Position: Field Crop/Hay Apprenticeship
Begins: March 16th, 2020
Ends: November 25th, 2020
Stipend: $1800 per month
Housing: Housing Provided

Description: Carversville Farm Foundation (CFF) is a non-profit farm that practices organic agricultural production to serve our environment as well as our community. We currently distribute our farm products to soup kitchens and food pantries in the greater Philadelphia area to help improve access to wholesome, locally grown foods. CFF also sells some of its produce to local restaurants and at our weekly farm stand. We are in the early stages of creating a diversified farm with intensive cover cropping, perennial pastures for grazing beef cattle, pasture raised poultry, poultry processing, mixed vegetables, and mushroom production. Applicants will be expected to work on everything from plant propagation to bed prep and field maintenance, weeding, harvesting, post harvest handling/wash and pack.

Skills: At least 1 year of experience working in agriculture with 50hp+ tractors and implements and a strong interest in pursuing Organic Crop and Hay farming as a career. Ability to complete all field work tasks, and a willingness to be flexible team players and contribute wherever needed throughout the season; willingness and desire to work until the job is done, working overtime if necessary throughout the peak of the season. Previous farm experience is a plus. Applicants should possess the ability and desire to sustain effort in both an independent and diverse team setting, often in adverse weather conditions. Must be able to lift up to 40lbs. Applicants should also have the self-motivation to strive towards completing tasks quickly and efficiently. Driving our delivery van into the greater Philadelphia area will be required. Participating in processing poultry on the farm will also be a part of the job. Good people skills and the willingness to work with volunteers are important. We’re seeking people who are reliable, organized, enthusiastic, have good communication skills and an attention to detail, and have an eagerness to learn the principles of organic and regenerative farming.

Apprenticeship: We currently farm over 300 acres of crops and hay with a focus on no-till and conservation tillage. We currently make dry hay and wrapped large square bales. This position will work directly with our Mechanic/Operator to operate and maintain equipment in all aspects of our cropping operations including: field preparation, spreading, diskng, subsoiling, leveling, seeding and foliar feeding. Hay production entails mowing, tedding, raking, wrapping, and hauling. Apprentices will learn the specifics of cover crop establishment, seed mixes, seeding timing, rates and depths, equipment setup, litter management, forage production, pasture establishment, nutrient management, mixing custom biological foliar feeds that are NOP Compliant. Our apprenticeship program is designed as an introduction to organic farming. Learning the basic skills of farming will be covered from start to finish. The apprentice will learn mostly on the job. Reading material will be supplied to continue the learning after the work day. Lively discussions on and off the field are encouraged to keep the conversation going. Apprentices will work a minimum of 40 hours/week with our full-time farmers on every aspect of production, and will also have the opportunity to attend workshops, classes, and trainings on and off the farm to support their professional development in organic agriculture.

Carversville Farm Foundation is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
Submit resume and cover letter to info@carversvillefarm.org. Clearly indicate which position you are interested in and why.