



POLICY ASSOCIATE

2020

Community Farm Alliance has a long history of working on farm and food policy, from market development to institutional procurement, and food access. CFA's most recent work has been centered on the priorities of a) Increasing sales and income to Kentucky farmers, b) Increasing access to local food, especially fresh and healthy, to low-income populations, and c) leveraging federal food and nutrition program funds to support priorities a & b.

The *Policy Associate* builds upon CFA's history of engaging in and leading policy work, especially that of the Kentucky Food Policy Network, to help CFA identify and support new strategies that address food system inequity. The main projects of the *Policy Associate* are to a) work with collaborators to develop regional local food system and food access metrics; b) help revitalize and coordinate the Kentucky Food Policy Network; and c) work with collaborators to conduct necessary research to draft a policy and plan to introduce and pass legislation that establishes a Healthy Farm and Food Incentive Fund which supports direct farm impact food access programs in the state.

As a member of the Staff Support Team, the *Policy Associate* works closely with CFA's Executive Director, Organizing Director, Food Access Coordinator, and Communications Director to develop and implement a range of strategies to expand outreach efforts, increase awareness, develop policy, and build a coalition supporting healthy food access.

General Responsibilities:

- Reports regularly to the Executive Director;
- Regularly communicates with the Organizing Director
- Provides communication content as requested;
- Collaborates with CFA staff, CFA members, allied organizations, businesses, community leaders, institutions, policy makers, and the media to advance the mission and goals of CFA;
- Assists in coalition-building by fostering connections with local organizations to bring in more membership and partners;
- Develops relationships with individuals in both rural and urban communities that result in the recruitment of additional CFA members and the development of CFA leaders; and
- Assists CFA staff with additional duties including, but not limited to, preparing for the annual membership meeting and fundraising event.

Team Responsibilities:

- Regularly and actively attends and participates in relevant community meetings related to healthy food access;
- Works with communities to identify barriers which prevent low-income residents from accessing healthy local food;

- Identify strengths and gaps in Kentucky's food system specifically related to food-insecure populations.
- Bring together key players to ensure collaboration and the elimination of duplication of services (including both government and charitable anti-hunger efforts).
- Establish a Kentucky Good Food Charter and a Kentucky Blueprint for Ending Hunger to provide a vision and goals for achieving a thriving local food economy in Kentucky by 2025 that is equitable and sustainable.
- Support the development of a statewide network of local food policy councils
- facilitate a convening focused upon regional food-security, metric development, policy development, and leveraging new public private partnerships.
- Rebuilding the Kentucky Food Policy Network coalition that supports this campaign and similar efforts in the future; and
- Introduction of legislation for the Healthy Farm and Food Incentive Fund to the Kentucky General Assembly.

Policy Associate Responsibilities:

Policy Research and Development

- Research programs and policies that "enhance economic growth through the state's diverse agriculture industry, while cultivating a safe, healthy and available food supply for all Kentucky residents"
- Lead research efforts and help identify and build relationships with potential legislative sponsors, co-sponsors, campaign champions, and supporters
- Create a Healthy Farm and Food Incentive Fund guide outlining the proposed legislation and impact on Kentucky's communities

Data analysis and metrics framework development

- Develop a food security evaluation framework and metrics
- With CFA collaborators, conduct economic analysis of increasing healthy food access with
 - Measurable impacts to Kentuckians' health from increasing healthy food access;
 - Measurable reduction in healthcare costs;
 - Increase in local food sales attributed to healthy food access

Network coordination

- Assist the Organizing Director in revitalizing and coordinating the Kentucky Food Policy Network