



**McKinney Climate Fellows Program
2022 McKinney Climate Fellow – City of Indianapolis –
Division of Community Nutrition and Food Policy**

About the City and THRIVE INDIANAPOLIS

The development of Thrive Indianapolis, the first sustainability and resilience action plan in our city's history, brought together City departments, County agencies, community partners and residents to chart a course for an Indianapolis that is equitable, healthier and prepared for the challenges of the 21st century. The result is a plan with 16 key objectives and 59 ambitious but achievable actions that, together, Indianapolis will strive to accomplish by 2025.

THRIVE INDIANAPOLIS FOOD & URBAN AGRICULTURE PLAN

While progress has been made, we still have work to do given that 20% of children in Indianapolis are food insecure. According to the Indy Food Council's 2018 State of the Food System Report, "In 2014 21% of Marion County residents were food insecure, using some form of food assistance or had uncertainty about food supply."⁵² We also know that access to healthy, affordable food is inequitable with a disproportionate percentage of people of color experiencing food insecurity.

Our community's ability to meet its basic needs - such as accessing healthy food every day - is directly correlated to and an indicator of our overall sustainability and resilience. Unfortunately, this is one of the chronic stressors that impacts many adults and children throughout Marion County. The Food & Urban Agriculture plan element focuses on addressing access to healthy food and increasing food security.

POSITION SUMMARY

Be a part of our vision for all residents to have access to healthy, affordable food, and grow our agricultural sector. This position will gain exposure to all aspects of the food system from cultivation, processing, sale, and community impact. You will work closely with urban growers, producers, and admins to catalog community garden resources around Indianapolis. They will also interact with retailers and value chain professionals as we promote equity and economic development for our local food system.

Working with the City's Food Policy & Program Coordinator and Value Chain Coordinator, impact these sustainability goals:

1. Sale of local food in Indianapolis is increased 100% from the 2021 program year.
BEST PRACTICE: Support administration and growth of the Seed to Store program.
2. Strengthen the network of community garden resources by conducting a census of public and private projects.
BEST PRACTICE: Update the census of community gardens in the Indianapolis area.
3. Understand the needs and priorities of communities to strengthen offered programs.
BEST PRACTICE: Interact with community leaders to understand resident needs and propose solutions that build community food sovereignty.

LEADING BY EXAMPLE: In an effort to support local farmers, keep money in the community and reduce greenhouse gas emissions, the City of Indianapolis and Marion County have set a goal to increase the purchase of local food for City contracts.

Specific Fellow responsibilities will include:

- Leading select initiatives related to the Thrive Indy sustainability project.
- Order and purchase of supplies, materials and equipment.
- Supervising activities related to food and agriculture.
- Data entry and maintenance of appropriate records, files and documentation.
- Communicate and visit regularly with food sites and partner agencies.
- Evaluating community engagement and youth education
- Develop and generate reports and action plans.
- Auditing programs for federal grant compliance
- Participating in professional development opportunities.

Qualifications:

- Must be self-motivated and dependable.
- Ability to plan and organize assignments.
- Ability to coordinate multiple projects and meet various deadlines is a must.
- Ability to communicate effectively in both forms - oral and written.
- Must be customer service oriented.
- Must have intermediate level knowledge or higher of word processing software including Word, Excel, Access, PowerPoint, Outlook and Publisher.
- Must be able to upload, download and navigate spreadsheets, online databases and other software applications.

Independent Judgment:

Established policies and procedures control actions. Independent judgment is utilized when there are no available policies and procedures and errors in judgment may cause serious risk and significant liability. This position will work under the supervision of the Food Policy & Program Coordinator.

Working Conditions:

Incumbent will be expected to travel to various locations daily for work-related activities. The position will require outside work in inclement weather. Office time will be required for data entry and required paperwork. Incumbent must be able to lift 30lbs.

Compensation:

Compensation will be in the form of a stipend through the Indiana Sustainability Development Program. The intern will work full time for 10 weeks, beginning as early as May 16 and ending no later than August 19.

Feedback and evaluation:

The intern will be given regular feedback from city staff on progress and performance. Success in the externship will be determined by the completion of specified projects in a professional and timely manner. The extern should learn how a city identifies its sustainability priorities, effective principles of communication, and how to develop and maintain professional relationships.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

The McKinney Climate Fellows and Resilience Cohort Programs support the continual advancement and development of diverse, inclusive, and equitable spaces. Indiana climate change solutions should be equitable in implementation, and projects with equity considerations are encouraged to reduce climate change impacts on marginalized communities in the state.

Application Process

To apply for this position, complete an application on the Environmental Resilience Institute's website. If you have questions about the program or any of the positions available, email Danni Schaub, Program Manager @ danmcphe@iu.edu. Applications will be accepted on a rolling basis (first come, first serve) until Monday, February 14, 2022.