

Internship at Hope Center Indy and Sow & Reap Farms

Hope Center Indy (near Southeast side), in conjunction with Sow & Reap Farms, is looking for one to two interns for the summer of 2022 to work on a wide range of projects to advance their Greenhouse and Farmers Market Programs. There will be opportunities to develop greenhouse flowers and produce, field grown vegetables and flowers, as well as assist in on-site Farmers Market operations. All operations will take place on Hope Center Indy's 25 acre campus, where dormitory-style full room and board may be considered as part of the total package. This is an exciting opportunity for Purdue students to get hands-on experience supporting a growing Community Based Agricultural (CBA) operation while working alongside program coordinators and farm managers, as they use the vegetable farm/market business model to provide learning and personal development opportunities for women in Hope Center Indy's residential recovery programs.

This job can be physically demanding, yet very rewarding. Work could include long days and exposure to outdoor elements (e.g. heat, sun, rain, etc.). The student interns are expected to exhibit exemplary work ethic in a cooperative team environment in both field/greenhouse work and retail market settings. Positive, enthusiastic character together with familiarity with basic farming/gardening practices is strongly desired, though we are willing to train in all aspects of projects. Interns will report directly to Hope Center Indy's programs director and Sow & Reap Farms' field director. Interns will work in close collaboration with staff and resident workers of Hope Center Indy to plan and manage the production and marketing. The student interns will gain life-long skills and knowledge in planting and maintaining and harvesting a variety of flower and vegetable products.

The summer internship has many components to it, which makes it even more fun and exciting. You'll have the opportunity to develop greenhouse production of flowers and certain greens and herbs. Another aspect of the internship would be to help manage the vegetable and flower Farmers Market inside the greenhouse facility, catering to the local community and the high volume of visitors touring Hope Center Indy through the week and Saturday mornings.

The internship requires up to 30-40 hours per week, starting in mid-May and ending in August prior to fall classes. Part time extension into October may be a possibility if the intern's class scheduling allows. Work schedules are flexible, but assistance with planting, watering, field management and harvesting is critical. A minimal wage is negotiable, but room and board is available in the spacious former college's dormitory wings, with complete cafeteria facilities.

To apply for this position, please email your resume and cover letter to Craig Tucker at robertcraigtucker@gmail.com and sowandreapfarmsllc@gmail.com.

See the full job description below:

INTERNSHIP OVERVIEW AND PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

Interns will:

- Work with program director (Rachel Kleine) to plan and manage the green house production and operation of the market. Specific tasks may include preparing soil, cultivating, planting, weeding, and harvesting. Market operations include development of product presentation, customer assistance, stocking and cashier.

- Work with field directors, Ofelia and Craig Tucker (Sow & Reap Farms). Specific tasks may include field prep, seeding and transplanting, weed and insect control, watering, harvesting, and product dressing for market.
- Organization and assistance with 'you pick' customers.
- Provide continuity for work on the garden throughout the 2022 growing season.

REQUIRED SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

- Strong work ethic and self-motivated.
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills. Positive, encouraging nature. Adept at teaching basic skills to adult learners.
- Preference will be given to those with experience and firsthand knowledge in farming and/or gardening with vegetable crops, though previous garden experience is not required.
- Skills to organize and supervise the work of others, while leading by example.
- Tolerance for hard work and exposure to outdoor elements.
- Excitement about promoting local farming and local food production.

FURTHER BACKGROUND ON HOPE CENTER INDY and SOW & REAP FARMS

Our passion is imparting hope and healing to every heart, with special emphasis on the healing of women overcoming sex trafficking, sexual exploitation, and addictions.

At the core of Hope Center Indy's organization are three residential programs focused on the recovery of women exiting human trafficking, addictions, and other life-dominating issues. Our goal is to provide our residents with a safe place to heal and a clear path to community reintegration as empowered individuals. These programs are surrounded by several compassion programs and spiritual development ministries to create an even bigger impact in the city of Indianapolis. Learn more about Hope Center Indy by visiting us at www.hopecenterindy.org.

Sow & Reap Farms is a ministerial entrepreneurial business endeavor with the mission of providing gainful employment to women recovering from sexual exploitation, in a safe, healthy business environment where they can learn entrepreneurial skills and exercise life skills as an extension of the residential programs.