

## **Intergenerational Garden and Farmers Market Summer Internship 2018**

The Intergenerational Garden, Faith in Action, and the Chelsea Farmers Markets are looking for someone to manage their gardens and coordinate children's activities related to gardening and healthy eating.

### Position description:

#### Overview:

The Intergenerational Garden was established in 2012 as a collaborative effort of the Chelsea Senior Center and the Chelsea School District. Its mission is to:

- 1) teach children the joys and benefits of gardening,
- 2) afford a manageable gardening experience for seniors, and
- 3) help bridge the intergenerational gap between the two age groups.

The garden is an 85' x 85' fenced parcel that includes a hoop house (24' x 36') with several raised beds and a seasonal water supply on site. The garden is located on School District property, immediately adjacent to the Senior Center and the local preschools, which houses Camp Gabika (day camp) during the summer months.

Faith in Action is a local non-profit that provides essential supports to alleviate the effects of hunger and poverty for those in the Dexter and Chelsea communities. A small garden located at Faith in Action is maintained by volunteers and the produce is added to the food pantry for distribution to clients.

The Chelsea Farmers Market is held on Saturday mornings and Wednesday afternoons in downtown Chelsea from May-Oct. The market offers a Kid's Activity Booth every Saturday and monthly on Wednesdays over the course of the market season.

### Job Description:

A summer intern is sought to help maintain the gardens at the Chelsea Senior Center and at Faith in Action (planting, harvesting, watering and weeding). The Intern will also be in charge of coordinating volunteers to support both of these gardens. Another primary responsibility includes planning a different children's activity for each week to be offered at Camp Gabika and during the Chelsea Farmers Markets. Activities will feature gardening education, eating healthy and exercise. Examples include cooking demos, building food art with vegetables, planting seedlings, mini greenhouses, etc.

The Intern may choose to partner with other organizations to host the children's activities. It will be up to the Intern whether to run the activity themselves or partner with a host group, or a combination of the two.

The intern will work directly with Senior Center, Faith in Action, and Farmers Market staff and volunteers to establish clear goals and expectations for the season. At the start of the season, the project team and key volunteers will meet to kick off the season. This meeting will provide historical context for the intern and also help generate some new ideas for programming. In May, meetings with community partners will establish a schedule for summer programs and gardening work days.

Hours and compensation:

Compensation \$9-10 per hour for approximately 25-30 hours per week. Hours may be flexible, but a proposed schedule would be:

- Intergenerational garden: 15-20 hours/week (May-August)
- Faith in Action: 3 hours/week (May-August)
- Chelsea Farmers Market: weekly on Saturdays 10 am – 1 pm with 1-hour prep time, and monthly on Wednesdays 2-6 pm (May–October)

Note: from September-October, hours could be tapered off to only support the Chelsea Farmers Market.

An overarching goal is to share community resources and provide opportunities that encourage people of all ages to move more, eat better, and connect with others. The intern will be a temporary employee of the Chelsea Senior Center. Desired qualifications include interest or experience with gardening, community engagement, and programming. Interested applicants should submit a resume and cover letter by Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, Attn: Trinh Pifer, Chelsea Senior Center, 512 Washington Street, Chelsea, MI 48118 or email [connected@chelseaseniors.org](mailto:connected@chelseaseniors.org).