The Marion-Polk Food Share is the regional food bank leading the fight to end hunger in Marion and Polk counties. More than 44,000 people, including 16,000 children, receive emergency food each month through the Food Share partner network.

The Marion-Polk Food Share Youth Farm is a collaborative educational project of the Marion-Polk Food Share and OSU Extension 4-H Youth Development Program that is aimed at increasing the quality, diversity, and stability of local food systems. Located in the heart of Salem on the Oregon School for the Deaf campus, our two acre Youth Farm engages secondary school students in running a small farm business and develops a new generation of farmers and activists committed to providing access to healthy, fresh food for all members of our community. For more information about the Youth Farm please visit [www.mpfsyouthfarm.org](http://www.mpfsyouthfarm.org).

**DESCRIPTION**
The Environmental Education Internship will be an immersive 10 week experience working on an organic vegetable farm, supervising and mentoring high school students, and writing and teaching curriculum on sustainable agriculture, food systems, and environmental justice topics.

**BENEFITS**
The Marion-Polk Food Share Youth Farm provides a supported, but flexible internship experience, tailoring to student’s interests and expertise.

- Gain experience working at a vibrant, community engaged non-profit
- Gain experience working on a small, organic vegetable farm
- Develop experience in curriculum development, instruction, mentorship and project management for environmental education
- Gain internship credit through your college or university
- Receive a weekly CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) share of fresh fruits and vegetables from the farm
- Receive farm-fresh lunches on all workdays
RESPONSIBILITIES

- Contribute to cultivation of a variety of fruit and vegetable crops through planting, weeding and harvesting efforts
- Manage and mentor work teams of up to 12 high school students in the field
- Model enthusiasm for and dedication to the labor of growing food
- Mediate disputes to facilitate positive relationships between youth farm crew members
- Create curriculum and instruct students on sustainable agriculture, food systems, and environmental justice topics
- Assist Farm Manager in organizing all educational and team-building exercises for the Youth Farm Crew
- Assist Farm Manager in evaluating performance of Youth Farm Crew members

QUALIFICATIONS

- Passionate about the Marion-Polk Food Share’s mission, goals, and values
- Strong interest in farming/gardening, youth development, sustainability, and environmental education
- Excellent organization skills and ability to work well with others
- Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal
- Prior experience working with youth is preferred
- Prior experience with farm/garden work is preferred, but not required

REQUIREMENTS

- Must be at least 20 years of age
- Must have a high school diploma or equivalent and currently be enrolled at a college or university
- Must be able to pass an OSU adult volunteer background check to work with youth
- Must be able to perform physical tasks outdoors for extended periods of time and lift up to 40lbs
- Must be able to work occasional weekends and evenings throughout the summer
- Must have the ability to work with individuals from diverse backgrounds

TO APPLY

Please send resume, contact information for two references, and a cover letter detailing your interest to: Youth Farm Manager, Jared Hibbard-Swanson at jhibbardswanson@marionpolkfoodshare.org. If you are a good match for the position, we will invite you in for an interview. The application deadline is March 15th by 5:00 pm.