

Mission of Mary Cooperative – Urban Farming Internship

Rooted in Community



About: Mission of Mary Farm is a project of the Mission of Mary Cooperative, a non-profit group that works for urban social justice on the east side of Dayton. We are named for Mary the mother of Christ and share in her mission of bringing Christ to the world. Though Catholic and Marianist in identity, the farm serves and employs people of any faith background. The farm is entering its 6th season of production growing. In addition to a CSA vegetable distribution program and farmer's market operations, Mission of Mary Farm hosts community events, educational workshops, a children's outdoor day camp, and a teen work skills development program. We work extensively with the land and the people of the Twin Towers neighborhood, a diverse but low income urban neighborhood about 1.25 miles east of downtown Dayton.

Position Description: We are seeking energetic and driven interns who will help us not only in our seasonal programs but also in furthering the mission and capacity of our organization. Interns assist in all matters at the farm including: seed starting, transplanting, garden maintenance, new garden construction, compost creation, harvesting, packaging, selling, marketing, and delivery. Interns also become integral members of the neighborhood community where we farm by participating in and helping to organize neighborhood events and community meals, volunteer days, teaching in our kids' day camp, and by mentoring teens in our work skills program. Most of our programs occur in the summer months, but the more time interns are able to commit to being at the farm the more they learn about sustainable food production and the vocation of farming.

- Minimum 20 hours per week commitment – Minimum internship period is two months
- The 2016 farm season runs from March-November - We are seeking interns for any section of time during this window.
- Applicants looking to spend six months or more in this position will be given special consideration during the application process.
- Farm work hours are performed M-F 7am-4pm with some commitments on weekends and very minimal evening commitments.

Benefits: Interns learn a tremendous deal while working with us. For most, this is the first agricultural experience they have had, and that is fine – we enjoy teaching you everything we can about sustainable agriculture. To be clear, this is a volunteer position where you can dedicate as much time and energy as you desire. We do place a minimum of 20 hours per week on your commitment and in exchange offer a modest stipend as a thank you for your energy.

- Free room and board during internship (optional – your choice)
- Monthly stipend of \$250

To Apply: To apply please fill out the attached application and return to address below. Please include an updated resume. Or to obtain a digital copy of the application please email request to missionofmaryfarm@gmail.com. After you submit your application you will be contacted to set up further interviews as needed.

*Mission of Mary Farm
619 Silver Ln.
Dayton, OH 45410.*

Internship Application

Mission of Mary Cooperative - Rooted in Community



Full Name: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____ Are you age 18 or above?: _____

Present Address: _____

Permanent Address: (if different) _____

Level of Education: _____ School/University: _____

On a separate sheet please answer the following questions with concise paragraph responses

1. Please list your ideal start and end date for your internship at Mission of Mary

(Minimum of two-month commitment please: 2016 Season spans from March 1st to November 30th).

2. What interests you about the farm internship position?

3. Are you interested in the free room and board option while working at Mission of Mary (placement with a host “family” in the area) or what will your living arrangement be otherwise?

4. What experiences do you have with gardening/agriculture or land stewardship?

5. What personal attributes do you have that will help you in this position?

6. What do you personally hope to gain or experience by working with us at Mission of Mary?

7. Do you have any physical limitations that would lessen your ability to perform outdoor manual farm work?

8. What activities, if any, would you be committed to or involved with outside of the farm internship position during your time here? i.e. taking summer classes, working another part time job, and so on.

9. How many hours per week are you hoping to spend working at Mission of Mary during the span of your internship start and end dates - are there certain hours of the week you know will work better than others? (i.e. mornings preferred over afternoons, or weekends preferred over weekdays ect.)

10. How did you first hear about Mission of Mary, and have you visited the farm in the past?
11. Do you have health insurance that will cover you during the time you plan on working at Mission of Mary?
12. Is there any other information you would like us to know about you?
13. Please rank order the following farm programs based on your excitement level for assisting with each one. (1 being highest interest, and 6 being lowest)

_____ *CSA Program* – Planning, harvesting, preparing, and delivering vegetables weekly to customers

_____ *Farm Stand* – Harvest, preparing, set-up, and retail sales of our farm raised produce at our farm stand as well as at local farmer’s markets

_____ *Kids’ Day Camp* – planning and executing outdoor farm, science, nutrition, craft, and math lessons for elementary school children

_____ *Teen Work Skills Program* – Mentoring high school students who work at the farm as their summer job about work skills and responsibilities

_____ *Volunteer Work Days* – Leading our visiting volunteers through their service tasks and giving them a tour or short service reflection

_____ *Future Business Growth* – Investigate, market, product design, and sell value added products produced at our farm

Thank you very much for your interest in working with us at Mission of Mary! We are excited about this upcoming farm season as we will be expanding the growing operation and adding more educational programs - we are eager to welcome those individuals who wish to help!

Please submit an updated resume with your application and any other pertinent materials

Revised 12/2015