

## Yale University President's Public Service Fellowship

### New Haven Farms Proposal for Fellowship Placement • Summer 2017

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Organization: **New Haven Farms**

Full street address of organization: **85 Willow Street**

Website: **www.newhavenfarms.org**

Name and title of the Direct Supervisor: **Liz Marsh, Wellness Program Manager**

Phone number and e-mail of Direct Supervisor: **860-510-1605, liz@newhavenfarms.org**

Placement dates (*8-11 weeks between Tuesday, May 30 and Friday, August 11, 2017*):

Are placement dates flexible? If so, please describe:

- 11 weeks desirable beginning May 29 and ending by August 11.
- Fellows may work with supervisor to create long weekends during the summer as long as Farm-Based Wellness Program nights are not missed. New Haven Farms staff is flexible if a Fellow requires one week to be away during the 11 week period.
- Hours of the program (*placements should be equivalent to full-time*):
  - Direct Farm-Based Wellness Program delivery (12 hours) Thursday evening 3pm-9pm, and Monday or Wednesday evening (TBD) 3-9pm
  - Additional Farm and Community work (8-12 hours)
  - Project and Office Work (12 hours +/-)

The New Haven Farms website and YouTube page include short videos of participant and staff experiences from our programs, several of which are included here as hyperlinks: [Changing the Story – Farm-Based Wellness](#), [Because I See the Impact](#), and [My Doctor Congratulated Me](#).

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## Placement Description

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Organization description (*Mission statement, population served.*)

New Haven Farms promotes health and community development through urban agriculture. Our Farm-Based Wellness Program enrolls medically-referred New Haven residents at risk for diet-related chronic diseases and living within 200% of the federal poverty level in a lifestyle intervention program that includes cooking, nutrition, and gardening education for participants and their families. Participants take home fruit and vegetables each week through the growing season. New Haven Farms also offers an Incubator Garden Program with the New Haven Land Trust which allows Farm-Based Wellness Program graduates to grow their own food in a community garden. We operate an affordable farm stand to increase fresh food access in New Haven's most food insecure neighborhoods. In 2017, we will expand in the Hill neighborhood and partner with Cornell Scott Hill Health, Yale Primary Care, and New Haven Public Schools to create community-driven programming that increases food access, neighborhood health, and intergenerational wellness.

Please write a 1-2 sentence summary of the work that the Fellow would be conducting:

The New Haven Farms Wellness Programs Assistant will work closely with the Farm Manager and Wellness Program Manager to implement the first year of the Hill-based Farm-Based Wellness Program and to design new programming partnerships with Career High School students, health care centers, and other community partners.

Please write a complete description of the specific project you propose and list the duties/outcomes expected of the Fellow. (*Suggested length: one to two pages.*)

The New Haven Farms Wellness Program Assistant will join the Hill Team for the first season of the Farm-Based Wellness Program in the Hill—including program implementation, communications, and design for expanding program partnerships. This YPPSF will begin service when the program starts in June and work the weeks of May 29<sup>th</sup>-August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2017, with flexibility to create long weekends that do not interfere with direct program responsibilities. The Farm-Based Wellness Program in the Hill will work with 25 families to provide wellness education and fresh food access, and the Wellness Program Assistant will spend approximately 15-20 hours per week assisting with direct farm wellness programming—including working with the Cooking and Nutrition Educator to create weekly food demonstrations and meals, assisting Farm Manager with food distribution, and collecting multi-media stories of

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participant experiences at our Hill and Fair Haven program sites. The additional 15-20 hours will be spent developing additional programs for the new farm site in the Hill—which will include affordable food access, curricular and extracurricular engagement with Career High School students, and shared mission goals with other non-profits and health care providers who work closely with New Haven Farms to increase neighborhood access to fresh food, healthy families, and safe community spaces. The New Haven Farms Wellness Program Assistant will have broad exposure to the innovative work at New Haven Farms that integrates community-based preventative care across health, food, and social impact sectors.

The Wellness Program Assistant will be a community-oriented people person who enjoys hands-on teamwork and can be a self-starter to respond to organizational and community input for additional programming at the new farm site. A specific project will be defined in the first two weeks of the internship and may include 1) working with CitySeed's mobile market to increase affordable food access purchases at the farm site, 2) designing student-centered programming and internship opportunities for Career High School students such as farm team members, farm stand operators, and curricular integration, or 3) creating additional job programs that could provide stipends and/or food shares for program memberships.

Yale students eager for non-profit and New Haven experience can expect to work on the farms, in the community, and at our office in the Marlin Center off Willow Street. Duties include:

- Two hands-on afternoons-evenings of direct Farm-Based Wellness Program as a program team member
- Additional community work on farms assisting our Youth @ Work Crew or Saturday Farm Stand to understand the communities we serve and current programs
- Weekly staff and/or supervisor meetings
- Stories, blog entries, social media posts, and pictures capturing farm experiences and participant stories
- Project management and weekly deliverables for selected intern design project established in the first two weeks
- A fun, collaborative spirit for personal growth with diverse community residents and committed staff members to advance our mission of health and community development through urban agriculture

At the completion of the internship a successful PPSF will...

- Feel she/he played an essential and integral part of the Farm-Based Wellness Program and Hill-based programming expansion with a team of talented staff
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- Discovered inspiration from getting to know participants and their stories toward long-term health for themselves and their families
- Gained experience outside the Yale bubble and in the New Haven communities that will enhance the intern's experience of social impact missions, healthcare, poverty, and community-based interventions for long-term wellness
- Completed a specific project to advance collective impact between New Haven Farms and at least one other community partner (see above for current directions New Haven Farms is already pursuing)

Specific skills/experience required for the project (*Please list*):

- Willingness to join a hard-working team connecting people through food, agriculture, cooking, and wellness opportunities.
- Excellent communication skills—preferable background in writing for news, media, or blogging.
- Demonstrated project management, school/community leadership, and community service experiences.
- Graduate student in public health desirable.
- Spanish proficiency desirable.

Additional requirements (e.g. a car or weekend working hours). If a car is required, please include information regarding parking arrangements and mileage reimbursement):

- A car is highly desirable to assist with transporting Farm-Based Wellness Program supplies between farm sites; however, students may be able to travel by bicycle or public transportation. Transportation between Fair Haven and the Hill is less than 3 miles, and a \$100 travel stipend will be available.
- New Haven Farms will finalize with the intern to work at least four days a week for the 11 weeks. At least two evenings each week until approximately 8:30pm will be designated for the Farm-Based Wellness Program. Our Saturday morning farm stand is not a weekly requirement but a good opportunity to participate in our programs at least for five weekends.

Briefly describe the work that Yale PPSF Fellows have done with your agency in the past and present. If you have not worked with Yale Fellows, please describe any work that Yale students have done with your agency.

New Haven Farms has worked with Yale PPSF Fellows to create the neighborhood compost pick-up program in 2014. A Yale School of Public Health graduate

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student worked with New Haven Farms in a similar role as the Wellness Program Manager and also helped complete program data analysis of intake and post surveys. We value letting students bring their diverse skills to our mission and allowing them a fun summer for hands-on and community-based learning that happens through New Haven Farms.

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