



Empowering Native Communities, One Youth at a Time

Position Title: HFDK Indigenous Agriculture & Food Systems Support - Part Time (20-25 hrs/wk)

Name of Organization: Spirit of the Sun, Inc.

Location: Denver, Colorado

SPIRIT OF THE SUN'S MISSION AND VISION:

Spirit of the Sun's mission is to work in partnership with Native/Indigenous communities in urban areas and on reservations to boost the resilience of Native people, especially youth and young adults.

Our vision is that the Native youth of today become the next generation of Native leaders, entrepreneurs, and skilled professionals who will help guide their communities toward wellness, prosperity, and cultural revitalization.

SUMMARY:

The HFDK Indigenous Agriculture & Food Systems Support will work closely with our Indigenous Agriculture Lead to support the work of growing food on our partner farms which feeds our community through our Native Elders' Food Share Program (Food Share).

This role will also participate in Indigenous Agriculture education events and workshops. In partnership with local schools and communities, this program is tailored to Denver (& surrounding area) youth and young adults on the importance of Indigenous foodways, growing traditional, bioregional foods and understanding food as medicine through our Healing Foods Project.

You will also promote Native and Indigenous self-determination and resiliency by addressing systemic environmental injustices & food apartheid through Indigenous food-systems sovereignty, traditional foodways education, and Indigenous climate justice matters. This also includes strengthening economic and cultural resilience through repatriation and ancestral ecological knowledge sharing.

DIRECT SUPERVISOR(S):

Executive Director and Director of Operations

*Position will also report to Indigenous Agriculture Lead, Food Share Manager, and Youth Outreach Coordinator when working in specific programs.

SCHEDULE: *Funding for this position is guaranteed through November 2025.

Twenty (20) to Twenty-Five (25) hours a week. Option of Two (2) work schedules:

1. Tuesday-Saturday or
2. Sunday-Thursday

20% remote administration work, 80% in the field, preferred to be based in the Denver-metro area.

*Two (2) days a week at partner farms for Food Share on Fridays &/or Sundays as needed.

*Backup support required primarily for our Food Share Program; as well as our other youth programs and events. Some weekends may be required.

*Position required to participate in-person for weekly all team meetings.

PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Supports in Indigenous Agricultural program growing local Indigenous produce with partner farms for the Food Share Program. Farm tasks include but are not limited to; weeding, pruning, planting, seeding, seed saving, shoveling manure/compost/soil/wood chips, broadforking, checking and repairing irrigation systems, observing and documenting with pictures daily farm findings, accurate note taking and reporting on potential issues (disease, insect infestation, etc.).
- Weigh produce collected from our partner farms and food donors (not CSAs), document data, pick up and deliver produce for Food Share on harvest days. Track and report produce picked up for our inventory.
- Data & Record Keeping: Collects, analyzes, inputs data on our General Farm, Equipment Inventory, Seed Library Tracking sheets for feedback and grant deliverables to share with Grant Writer and the Executive Director.
- Participates in Indigenous Agriculture education events and workshops (see summary above).
- Stewards existing relationships with local Indian Education coordinators, community leaders, and other partner organizations. Open to building new relationships with other approved community partners.
- Supports Indigenous Agriculture program volunteers as needed.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Must be 18+
- State and Federal Background check required.
- Extensive cultural competency and demonstrated experience working with Native and/or BIPOC youth and communities.
- At least one (1) year of farming &/or land stewardship experience.
- At least one (1) year of administrative experience.
- High school diploma, GED or equivalent certification &/or some college.
- Comfortable with public speaking and engaging with local community members of all ages.
- A self starter and ability to work remotely and independently.
- Highly organized and able to balance multiple priorities.
- Has reliable and consistent access to transportation.
- Follow all safety measures according to guidance from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and other government organizations. Including COVID-19+ protocols, including wearing a mask and gloves while on the clock and when handling, sorting and delivering food.
- Willing to participate in Accomplice training and continued learning related to this position.

PREFERRED QUALIFICATIONS:

- Deep invested personal and professional connections with the local Indigenous community.
- At least one (1) year of youth programming experience.
- Associates degree or some college.
- Spanish proficiency.
- CPR and First Aid Certified, or open to certification upon hire.

WORK ENVIRONMENT AND PHYSICAL DEMANDS: Comfortable standing &/or being outside in various weather conditions at occasional tabling/outreach events. Ability to lift up to 50 lbs.

LICENSE/CERTIFICATION REQUIRED: Valid driver's license and current auto insurance.

COMPENSATION:

\$21.00-\$22.00/hr (based on experience)

BENEFITS:

After 90 days, Option to enroll in health, dental and vision insurance covered by Spirit of the Sun, Inc. 100%. Prorated personal and sick leave, 11 recognized federal holidays as paid days off.

ANTICIPATED START DATE: March 1, 2025

DEADLINE TO APPLY: Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis.

TO APPLY: Please email your resume, a one-page cover letter, and two (2) professional references to shaina@spiritofthesun.org

In the cover letter, please describe:

- Why you are interested in this position and what you will bring to our team at Spirit of the Sun.
- Your experience(s) in working with Native and BIPOC communities.
- And what experiences and skills you feel make you the best candidate for this position.