



Our mission is to support and grow a food system in Maricopa County that is equitable, healthy, sustainable, and thriving.

Maricopa County Food System Coalition Fellowship

Time Commitment: 15-20 hours per week

Duration: August 2018-May 2019

Compensation: \$12.35 per hour

Organizational Overview

The Maricopa County Food System Coalition is a voluntary community organization advocating for the regeneration and advancement of the local food system in Maricopa County, Arizona. Our local food system includes growing, harvesting, processing, packaging, transporting, selling, eating, recycling and composting, as well as considering how each affects the community, the environment, and the economy. We focus on innovative and collaborative solutions to issues through the work of our work groups and committees.

Our Coalition is made up of a broad cross section of members interested in improving the food system in the county. The group includes representatives from agriculture, public health, food access, food processing, the regional community, and municipal government.

Fellowship Overview

The Maricopa County Food System Coalition's fellowship program aims to support and develop talented professionals who are dedicated to changing the food system for the better. The ideal candidate is someone who has a passion for improving the local food system and creating collaborative solutions. The Fellow will work closely with Coalition members to support the ongoing operations, projects and activities of the Coalition. The Fellow will also look to foster new opportunities that promote and support the mission of the Coalition. On behalf of the Coalition, Vitalyst Health Foundation will hire and house the Fellow. The Fellow will be based in Midtown Phoenix at Vitalyst Health Foundation with off-site meetings throughout the county, primarily in the Phoenix Metropolitan Area. The Fellow will have the unique opportunity to participate hands-on in system-wide efforts to improve and strengthen the food system of the fourth most populous county in the country.

Learning opportunities include:

- Understanding and exploring gaps and opportunities within the Maricopa County Food System
- Networking with local food system stakeholders
- Interacting with a broad and diverse group of individuals and organizations dedicated to supporting a strong food system in Maricopa County
- Participating in a county-wide food system assessment
- Working with policy makers and stakeholders to analyze local policies related to food and agriculture
- Managing logistical tasks underlying a functioning coalition
- Implementing strategies for organizational sustainability, including fund development
- Executing participatory organizational evaluation processes
- Developing communications, outreach and marketing strategies and techniques
- Developing membership recruitment and retention strategies
- Participating in job shadowing and mentoring with Coalition members

Responsibilities:

- Plan and participate in monthly Coalition meetings on the fourth Thursday of every month
- Attend committee and work group meetings
- Support work group and committee leadership as needed
- Assist and lead outreach efforts for Coalition



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- Maintain Coalition's internal communication platforms (Google Drive, Google Groups, Calendar)

- Provide support for specific projects relating to municipal food and agricultural policies
- Contribute to the implementation of the Maricopa County food assessment
- Collect and generate content for social media and website and collate into a monthly newsletter
- Assist in implementing a sustainability, membership and fundraising plan
- Represent the Coalition in community meetings
- Develop an annual report detailing Coalition accomplishments and goals
- Make recommendations about policies and procedures that will result in a more effective and impactful Coalition

Applicants should have:

- Passion for local food systems work and the Coalition's mission
- Desire to learn from and contribute to a collaborative environment
- Strong leadership skills
- Effective organizational and time-management skills
- Excellent written and verbal communication
- Ability to work with a variety of people
- Ability to attend all monthly coalition meetings (fourth Thursday of every month from 9:00 am-11:30 am) and relevant workgroup and committee meetings ([meeting calendar](#))
- Proficiency with Google Communications platforms
- Access to a laptop or similar device
- Must be a current student or recent graduate with a degree in related field (e.g. sustainability, nutrition, public health)
- Reliable transportation

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

To apply for the Maricopa County Food System Coalition Fellowship, submit a cover letter, resume, and written response (see prompt below) to marcofoodfellow@gmail.com by **5:00 PM on March 30, 2018**. Please use "lastname.foodfellow" as the file name and subject of your email. If you have any questions, please contact marcofoodfellow@gmail.com.

Writing Prompts

Please respond to the following questions in 150-200 words each.

1. What do you hope to learn from this fellowship? How will your past experiences enable you to contribute to the Coalition?
2. The Coalition's mission is to support and grow a food system in Maricopa County that is equitable, healthy, sustainable, and thriving. How would you explain 1) the phrase "food system" and 2) what our mission is, in tangible terms, to a community member?