



Job Title: Farm to School Director
Employer: Guidestone Colorado
Job Status: Full-time Employee (40 hours/ week)
Pay Rate: \$20/hour
Reports to: Executive Director

About Guidestone:

Guidestone is a 501(c) 3, non-profit organization growing a vibrant local agricultural future through education, community building and partnerships. Guidestone serves farmers, educators, youth, and the community by providing farm and ranch based education programs and supporting and growing the capacity of agricultural resources to help ensure a secure agricultural future.

About the Farm to School Program

Guidestone's Farm to School Program provides operational and strategic support for school districts and institutions in their meal programs, and strategic support for school districts to ensure students have access to healthy, locally grown food in their school meal programs and integrated education correlated to state standards across disciplines.

Expectation for All Employees:

Support the Guidestone mission and exhibit a commitment to:

- Working collaboratively, with integrity and respect for fellow employees, associates, and our communities.
- Embracing personal responsibility and accountability for your job.

Job Purpose:

The Farm to School Director works directly with the Guidestone's Executive Director to implement a strategic initiative which includes the following:

1. Grow and distribute produce and increase the capacity of Salida School District food service programs to receive locally grown produce.
2. Build out models creating access to produce for families of all income levels and welcoming community members into farm and garden spaces.
3. Provide agricultural literacy education and pathways to agricultural careers for youth (pre K-12).
4. Contribute to the sustainability of Guidestone Colorado by writing and managing Farm to School grants and conducting revenue generating activities .

Principal Responsibilities integral to the Farm to School Program's success/growth:

- Oversee food production and site management at Community & School Farm site
- Harvest and deliver produce grown at the Community and School Farm to the Salida School District, Heart of the Rockies Regional Medical Center, Youth Farmers Market, on-farm farmstand, and other outlets
- Establish additional viable markets for produce sales
- Oversee annual plant sale planning and implementation
- Supervise Farm Production Lead and Garden Educator AmeriCorps Members
- Recruit and organize volunteer work crews (DOC, SCC, Local Businesses, Community Members, etc)
- Maintain relationship with the Salida School District, including superintendent, food service director, kitchen managers, administrators, and teachers
- Oversee maintenance and design of Longfellow Elementary and Salida Middle School gardens, and support Garden Educator in carrying out planting plan
- Contribute to MOU and overall farm site plan with Salida School District
- Maintain relationship with Boys and Girls Club for garden site management/education and Youth Farmers Market program development and implementation
- Contribute to Guidestone marketing (Community events, blogs / website updates, etc)
- Assist in all education aspects of the Farm to School Program, in partnership with the Education Director, including teacher professional development, garden/ farm curriculum development, youth environmental education/service learning at all three garden/ farm sites, and Farmhands summer camp programming
- Assist with the planning and implementation of Guidestone's three primary annual community events: AgriSummit Conference (March), Farm to Table Dinner (September) and Pumpkin Patch & Harvest Festival (October)
- Strategic planning for sustainability of Guidestone Colorado and the Farm to School Program through writing and reporting on grants, program evaluation, and creative revenue and fundraising stream development.

Desired Outcomes:

- Efficient and effective management of the C&S Farm and school gardens
- Ensure maximized use of growing space for production yield
- Provide healthy, fresh, locally grown produce for use in the SSD School Lunch Program
- Provide healthy, fresh, locally grown produce to the community through sales
- Offer a rich learning experience for students and teachers
- Empower students to connect to the land, eat home-grown food, and to build knowledge and skills around food production
- Ensure a safe learning environment
- Provide opportunities for community engagement at the Community & School Farm
- Expansion of program to provide farmer education opportunities
- Open and constructive communication with other staff, partners, students, parents and community volunteers

Job Interrelationships:

- Guidestone staff, other instructors and interns
- Salida School District staff, board and administration
- Organizational Partners
- Volunteers

- Students
- Parents
- General Public

Desired Skills and Abilities:

- A demonstrated successful background in gardening or farming practices
- High level of organizational and multi-tasking skills
- Self-motivated
- Ability to work in sometimes challenging conditions: hot, dry, windy
- A sincere interest in the environment and in children
- Experience working in both field/ outdoor and indoor (greenhouse/ hoop house) growing spaces
- Experience working in a farm setting with children
- Experience in Sustainable Agriculture, Environmental Education, Teaching, or related field

Desired Behavioral Traits and Attitudes:

- Leader, team player, fun, outgoing, passionate, organized, creative, resourceful, critical thinker, results-oriented, and self-motivated.
- Aligned values with Guidestone's mission, environmentally concerned and aware

Minimum Qualifications:

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience in Environmental Education, Environmental Studies, Biology, Geology, Education, Sustainable Agriculture or related field
- At least 3-years experience farming or gardening. Previous experience working with indoor growing spaces &/or managing a school garden a plus
- Environmental education experience with elementary-aged children
- First Aid/ CPR Certifications (Wilderness First Aid preferred)

Special Requirements:

- Must have a reliable mode of transportation to the work site
- Additional time may be required as necessary, including occasional weekends or evenings

**With questions, please contact Andrea Coen, Guidestone Executive Director:
andrea@guidestonecolorado.org, or call cell: (970)309-3175**

**To apply, please email a cover letter and resume to Andrea Coen, Guidestone Executive Director:
andrea@guidestonecolorado.org**

**The application hiring process will begin June 20.
Position start date July 1 or as soon as available.**