

Summer Garden Assistant Employment Position - 2019

Note: There is flexibility on the duties, days & total hours. Also, the Farmer's Market piece described below is, for now, is not part of this as they are using someone they have but would be open to having "our" person stepping back into this role if we found someone who would be interested.

Contact **Bill O'Reilly, Executive Director**, at boreilly@chelseaseniors.org.

The Intergenerational Garden, the Chelsea Farmers Markets, and Faith in Action are looking for someone to manage their gardens and coordinate programming related to gardening and healthy eating across all three organizations. Position description: Overview: The Intergenerational Garden was established in 2012 as a collaborative effort of the Chelsea Senior Center (CSC) 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' building, which also houses Camp Gabika (day camp) during the summer months.

The Chelsea Farmers Market is held on Saturdays and Wednesdays in downtown Chelsea from May-Oct. The markets offer a Children's Activity Booth every Saturday and once a month on Wednesdays over the course of the market season. Faith in Action (FIA) is a community funded, faith based assistance and resource center with locations in Chelsea and Dexter, MI. They provide essential supports to alleviate the effects of hunger and poverty for those living in these communities. FIA manages a small garden onsite at their Chelsea location which provides fresh locally grown produce for their food pantry and cooking demos.

Job Description: Help maintain the gardens (planting, harvesting, watering and weeding) at CSC and FIA. In charge of 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. You would work directly with CSC, FIA, 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 Garden Assistant 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.

You may choose to partner with other organizations to host the children's activities, such as the Chelsea District Library, the Community Garden, or the local garden clubs. You will be responsible for running the activity or partner with a host group, or a combination of the two. Examples of activities include cooking demos, building food art with vegetables, planting seedlings, creating mini greenhouses, etc.

Hours and compensation: Compensation is \$10-12 per hour for approximately 25-30 hours per week (15 to 20 without the Farmer's Market piece). Hours may be flexible, but a proposed schedule would be: Intergenerational Garden: Tuesdays and Wednesdays, Fri from 9 am – 3 pm (May through August, this would include weekly cooking demos with Camp Gabika) • Chelsea Farmers Market: Saturdays 9 am – 12 pm with 1 hour prep time and Wednesdays 3-6 pm with 1 hour prep time (May through October, 26 markets) • Faith in Action: Thursdays from 9 am - noon Note: from August-October, hours would be tapered off depending on the Garden Assistant's schedule and availability.

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 Garden Assistant will be a temporary employee of the Chelsea Senior Center. Desired qualifications include interest or experience with gardening, community engagement, and programming. If interested, contact Bill O'Reilly, at boreilly@chelseaseniors.org.