Food Access and Community Health Programs New York City Department of Health & Mental Hygiene Health Bucks Summer Internship 2013

Project Description:

The NYC Department of Health's Health Bucks Program facilitates the purchases of fresh fruits and vegetables at neighborhood farmers' markets while supporting regional farmers. At any farmers' market in NYC that accepts Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits, \$2 Health Buck coupons are distributed as an incentive for every \$5 a customer spends using their EBT card. Health Bucks are also distributed directly to community sites for distribution to their clients and at nutrition and cooking workshops hosted by the Health Department.

Visit www.nyc.gov/health/farmersmarkets for more information.

Internship Description:

We are currently looking for outgoing and energetic interns to assist with the 2013 Health Bucks season promoting and facilitating food stamps (EBT) and Health Bucks use at farmers' markets **primarily in East Harlem, Central Brooklyn, the and the South Bronx.** The intern must be comfortable speaking and working with diverse populations, as well as, working in the above mentioned neighborhoods. This is primarily a field based position and would require significant travel and work outdoors. This position is unpaid with the possibility of school credit.

Qualifications:

- Spanish speaker preferred
- Familiar with NYC neighborhoods
- Willing to be out of the office for fieldwork on most/all days
- Independent with limited need for supervision
- Detail oriented and highly organized
- Able to professionally interact with diverse populations at farmers' markets and community organizations
- Excellent interpersonal and communications skills
- Experience working in multi-cultural settings with diverse populations
- Interest in issues of food access and nutrition
- Ability to work a flexible schedule

Education:

Open to both undergraduate and graduate students

• Studying Public Health or related field and interested in community based health initiatives and nutrition

Time commitment:

15-20 hours, 2-3 days/week, depending on schedule and planned activities From July 8th through end of August, with the option to extend to November

Activities:

The intern will be responsible for visiting participating Health Bucks markets around the city doing the following:

- Implement farmers' market events; including, leading farmers' market tours with community-based organizations to encourage EBT use and Health Bucks redemption
- Advertise and promote the use of Health Bucks in surrounding neighborhoods and at community-based organizations and events
- Interact with and encourage new customers to shop at local farmers' markets
- Work closely with community based organizations to adhere to their Health Bucks distribution plan
- Assist with administrative and other miscellaneous tasks as needed

If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, please send a cover letter and resume to Kasey Holloway at <u>khollowa@health.nyc.gov</u> or 347-396-4264.