



Common Threads Farm and School Garden Collective

Seed-to-Table Internship

Accepted each quarter

Common Threads connects kids to healthy food in the garden, in the kitchen, and at the table. We want kids to grow up making food choices that are good for their bodies, their communities, and the environment. Founded in 2006 and based in Bellingham, Washington, Common Threads is a grassroots, 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that promotes a “seed to table” approach to food production, good nutrition, and environmental stewardship. Most of our programs take place on public school grounds, during the school day. Additionally, Common Threads runs after-school gardening and cooking programs and summer camps in our school gardens and at our urban farm site.

Purpose/objective: Interns work with Common Threads’ Food Educators to deliver activities in the garden and in the classroom for kids in K-8th grade. The objective of these activities is to build kids’ knowledge and awareness of healthy eating and to encourage them to make positive choices. Interns typically have learning objectives based on their school program and spend a short, intensive time with us (vs. an ongoing volunteer).

Location: Common Threads is at the following elementary schools: Alderwood, Assumption, Birchwood, Carl Cozier, Columbia, Cordata, Family Partnership, Geneva, Happy Valley, Kendall, Parkview, Roosevelt, Silver Beach, Sunnyland, and also Whatcom and Kulshan Middle Schools.

Responsibilities:

We accept interns each quarter, with the understanding that there are different tasks in the different seasons. See the grid below for the roles that are needed during each quarter. Have a look at our volunteer role descriptions for more information on the activities involved in those roles:

FALL (quarter runs end Sept - early Dec)	WINTER (quarter runs early Jan - early Mar)	SPRING (quarter runs late Mar - early Jun)	SUMMER (quarter runs late Jun - Aug, varies)
Educator’s Assistant - Gardening in schools (mid-Sept to late Oct)		Educator’s Assistant - Gardening in schools (Mar-Jun)	Summer Garden Leaders at our summer camp at WWU’s Outback Farm
Educator’s Assistant - Cooking in schools (Nov & Dec)	Educator’s Assistant - Cooking in schools (Jan-Mar)		Summer Cooking Leaders at our summer camp at WWU’s Outback Farm
			Summer Camp Counsellors at our camp at WWU’s Outback Farm
Additional tasks based on your skills/interests (e.g. social media, data entry to track program evaluation & performance measurement, event planning, garden maintenance, general office tasks)	Additional tasks based on your skills/interests (e.g. social media & documenting programs through photo/story/video, event planning, recipe organization, planting starts, donor relations/mailings, general office tasks)	Additional tasks based on your skills/interests (e.g. social media, data entry to track program evaluation & performance measurement, event planning, garden maintenance, general office tasks)	Additional tasks based on your skills/interests (e.g. social media, data entry to track program evaluation & performance measurement, curriculum development and developing materials, garden maintenance)

Recruiting and retaining a diverse workforce is a high priority at Common Threads. We do not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race, national origin, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, political affiliation, marital status, age or any other basis prohibited by law.

Qualifications:

Strong teaching and communication skills
Work well independently and as a part of a team
Experience with and enthusiasm for working with young people (K-8) in an outdoor or classroom setting
Experience/interest in sustainable farming and gardening
Must be comfortable leading a small group of children in an activity; if interested in summer, camp experience is useful
Self-direction, flexibility, humor, and creativity

Time commitment:

Interns have varying hours requirements - we are open to discuss how this will look.
We have had people intern with us anywhere from 10 hrs/week to 40 hrs/week.
Must be available during our operating hours, which varies depending on the season.

Training/support provided:

Orientation to Common Threads as a whole
Training from Food Educators at program specific locations
Ongoing training and support as needed
Handouts provided on gardening and cooking with kids; additional resources available in our library

Benefits:

Gain experience working with young people and community members in an outdoor garden and classroom
Learn through participation in a program that integrates education, nutrition, environmental stewardship, and agriculture
Contribute towards kids learning about and making healthy food choices
Learn more about the workings of a nonprofit

To sign up, contact: Jessica Moerman, Operations Manager, jessica@commonthreadsfarm.org, 360-927-1590

Recruiting and retaining a diverse workforce is a high priority at Common Threads. We do not discriminate on the basis of age, gender, race, national origin, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, political affiliation, marital status, age or any other basis prohibited by law.

360.927.1590 ❖ info@commonthreadsfarm.org ❖ www.commonthreadsfarm.org

updated October 2015