



Open Table MDI
Building Community, One Meal at a Time
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MDI Food Access Project Intern

ABOUT OPEN TABLE MDI

The mission of Open Table MDI is to inspire strong, loving, and inclusive communities by bringing people together to share in nourishing food. Our organization helps to alleviate hunger by feeding individuals and families on Mount Desert Island and beyond. Open Table MDI's work of cooking food and sharing it aims to bring people together who might not normally come together. We believe that access to healthy food is a right, not a privilege. At our programs, hungry people are offered food, voices are heard, joy is cultivated, and isolation is decreased. Learn more at www.opentablemdi.org.

MDI FOOD ACCESS PROJECT

Open Table MDI, College of the Atlantic's Beech Hill Farm, Bar Harbor Food Pantry, and Healthy Acadia's Downeast Gleaning Initiative partnered to create the MDI Food Access Project to serve remote communities on Mount Desert Island. These organizations share the goal of providing access to nutritious food for people in our region who experience food insecurity. The project coordinates food distribution—shelf-stable foods from Bar Harbor Food Pantry, prepared packaged vegetarian meals from Open Table MDI, and gleaned fresh produce from Beech Hill Farm and Healthy Acadia—to serve, in particular, several communities on the island's "quietside" and Outer Islands.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Working under the direction of the MDI Food Access Project Coordinator, the Food Access Intern supports the on-site operations of the MDI Food Access Project. The intern primarily assists with client-facing interactions at program sites, kitchen prep, and breakdown/setup support. The position is part-time (approx. 20-hours/week) and is based in Bar Harbor, Maine.

Primary Duties

- Meal Preparation
 - Assist in all aspects of meal preparation in accordance with safe food handling practices
 - Includes chopping vegetables, measuring ingredients, portioning meals, etc., all while maintaining kitchen cleanliness
- Food Box Preparation
 - Facilitate assembly and distribution of weekly food boxes
 - Includes packaging, loading/unloading boxes, driving to satellite pickup locations, setting up satellite pickup sites, etc.
- Guiding Volunteers

- Assist volunteers through day-to-day operations of the program, under the supervision of the Project Coordinator
- Help to ensuring quality control and timeliness
- Clean Up
 - Maintain a safe and hygienic kitchen space, delivery vehicle, and packaging area
 - Complete cleaning tasks as requested by the Program Coordinator, including washing dishes, cleaning, disinfecting, sweeping, mopping, organizing food storage spaces, etc.

Desired Qualifications

- Interest in food access, agriculture, public health, and policy issues, as well as experience with commercial preparation of meals
- Ability to work independently and collaboratively to meet goals
- Strong communication skills
- Flexibility! We are a new program, with new systems being developed and refined
- Strong attention to detail

Requirements

- This position requires some work outside in various weather conditions
- This position requires the intern to interact with persons of various socio-economic backgrounds with respect and dignity
- Physical ability to complete cooking/meal-delivery related tasks (including lifting 50 lbs)
- This position requires working on the weekends, and occasional early mornings or late evenings
- Must possess a valid driver's license with a clean driving record

Compensation

- Interns can receive school or community-service credit
- Interns will receive an evaluation upon completion of the internship and may ask for letters of recommendation
- A stipend of \$12.50/hour for up to 440 hours (\$5,940).

Timeline

- Applications are due by Saturday, May 1, 2021
- The internship will begin on or around June 7, 2021. Ideally, applicants will be available through the end of October 2021. Exact dates will be determined based on the Intern's schedule.

**Applicants should submit a cover letter and résumé to opentablemdi@gmail.com.
Please put "MDI Food Access Project Intern" in the subject line.**

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