residents healthy, accessible, affordable and culturally comfortable food.

<http://somervillefoodsecurity.org> Members meet monthly, partnering with various organizations and institutions to address both the impacts and the causes of food insecurity. The Coalition is coordinated by representation from Cambridge Health Alliance and the Somerville Homeless Coalition. Recently, we received funding to provide a stipend to help us with research and recommendations for the SFSC and partners to address three discrete, but related, topics:

1. Creation of **Healthy Food Policy recommendations across a range of sectors.**
	1. Research existing models for healthy food policies related to Food Pantries, municipal governments and health care providers.
	2. Make recommendations for draft policy for three different sectors, working with representatives of each on tailoring from models
2. Begin exploration of unanswered question in draft Food System Assessment (report expected by May 2018):  **"How to address structural racism in food access/security?"**
	1. Convening of several key stakeholders on regional approach
	2. Explore where does this show up in Somerville? (housing, transportation, walkability/access)
	3. Research models of organizations and/or communities who have addressed this question in ways that might be relevant to local (Somerville) and regional approaches
	4. Suggestions for future work/resources
3. How to **address food access needs of local kids/youth and their families if proposed changes to "public charge" move forward**
	1. Explore issues raised in research such as [https://civileats.com/2018/03/26/what-children-understand-about-food-insecurity/](https://civileats.com/2018/03/26/what-children-understand-about-food-insecurity/%22%20%5Ct%20%22_blank) in relation to potential changes in resources available to children in immigrant families with range of documented status
	2. Recommendations on how to integrate language of equity/inequities in food security work in efforts to serve all children and their families
	3. Explore how to engage impacted families in addressing challenges related to changes in food assistance program access

If interested, please send email to Lisa Brukilacchio (lbrukilacchio@challiance.org) and Rachel Weil (rweil@shcinc.org). Include resume and cover note with your interests, proposed time frame and why you would be the best addition to our team! The majority of work could take place remotely, with regular in-person update meetings, based in Somerville, MA. If formal internship desired, willing to make appropriate arrangements with either Cambridge Health Alliance or Somerville Homeless Coalition.