Organic Farmer Association
Fall 2023 Internship Project Description

FOCUS: Expanding diversity and inclusion within the organic farming community

Organization Overview
The Organic Farmers Association (OFA) is a membership organization that represents domestic certified organic farmers. OFA was founded by and is controlled by certified organic farmers, and only domestic certified organic farmers vote on OFA’s policies and leadership. Our work primarily focuses on federal policy and regulations, bringing the grassroots farmer priorities to Washington, D.C.

Position Overview: OFA is seeking an intern for the Fall 2023 semester. This is a paid internship with an anticipated time commitment of 10-15 hours per week. The internship will be fully remote.

Goal: To improve outreach to farmers interested in organic practices, organic transition and organic certification, build leadership capacity within OFA’s membership to better participate in the national grassroots policy process and increase knowledge of policy issues.

Activities:

- Program Development
  - Support DEI program materials
  - Identify TOPP Partners that are BIPOC serving organizations
  - Write one article to be used in future publications or blogs.
- Farmer Outreach
  - Identify organic certification agencies with services in languages other than English
  - Identify USDA and other organic educational farmer materials in languages other than English
  - Support outreach to members and potential members such as social media posts, website updates, and more.
- Organic Career Network Outreach:
  - Support and expand outreach to historically black colleges and universities, tribal universities, and other institutions serving minority students for future internship programs and career networks.
- Farmer Policy Development
  - Identify ally BIPOC-serving farmer organizations and their farm bill policies that align with OFA priorities

Measure for Success:
- Successfully complete work assigned, gain understanding of organic farming and how farmers access technical assistance
- Gain knowledge of farmer and organic career outreach
- Better understand USDA farmer programs and how they serve farmers interested in organic practices.
• Gain understanding of HBCUs and Tribal Universities that support potential careers in organic farming or farmer-services.

**Knowledge & Skills Expected to be Gained:**
• Learn tools for member engagement and outreach focused on the busy farmer audience.
• Analyze farm policy and organic rulemaking and make that information accessible to a wide audience.
• Gain an understanding of the U.S. agricultural agencies, Congress, and rule-making.
• Gain an understanding of the diversity of U.S. organic agriculture and the cultural differences among regions of the U.S.

**Compensation:** This internship is open to undergraduate and graduate students. For undergraduate level students, the pay is $15/hour. For graduate level students, the pay is $18/hour.

**To Apply:** Send a cover letter and resume to ryann@organicfarmersassociation.org with the subject line: INTERNSHIP APPLICATION - FALL 2023. This position will be open until filled.