Fresh Approach Community Ambassador – Richmond

Position Summary
Fresh Approach is seeking a motivated Richmond resident and community member to provide program assistance to food access projects occurring in Richmond from Winter to Spring 2022. This paid volunteer position is primarily responsible for supporting in-field operations for Fresh Approach’s multiple projects including its Market Match program at the Richmond Certified Farmers’ Market, as well as community outreach.

This is a paid volunteer position that will require between 150 and 240 hours of volunteer support in the city of Richmond from February to June 2022. After the completion of the volunteer hours, the ambassador is eligible to receive a stipend between $2,400 and $3,840 depending on the number of hours completed.

This position is a good fit for Richmond residents interested in the health and well-being of their community as well as anyone interested in local agriculture, nutrition, and community volunteering.

About Fresh Approach
The mission of Fresh Approach is to create long-term change in local food systems by connecting California communities with healthy food from California farmers and expanding knowledge about food and nutrition. We accomplish our mission through a variety of programs, including the Mobile Farmers’ Market; VeggieRx nutrition education classes; Collective Roots Gardening; and the East Palo Alto Community Farmers’ Market. We believe that everyone should have equal access to healthy foods, and that the health of our communities and the livelihood of our local farmers should go hand-in-hand.

Community Ambassador Volunteer Description
The community ambassador program was created in order for Fresh Approach to make stronger community linkages and improve its program offerings with the support of resident community members.

The community ambassador will support outreach efforts and food access programs 1-2 days a week in Richmond at the Mobile Farmers’ Market and/or Richmond Certified Farmers’ Market depending on their availability. The position will help Fresh Approach in the following ways:

- Support mobile farmers’ market AND/OR Richmond Certified Farmers’ Market (4.0-8.5 hours/week)

  Mobile Farmers’ Market on Wednesdays (4.5 hours):
Volunteer at truck assisting FA staff with sales, stocking produce, and connecting with community members
○ Administer customer surveys at mobile farmers' market, collecting contact information from participants
○ Conduct in-person referrals for potential recipients of public benefits

**Richmond Certified Farmers’ Markets on Fridays (4 hours):**
○ Support the Market Match program at the farmers' market with setup and breakdown of the station, assist with Market Match transactions, script handling, and record-keeping

● **Conduct community outreach (3.5 hours)**
  ○ Assist in building partnerships with social services agencies, food banks, and community partners through conducting phone banking
  ○ Help distribute outreach materials to social services agencies, food banks, and community partners
  ○ Cultivate relationships with program participants, market shoppers, and others in the community through informal interviews and conversations which will help us gain insight on how we can improve and increase awareness of our programs
  ○ Engage an online and in-person audience through effective networking and collaboration
  ○ Facilitate and coordinate community-driven initiatives. Some examples of this work include community generated public art projects, creating a cook-book with recipe submissions from market shoppers, and creating engaging online and/or in-person events for community participation.

**Desired Qualifications:**
● Experience working with diverse populations, including recipients of public benefits (CalFresh/WIC/Medi-Cal, etc.)
● Ability to work in a team environment as well as independently
● Detail-oriented with ability to complete tasks in a timely manner
● Creativity and dependability
● Bilingual English/Spanish

**Requirements:**
● Ambassador must be a Richmond resident above 18 years of age
● This position may require weekend and evening work (some classes and community events happen in the evenings or on the weekends)
● This position requires reliable transportation within the city of Richmond
● This position requires the ambassador to be able to lift (30lb) and stand for 1-2 hours at a time
● This position requires the volunteer to interact with persons of various socio-economic backgrounds, farmers and other farmers’ market vendors, and the general public
Ambassador must be comfortable speaking in front of groups and working with a wide range of people from all backgrounds

Ambassador must keep 6 feet of distance between themselves and others who they do not live with, and agree to wear a mask at all times that completely covers the mouth and nose while conducting in-person activities

Compensation:
- Ambassador is eligible to receive a stipend between $2,400 and $3,840 upon completion of 150 to 240 hours volunteer hours

Timeline/Hours:
- The ambassador term will begin as early as February and last until June 2022. Exact dates will be determined based on the ambassador’s schedule. Ambassador is expected to complete between 150 to 240 hours total from February until June 2022 (7.5 to 12 hours per week, some weeks may be more than others)
- In-person support for market days are on Fridays from 9 am - 1:30 pm and Wednesdays from 9:30 am - 2:30 pm.

To Apply:
To be considered for this position, send a brief description of yourself and your interest in the position to programs@freshapproach.org. If you are interested in this role, we encourage you to visit the farmers’ market and volunteer with us prior to submitting your application if you have not had the chance to yet!